

JULY 1, 2015

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on July 1, 2015, in the Lincoln County Courthouse. Present were Commissioner Mike Cole, Commissioner Mark Peck, Commissioner Greg Larson, Assistant Election Administrator Leigh Riggelman.

Commissioner Cole **opened the meeting** with the Pledge of Allegiance.

9:00 AM Chris Savage from **United States Forest Service** was here for their monthly meeting. Commissioner Cole started by commenting on a public meeting concerning Montanore on June 30 and the fact that there didn't seem to have been much public engagement. Discussion followed about trying to meet the 45 day public comment window and staying in contact with various agencies. There were 12 objections – one of which was dismissed. Discussion followed about tailing piles, water quality, safety practices and wild life mitigation. Overall, Commissioner Cole felt the meeting was positive. The biggest issue seems to be that there is a lot of information that is unknown and that, with a project of this size, it's hard to anticipate all factors and impacts. Chris expects that litigation will occur in the near future from some who have submitted objections. The Bear Creek Road is a problem as far as being utilized and Chris asked for alternative routes. No other suggestions were put forward and Commissioner Peck wanted to know if there was still an opportunity to offer other solutions.

Fireworks Ban was discussed and Chris applauded the difficult decision that was made. There have been no restrictions since 2006. Stage 1 fire restrictions go into effect on July 3, 2015. The Commissioners tried to contact as many fire departments as possible and all were very cooperative towards the ban.

Lightening caused fires from the storm on Monday night: 3 starts on the north end of the county, a ½ acre one on the west side of the reservoir, none in the Cabinets and none so far in the Troy area. Weather forecast calls for continued higher than normal temperatures and lower humidity levels.

Ten Lakes Area ~ The Snowmobile Club has come to the table with some compromises concerning travel management and are being evaluated. The April 1 deadline that stops trail grooming by the Fish, Wildlife and Parks is critical and the criteria is being used to determine actual grooming deadlines are being looked at. There are differing opinions on how the deadline affects the grizzly bear. Chris suggests that the Commissioners visit with Wayne Kasworm as a resource to talk to as an objective observer for additional information.

Grizzly Bear delisting ~ Road openings and closings, resource management, etc.

10:00 AM ~ **Bid Awards**

Road Oil – McAsphalt Industries, Limited and Idaho Asphalt submitted bids – Bill called all 3 road foremen and all were in agreement with the lower bid. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to accept bid from Idaho Asphalt for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, Commissioner Peck seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

Advertising for Legal and Display. Bids were submitted from Kootenai Valley Record and Western News - Commissioner Peck commented that KVR is cheaper but that the WN seems to have higher distribution. He asked: What is the goal: to save money or reach more of the public? Lee Bothman of the Kootenai Valley Record says that both bids met the criteria, but if the low bid is thrown out then the bid process becomes pointless. Bob Henline countered that both bids meet the minimum requirements. Mr. Bothman commented that the Kootenai Valley Record is locally owned and operated, that any concerns or problems can be addressed here in Libby and that the Western News is owned out of Coeur D'Alene. Mr. Henline indicated that the Western News has a higher distribution as well as an on-line presence to reach a larger audience. Mr. Bothman said that KVR has an on-line presence as well. Discussion focused on county and elections advertising, which comprises a large portion of that. Bill Bischoff asked Leigh Riggelman if elections are a fairly significant part of advertising and display ads. Leigh responded that the Elections department is required to advertise for all elections and the costs are especially high during Federal Election years. She does advertise in all county papers, but focuses mainly with the newspaper on record and the Tobacco Valley News – which reaches the North County public. Commissioner Cole asked for a motion, but Mr. Bischoff said that this contract starts July 1, 2015 and that it might be best just to continue the current contract until further discussion and research on what current costs would be. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to table the decision until July 8, 2015 for additional information to be gathered, Commissioner Peck seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.

10:30 AM ~ **Bull Lake Rural Fire District and Troy Fire District Annexations** – Public meeting for comments on annexations for both fire districts.

Troy Rural Fire District Annexations – focused on subdivision around the Schoolhouse Lake area. Herb Gregory, representing the Troy Rural Fire District, gave the Board a short history of the Troy Fire District. A lot of area within the Troy Fire District area is not being taxed and they are working on contacting property owners that are being covered who receive fire coverage, but are not being taxed within the District. Letters to property owners were sent out for the Schoolhouse Lake Area explaining this and requesting signatures. Leigh Riggleman, Assistant Election Administrator said that she had researched the submitted petitions, letters and signatures and the requirements for an area-wide annexation. The requirements that must be met: there must be at least 40 percent of home/property owners who must agree and sign AND 40 percent of the value of properties within the area must be met as well. Both requirements and legal advertising of the Public hearing have been met. Commissioner Cole read Resolution 936 as required. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck the Schoolhouse area annexation into the Troy Rural Fire District, Commissioner Larson seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

