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PRESS RELEASE

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COMMISSIONERS MOVE FORWARD ON REGIONAL CRIME LAB

WELD COUNTY, CO – This morning, the Weld County Board of Commissioners announced plans to move forward with the building of a regional crime lab for northern Colorado law enforcement agencies. “Today the idea of a regional crime lab in northern Colorado moves from an idea to reality,” said Commissioner Chairman Sean Conway.



Representatives from Greeley, Weld County, Loveland, Fort Collins and Larimer County at the Request For Proposal (RFP) announcement for the northern Colorado regional crime lab. The goal is to have the lab completed by September 2013.

Four agencies – Weld County, Larimer County, Greeley and Loveland – each signed intergovernmental agreements (IGAs) which outline their participation in the crime lab including the contribution of operational funding and staff.

“This is great news for both Weld and Larimer counties,” said Conway. “The partnership among these four agencies demonstrates the desire to better serve the residents of northern Colorado regarding criminal cases.”

“Northern Colorado is the largest population base in the state without a crime lab,” said Weld County Sheriff John Cooke.

“The addition of this lab in northern Colorado will reduce the turn-around time for local law enforcement agencies to receive test

results which ultimately benefits the community at large. This regional crime lab will be a tremendous asset for the residents of Weld and Larimer Counties as well as Greeley and Loveland.”

Weld County, which has dedicated the funding to construct the new facility, has released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the design and construction of the building. According to the RFP, the lab is proposed to be located within 2 miles of the intersection of US Highway 34 and State Highway 257 and will require approximately 3 to 4 acres of land. The RFP requests bids to include the building of a 20,000 square foot facility with a drive through garage/sally port, offices, storage areas, meeting and conference rooms, and, of course, laboratories.

“Weld County is able to fund the construction of this lab due in part to the economic benefits we are realizing from the oil and gas industry and the revenue it brings to the county,” said Commissioner Barbara Kirkmeyer. “It’s great to put these funds to work in projects such as this – projects that benefit all of our residents.”

The proposed timeline for the construction of the crime lab outlines the following dates:

- Pre-Bid Meeting June 1, 2012
- Proposals Due June 29, 2012
- Contract Award Notice July 16, 2012
- Final Completion of Building Construction by September 2013

It is the Board of Commissioners desire to see the construction of the lab completed by the fall of 2013. “This project has been in the works since 2007, and we are excited to announce the next step in this process,” said Commissioner William Garcia.

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