



## **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2021**

### **LAND USE HEARING**

The Board did not hold a Land Use Hearing on February 1, 2021.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS MEETING**

The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with Linda Hoffmann, County Manager. Commissioner Kefalas presided. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally and Commissioner Stephens were present. Also present were: Alisha Jeffers, Commissioners' Office, and Elizabeth Carter, Deputy Clerk.

Chair Kefalas opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chair Kefalas opened the meeting to public comment giving citizens the opportunity to address the Commissioners regarding events and issues pertaining to Larimer County. Rosemary Van Gorder addressed the Board regarding the quality of food served at the Larimer County Detention Center.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 25, 2021:**

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Stephens moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the minutes for the week of January 25, 2021.

**Motion carried 3-0**

3. **REVIEW OF THE SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 8, 2021:** Ms. Jeffers reviewed the upcoming schedule with the Board.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

**ABATEMENTS:**

1. **RECOMMENDED DENIAL OF PETITION FOR ABATEMENT OR REFUND OF TAXES:** Eric Jungen and Patricia Kummrow

**AGREEMENTS:**

1. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (P20-23, CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CONTRACT FOOD SERVICES – ASD/LCCC)**

2. **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT (P20-23, CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CONTRACT FOOD SERVICES – LC JAIL)**

**POLICIES:**

1. **HUMAN RESOURCES POLICY AND PROCEDURE 331.4J; CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

2. **COLORADO WORKS DIVERSION POLICY**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **2021 SALARY RESOLUTION FOR CHIEF DEPUTY TREASURER/PUBLIC TRUSTEE**

2. **RESOLUTION REGARDING THE RELEASE OF RESTRICTIONS ON SALE OF LOTS**

**LIQUOR LICENSES:** The following liquor licenses were approved/issued: Poudre Spirits & Wine -Retail Store-Bellvue.

**Miscellaneous:** Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Certification of Road Mileage for Larimer County.

There was a discussion between the Board and Manager Hoffmann regarding Agreement 1 and 2 and the contract with a new vendor for food service at the county jail. Manager Hoffmann confirmed that there are requirements within the contract pertaining to the grade of food provided. Additionally, the county Public Health Department will continue regular inspections of the food being provided as it has done in the past.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda for February 2, 2021.

**Motion carried 3-0**

5. **COMMISSIONERS GUESTS:** The Commissioners' did not have any guests.

6. **COVID-19 UPDATE AND DECISIONS:** Linda Hoffmann, County Manager. Manager Hoffman introduced Tom Gonzales, Public Health Director. Director Gonzales updated the Board on the status of vaccines and the continued efforts to combat the spread of the virus. Director Gonzalez reported that while the number of deaths is steadily decreasing, the county did hit the mark of 200 deaths. He noted that the number of hospitalizations is also decreasing which is a good sign. He stated that there had been a spike in intensive care unit (ICU) utilization last week, but that those numbers had decreased down to 74 percent.

There was a discussion between the Board and staff regarding why the percentage of ICU utilization can undergo such sharp swings. Director Gonzalez noted that one of the factors affecting ICU capacity is general life events. For instance, last week there was a snowstorm which caused a rather serious accident. Additionally, he relayed that hospitals plan each day, to respond to current ICU capacity, which impacts the ICU numbers.

Director Gonzales updated the Board on vaccine distribution. He noted that the county is currently distributing vaccines to the Phase 1A and Phase 1B.1 groups. Director Gonzalez notified the Board that the county is currently receiving 6,000 vaccine doses a week. There are 65,000 people in the Phase 1A and Phase 1B.1 who are currently eligible for the vaccine. Roughly 40,000 have been administered. 28,483 shots of the first doses and 9,935 doses of the second shot have been administered. Director Gonzalez did relay that there is a strain on the number of individuals eligible for the shot and the number of vaccines available.

Director Gonzalez notified the Board that the state has issued orders making Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade teachers and licensed childcare workers eligible for the vaccine on February 8, 2021. This will of course increase demand on the county's limited number of vaccine allocations.

There was a discussion between the Board and Director Gonzalez regarding citizens who have been in the system for multiple weeks and have not been notified. Director Gonzalez encouraged individuals who are eligible, who have not received follow up, to reach out to the Public Health Department to troubleshoot any issues. There was also a discussion as to how the addition of newly eligible individuals will cause potentially further delays for those who have been waiting in queue for multiple weeks.

The Board and Director Gonzalez also discussed if the state was considering plans to get as many people as possible vaccinated with the first dose and then focusing attention on administering the second dose. Additionally, there was discussion regarding vaccination at long-term care facilities and in particular the Estes Park Living Center.

Sergio Torres, COVID-19 Outreach Specialist-Department of Public Health, addressed the Board about the Public Health Department's outreach effort with the Latinx community. He relayed that in the past there has been a multitude of barriers in connecting with the Latinx community, and that the

Public Health Department is employing multiple avenues to break those barriers. Currently, the department is focusing its efforts on information accessibility, working with local partners to increase testing, and providing education and information about the vaccine.

