



Directors' Meeting Minutes for Monday, July 13, 2026

Council Present: Sändra Washington, Tom Beckius, Justin Carlson, Bennie Shobe, Brodey Weber, Tom Duden, James Michael Bowers

Others Present: Jon Carlson, Mayor's Office; David Cary, Planning & Development; Yohance Christie & Jessica Kerkhofs, Law; Liz Elliott, LTU; Dave Engler, LFR; Joe Dondlinger, Finance; Randy Jones, Aging Partners; Kerry Kernen, Health; Barb McIntyre, HR; Michon Morrow, LPD; Soulinee Phan, City Clerk; Ben Sobel, City Council Secretary; Peter Breen, Lincoln Journal Star; Jacob Hartman, City Council Aide; Rola Al-Mansouri, Council, City Council Intern

Council Chair Weber opened the meeting at 2:26 p.m. and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act.

Minutes from June 15 meeting were accepted as posted.

City Clerk Advisories

- Duden will introduce Motion to Delay item 5.b.
- Washington will introduce Motion to Delay Item 6.b.
- Items 6.f. through 6.l. will be called together

Director Advisories

Liz Elliott, LTU;

- Introduced "Land Phil" LTU mascot campaign to increase landfill diversion
- LTU sharing all closures via WAZE and text message service for improved community awareness over construction, closures, and other related LTU projects
- Working with Olsson to pilot traffic light synching in real time during construction and peak periods, starting with downtown area

Yohance Christie, Law;

- Minimum wage: expecting court to issue ruling by end of week
- Open Meetings Act change goes into effect July 18
 - Open Meetings Act no longer required to be posted, copy must be available

- How meeting get posted has changed: City Council will be allowed to publish quarterly rather than weekly
- Jessica Kerkhofs reviewed prosecution division updates:
 - 5 prosecutors on staff
 - 4.5 assistance staff
 - Purchased case management system in 2019
 - Allows for 95% reduction in physical paperwork
 - Scanned 25,111 documents into system in 2025
 - 2026 trending slightly lower YTD
 - Reviewed closures of appeals
 - Reviewed diversion program usage, including traffic, criminal, and mental health
 - Cases are assigned as either vertical or horizontal depending on case needs
 - Prosecutors working around 260-300 active cases currently
 - Mental Health and homelessness continue to present prosecution challenges

Councilmember Committee & Commission Updates

Beckius:

- PBC is moving forward with developers on security entrance renovations and deck assessment for County/City Building & Hall of Justice
- Security confiscates 250-300 weapon items monthly at hall of justice – number not known for County City building due to currently lack of security

Washington:

- Parks and Rec advisory Board met

Public Comment

- None

Council Chair Weber adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.