Bull Lake Rural Fire District – Resolution 935 – Petitions for Annexations into the Bull Lake Rural Fire District. Commissioner Cole read resolution – asks for Public Comment. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to accept the Petitions for Annexations, Commissioner Peck seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

11:15 AM – **District Board Appointments**

Eureka Dispatch Board – Shane Baker submitted a letter to be reappointed to the board. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to accept Mr. Baker’s reappointment, Commissioner Larson seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

Fisher River Fire Valley Fire Service Area Board - Irene Loveless submitted a letter to be reappointed to the board. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to accept Ms. Loveless’ reappointment, Commissioner Peck seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

Boyd Hill Cemetery Board – There are 2 positions open and 2 letters were submitted. Mark Lawson submitted a letter to be reappointed to the board. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to accept Mr. Lawson’s reappointment to the board, Commissioner Peck seconded and so ordered upon the unanimous consent of the Board. Alan McNeil submitted a letter to be reappointed to the board. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to accept Mr. McNeil’s reappointment, Commissioner Peck seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

Fortine/Trego Cemetery - A letter of interest was submitted for reappointment to the board by John Linn. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to accept Mr. Linn’s reappointment, Commissioner Peck seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Public Comment** – none

2:00 AM – **Ric Kesling – Lincoln County IT director** presented information about the Internet Technology department and what it supports, projects for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 and security equipment needs. He presented FY 2015-2016 budget figures and requested that Ernie Anderson comes back to IT at least 4 days a week, but would prefer full time. Other concerns included: main courthouse copier is outdated and needs to be replaced. Replacement cost is \$7752 for the monochrome copier. Seamless Docs is a program aimed at getting document forms all on-line. Eventually all forms will be on-online which should reduce paperwork, staff time and money. Commissioners are on board with the Seamless documents as several department heads are willing to share the \$4950 annual cost. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to purchase of the monochrome copier, Commissioner Peck seconded. Discussion ensued about usage and all associated costs and checking into using the unused copier from the Eureka Justice Court office as a trade in or to see if another department could use it. Motion carries and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.

Lincoln County Technology Use Policy – Ric distributed a copy of the newest policy as well as the old policy. He would like the Board to look over the policy and then schedule a meeting to fine-tune and get additional direction so that the policy can be finalized.

2:37 PM - **Lincoln County Treasurer/Superintendent of Schools Nancy Sutton and Brady Selle** arrived to talk about contracted services with Mr. Selle for duties pertaining to overseeing the Superintendent of Schools. He visited all schools in the county to start cultivating relationships with schools. His main focus is on the 4 smaller, rural school districts and he feels that progress is being made. Nancy commented that it has certainly been a learning process that she and Brady continue to refine but that it is certainly more difficult than was expected. She told the Commissioners that she has never been in favor of a consolidated County Superintendent of Schools. She anticipates that the budget for this office will most likely be approximately \$47,000 and feels that the services provided have not been as efficient and cost effective as having a separate half-time County Superintendent of School. Commissioner Peck asked what her recommendation would be and her reply was that it would be to make the position a single elected position again. She feels she needs additional staffing. Brady feels that, over time, the schools will become more comfortable, that Brady and Nancy will continue to refine roles and duties. Commissioner Peck asked questions to clarify each position. He would like to schedule another meeting with Nancy and Brady to discuss all options. As long as Brady is willing to work under the current contract, discussion can continue.

3:10 **Hecla Mine Representatives with respect to Rock Creek Mine** – Present were Luke Russell, VP of External Affairs, Doug Stiles, VP of Planning, Chas Vincent to introduce themselves to the County Commissioners. They are working through the permitting process for the Rock Creek Mine and are hoping to make progress. After the decision was made not to continue with the Revett Mine, they are working on reclamation of the mine site. Doug was the manager at the Revett Mine and will continue with reclamation efforts as well as with the Rock Creek mine, which will be known as Revett Silver. Doug would like to keep reclamation endeavors by hiring as locally as possible. The Commissioners offer to do whatever they can to help to move the project forward.

3:35 PM - **Administrative**

June 24, 2015 Commissioner Minutes – **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to accept the June 24, 2015 minutes as read, Commissioner Larson seconded and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.

Upper Yaak Fire Service Area – needs to bring a request for an increase of fees for the fire service area. Commissioner Larsen indicated that he would talk to a member of that board.

Resolution 937 – Concerns new legislation for public noticing and will be taken under advisement.

4:11 **The meeting was adjourned.**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Leigh Riggleman, Clerk of the Board