There was a discussion between the Board and Mr. Torres regarding the hesitancy of some in the Latinx community regarding vaccinations. Mr. Torres noted that the Public Health Department is working with local partners to provide educational resources and is also holding a weekly call to keep community leaders updated and answer questions. Additionally, the Board asked the staff about issues for employees who are having trouble receiving verifications of negative tests after quarantining. Lastly, the Board requested information on efforts to reach out to Latinx communities in rural areas and unincorporated Larimer County.

The Board thanked Director Gonzalez, Mr. Torres, and all the staff at the Public Health Department for their tireless work to help protect the citizens of Larimer County.

Manager Hoffmann notified the Board that under the Small Business Support Program the county is not receiving an adequate number of applications to push out the money provide to the county by the state. Manager Hoffmann noted that part of the issues has to do with the narrow parameters surrounding the Small Business Relief Program. She relayed to the Board that a representative from the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) indicated that a letter from the Board of County Commissioners requesting a time extension for allocating the funding would be helpful and, also allow the county to pursue alternative avenues on some of the eligibility requirements.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Stephens moved that the Board of County Commissioners seek an extension to April 1, 2021, for the distribution of funds for the Small Business Relief Program and authorize the Chair to sign the letter on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners

**Motion carried 3-0**

**7. HOUSING NEEDS ANALYSIS – RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT SITE:** Heather O’Hayre, Human Services Director and Jennifer Fairman, Benefits Manager. Ms. O’Hayre reported to the Board that Larimer County has gathered factual data and qualitative input on the characteristics and needs of our community to inform the development of the county’s 2019-23 Strategic Plan. In collaboration with other elected officials, the Commissioners narrowed these diverse needs to three strategic goals, further defined by specific, measurable, realistic and time-stamped objectives to guide our community successfully into the future. Goal Two is: “Everyone in Larimer County has access to economic opportunities and a vibrant quality of life. We work together to remove barriers.” There are four objectives under Goal Two, and one of those objectives is specific to addressing the housing needs of Larimer County residents.

Ms. Fairman relayed to the Board that the county had engaged with Root Policy Research to conduct a housing needs analysis study. Root has solicited feedback from community partners, leadership and local municipalities. The county, however, wants to hear from residents as well. This will be achieved through targeted focus groups (virtually) and a resident engagement site. Ms. Fairman reported that the engagement site will launch today, February 2, 2021, and will be active through February 28, 2021. Ms. Fairman walked the Board through the key features of the website.

There was a discussion between the Board and staff as to how the county will reach out to various communities to notify them about the engagement site. Staff reported that they will be working with the various local municipalities and community partners to spread the word. Additionally, a press release will be issued by the communications team regarding the site. Lastly, staff will provide the Board with both the press release and links to social media posts and the engagement site so the Board may share the information with their networks.

There was further discussion between the Board and the staff regarding the use of group classifications and the preferences for using older adults.

**8. MANDATORY REMOTE WORKER STIPEND:** Bridget Paris, Human Resources Director. Ms. Paris relayed to the Board that as part of the Remote Work Program, mandatory remote workers (employees without physical workspace provided by the County for all or part of their assigned hours) will be provided a stipend to ensure their financial ability to purchase remote work equipment and supplies to effectively and efficiently work at home. It is estimated that 115 employees will be approved for mandatory remote work, primarily due to the reduction of lease space, created shared workspace for approximately 100 Human Services Employees. Funding is needed to support the remote work stipend for these 115 employees.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners allocate \$138,000 of the General Fund to provide 115 mandatory remote workers a stipend to use for remote work equipment and materials, to work remotely, effectively, and safely.

**Motioned carried 3-0.**

**9. COUNTY MANAGER UPDATE:** Manager Hoffmann updated the Board on this week's coordination meetings and upcoming projects and activities.

**10. COMMISSIONER ACTIVITY REPORTS:** The Board detailed their attendance at events during the previous week.

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b): regarding Joseph Peraro v. Larimer County, et al. (decision expected) and regarding settlement offer in Federal District Court Case Janny vs. Ramirez (no decision expected).

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Stephens moved that the Board of County Commissioners enter executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b), conferences with an attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions regarding the Joseph Peraro v. Larimer County, et al.

**Motion carried 3-0**

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Stephens moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve Larimer County to defend and indemnify Jonathan Anderson, Taylor Carey and Andrea Meriano, and further authorize the hiring of outside counsel in this matter.

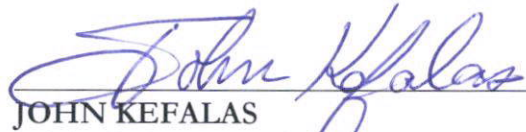
**Motion carried 3-0**

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners enter executive session pursuant to C.R.S 24-6-402(4)(b), conferences with an attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions regarding a settlement offer in Federal District Court Case Janny vs. Ramirez.

**Motion carried 3-0**

With there being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

  
JOHN KEFALAS  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ANGELA MYERS  
CLERK AND RECORDER

ATTEST:  
  
Elizabeth Carter, Deputy Clerk

