

**CITY-COUNTY COMMON  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, June 8, 2010**

**Present:** Ray Stevens, Doug Emery, Deb Schorr, Jon Camp, Eugene Carroll, Mayor Chris Beutler, Bob Workman, Larry Hudkins, John Spatz, and Adam Hornung

**Absent:** Jonathan Cook, Jayne Snyder and Bernie Heier

**Others Present:** Marvin Krout, Planning Director; Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Planning Manager; Sheriff Terry Wagner.

Chair Commissioner Ray Stevens opened the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

1. **Approval of Common Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, March 2, 2010, and Monday, May 3, 2010,** Councilman Emery moved approval of the Common Meeting minutes of Tuesday, March 2, 2010 and Monday, May 3, 2010, seconded by Councilman Spatz. Motion passed 10 - 0.
2. **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair:** Emery nominated Eugene Carroll for chair, Schorr seconded. Motion carried, vote was unanimous 10 - 0. John Spatz nominated Deb Schorr for vice-chair, Eugene Carroll seconded. Motion carried, vote was unanimous 10 - 0.
3. **Approval of Common Meeting Agenda for Budget Hearings, July 13, 2010 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.** Commissioner Stevens asked if anyone had an objection to the schedule to bring it forward between today, June 8, 2010 and July 13, 2010.
4. **Comprehensive Plan - Marvin Krout, Planning Director, Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Planning Manager:**  
Marvin Krout, Planning Director, stated the villages of Lancaster County are stake holders in the 2040 Comprehensive plan, and planning needs to meet with them. He asked to be included in the next Village meeting.

Thursday, June 3, 2010, a kick-off with the mayor was held along with the announcement of the advisory committee, and the launching of the web page. The goal is to have a long range transportation plan that is approved by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (M.O.) Officials Committee by the end of next year so they remain knowledgeable for federal funding for both the City and the County. Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Planning Manager, referred to the briefing that was done in March of 2010. She stated, the planning department has more specifics now in particular on how they will be conducting the public process. This, Plan 2040, is the 2040 update to the Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, a long-range transportation plan. Sarah Hartzell, Planner with the Planning Department will be in charge

of the public out-reach for this process. Fleck-Tooze, handed out a copy of the Lplan 2040 Newsletter (which maybe found in the County Commissioners Office of the County-City Building.) Future news letters will be electronic and produced quarterly. Social media will consist of a new web site, Face book, Twitter and You Tube. The Planning Department is working with an Omaha firm, Community Design, to create a virtual town hall which they will kick-off in July. A community survey on planning and development issues for Lincoln and Lancaster County was completed. The results are available on the web site. They are also asking people to take that same survey on-line in the month of June. A 20 member advisory committee has been appointed by the Mayor, consisting of the Planning Commission, plus 11 additional citizen members representing various community interest. The Advisory Committee will help guide the process and provide feedback. Identification of key interest groups will be made and meetings scheduled throughout the process, along with a number of different community workshops.

Fleck-Tooze went through the contents of the web site via PowerPoint, which is available for review in the County Commissioners Office.

The first Streets Workshop was hosted Tuesday, June 8, 2010 from 2:30 - 4:30. Ways to plan streets that are safer and more livable was discussed. An all day, more comprehensive workshop, was held Monday, June 7, 2010 with approximately 40 attendees.

A background report will be ready for the first committee meeting, and will be posted on the web site. Some of the elements they will be looking at are:

- Global and national changes likely to affect the future of Lincoln/Lancaster County
- Lincoln and Lancaster County demographic factors:
  - Work
  - Life
  - Transportation
  - Technology
  - Energy
  - Climate Change
- More specifically - local projections for
  - Population
  - Housing
  - Employment
  - Non-residential space needs
  - Land use analysis

The Advisory committee will have their first meeting on June 23, 2010. The plan is to meet every other week on Planning Commission Hearing days and will operate under the open meeting laws.

The Living and Working in 2040 Workshop will take place July 13, 2010. It will include a local panel of experts and a national recognized speaker, and will talk about forecast for the future looking at both global and regional trends.

The Virtual Town hall will be launched in mid July. The idea is to engage the community for ideas and feedback from workshops and future land use plan and the transportation policy.

In August, the Plan It Yourself Workshop, will be scheduled. There will be hands-on exercises for individuals to look at issues in land use distribution, cost of the transportation infrastructure, and how those issues relate to the planning elements. The advisory committee will be a part of the workshop.

