

February 1, 2012

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on February 1, 2012, in the Lincoln County Courthouse. Present were Commissioner Marianne Roose, Commissioner Tony Berget, Commissioner Ron Downey, Executive Assistant Bill Bischoff and Clerk and Recorder Tammy Lauer.

9:00 AM: Commissioner Berget **opened the meeting** with the Pledge of Allegiance.

9:00 AM: **KNF, Paul Bradford:** Paul talked about the Forest Plan Revision and the public meetings that have been held. There has been really good attendance at the meetings. Grizzly Bear Access amendment will be conducting appeal resolution sessions in the next month. The Regional Office will be reaching a decision on the appeals in the next 4 or 5 months. Brad talked about the Montanore Project. The EPA, Corps of Engineers, and US Fish and Wildlife Service are federal agencies that they are working with concerns. These agencies have significant concerns and comments to work through. The concerns are also going to affect Rock Creek with respect to the ground water. Paul said that there is a new Acting Regional Forester for the next few months. He also talked about the work of the Forest Service on developing an early buyout proposal to reduce the size of the agency workforce. Paul talked about the Grizzly Bear recovery in the Cabinet-Yaak Recovery Zone. The Selkirk-Cabinet/Yaak subcommittee of Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee has a work plan item in 2012 to evaluate additional augmentation in the recovery zone. Wayne Kasworm passed around a handout about the current augmentation. Jim Williams, Wildlife manager for the Fish, Wildlife and Parks, talked about the methods used in the augmentation in the past couple of years. Jim Williams and Paul Bradford commented that a letter from the Commissioners to the Fish, Wildlife and Parks encouraging augmentation in the KNF would be a helpful tool to keep efforts moving forward. Commissioner Downey moved to write a letter to the FWP concerning the grizzly bear augmentation and it carried.

10:30 AM: **Dan Williams, Weed Department:** Dan brought the agreement with the Forest Service that allows for sharing of grants for conserving and restoring Montana's native plants and habitats.

10:45 AM: The commissioners **read the minutes of the January 25, 2012 meeting.** Commissioner Downey moved to approve the minutes as written and it carried.

11:00 AM: **Vic White, EMA director:** Vic is here with Sheriff Roby Bowe, Undersheriff Brent Faulkner and Deputy Kirk Kraft, Communication and Evidence retention officer. The men have come to talk to the commissioners about radio problems for the sheriff's department. They would like to put a relay transmitter at the water treatment plant on the hill to help repeaters work more efficiently. Kirk talked about the channels and the radio repeaters and the problems with them. Commissioner Downey moved to approve the \$38,000 out of Vic's communication budget to put the transmitter on the water treatment plant and it carried. The other issue is the radio at the hospital for the ambulance and helicopter communications is outdated and not working correctly and is very old and not capable of converting to narrow band. The plan is to replace it with a new radio and program it for better communications. Vic has the funds in the communication budget to accomplish this. Commissioner Downey moved to approve the purchase of the radio for the hospital and it carried.

11:30 AM: **Ron Carter, Biomass project:** Ron is here to speak to the Commissioners about a biomass project he is trying to obtain a grant to get started in Libby. He explained the project and the people involved in it so far. He would like a letter of support from the commissioners to proceed with the project. The commissioners pointed out that they would write a letter of support but they would also feel compelled to support other biomass projects. Commissioner Berget moved to approve the letter and it carried.

1:30 PM: The Commissioners reviewed the request for a **road abandonment** that was discussed last month in Eureka. The Commissioners received an opinion from the County Attorney that the easement for a walking path to the lake would not be affected. Commissioner Downey moved to approve the road abandonment request by Sanquines on the Old Glen Lake Drive and it carried.

1:35 PM: The commissioners were presented with a **Conservation District Grant Program HB223 Grant Application** from the Lincoln Conservation District for Biological Control for Noxious Weeds. Commissioner Roose signed the grant application.

1:40 PM: The commissioners had agreed to support a grant for the DUI Task force last summer. Commissioner Roose signed the agreement with the **Safety Office for the Alcohol Impaired Driving Countermeasures Incentive Grant.**

2:00 PM: The **meeting was adjourned.**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Marianne Roose, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tammy D. Lauer, Clerk of the Board