The public participation time line starting June 2010 through October 2011 consist of:

- Background Report
- Complete Streets Public Meeting
- "Living & Working in 2040" Workshop
- Big Ideas Solicitation & Voting
- "Plan It Yourself" Workshop
- Community Discussion on Alternative Development Scenarios
- Select Land Use Plan
- Develop Transportation Plan, Policies'/Community Discussion
- Planning Commission Hearing
- City County/County Board Hearings
- M.O. Officials Committee Action on Transportation Plan

These are the major public outreach elements.

Commissioner Schorr inquired if they would be willing to consider adding an additional member to the advisory committee who would represent the interests of the villages and towns in Lancaster County. Marvin Krout suggested Commissioner Schorr direct her question to the Mayor.

**5. Bar Closing Hours & Legalization of Alcohol in State Parks:**

Commissioner Stevens stated he feels the County Board and the City Council need to work in conjunction with one another as we move forward on the discussion of extended bar closing hours. He invited Sheriff Terry Wagner to join the discussion. Councilman John Spatz responded that he is the chair of the Internal Liquor Committee (ILC) which had a brief discussion at the May meeting. The topic will be discussed again at the June meeting. The ILC is concerned about different closing times within the County.

Commissioner Workman stated he was opposed to both proposals. He feels the extension in bar hours would be additional problems for law enforcement. He also feels strongly there needs to be a place for people where alcohol is not present, such as the State Parks

Sheriff Terry Wagner stated if the changing of bar closing hours are being considered by the villages and Lincoln, there needs to be a coordinated effort. If the closing hours were extended it would move the bar closing issues from 1:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. The Sheriffs Office can adjust their shifts so their personnel are geared toward bar closing hours. However, a disparity in closing times might be an issue that would need to be addressed and coordinated.

Councilman Jon Camp stated it would be up to the city councils to make the decision, and we should keep in mind we need to keep a continuity among the County and the City.

John Spatz inquired if the County Board has authority over establishments in the County. The response was yes. He went on to say he shared Commissioner Workman's concerns, however he was also concerned about a potential disparity of hours between Lincoln and Villages in the County. One of the discussions at the ILC meeting was if the City Council would introduce an ordinance that would extend the closing hours to 2:00 a.m. and had a sunset date, of two years. This would allow for the development of criteria and data that could be reviewed by the Council and then a decision could be made.

Commissioner Schorr stated a discussion of a village meeting will take place at the next County Board Staff Meeting.

Commissioner Workman reiterated his concerns of extending bar closing hours. He would like the City to set a precedence and stay at 1:00 a.m.

Commissioner Stevens stated the Lancaster County Sheriff provides law enforcement to the villages, so the problems and cost of extended closing hours would be a burden to the County rather than the village.

Councilman Spatz, requested that someone from the Lincoln City Council participate in the next Village Meeting. Commissioner Schorr concurred and also asked that someone from the County Sheriff's office also attend.

Sheriff Terry Wagner stated that the bar owner has a great deal of responsibility to make sure that people in the bar between 12:00 and 1:00 a.m. are not intoxicated which would be the same responsibility between 1:00 and 2:00 a.m.

Councilman Jon Camp inquired of Sheriff Wagner if the Villages changed closing time to 2:00 and Lincoln stayed at 1:00, would he have to have additional staff and would it add cost to the Sheriff's office. Sheriff Wagner responded he didn't have the statistics to back it up, however, he didn't think so. The second shift would be adjusted to the change in bar hours.

Councilman John Spatz requested the County facilitate a meeting with the Villages and include the Lincoln City Council.

Sheriff Wager shared his thoughts on allowing alcohol in the state parks. Between 1985 - 1993, alcohol was legal in the state parks and it did cause many legal problems. He stated that since the new rule is a Game and Parks regulation rather than a statutory change, it would be very difficult to enforce, if at all. He also stated the focus for the Game and Parks

Conservation officers has shifted from enforcement to education. In Lancaster County there are seven state recreation areas and ten wildlife management areas, which are covered by only two Game and Parks conservation officers.

Councilman Spatz's inquired if there was anything the Common Committee members should do regarding the potential change. Commissioner Workman responded that he had asked the County Administrator to craft a letter to Governor Heineman from the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners indicating their opposition to the change.

There being to other business, Commissioner Schorr moved and Councilman John Spatz seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Minette M. Genuchi  
Administrative Aide to the County Board of Commissioners