

January 20, 2016

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on January 20, 2016, in the Conference Room of the Eureka Annex building. Present were Commissioner Mike Cole, Commissioner Greg Larson, Commissioner Mark Peck and Clerk & Recorder Robin Benson.

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

10:00 AM **Fair/Fairgrounds Update:** Present were Lois Sciligo and Nikki Meyer.

Lois announced the Fair Foundation was approved for 501c (3) status; very good news. This is different than the Lincoln County Fair Board. The Fair Foundation will help with grant research, donations and other fundraising efforts.

The Lincoln County Fair is the official fair for Lincoln County and is operated through a Board appointed by the Commissioners. Lois is trying to attain board members from the Libby and Troy area.

The Fair Board is reviewing and revising several of the divisions in the fair book to encourage increased participation and provide educational opportunities through demonstrations and lectures before and during the fair. Responsibilities of the fair board is hosting the annual county fair, to provide facilities for various events and meetings throughout the rest of the year, and to maintain and improve approximately 17 acres of grounds, buildings, arenas, fishpond park and horse and livestock barns. Lois discussed staffing and revenue from building use, parking fees, booth rentals, fairway space, and camping space.

Commissioner Cole asked about capital improvement funds for the purpose of future maintenance/improvement costs.

Commissioner Peck agreed that we need to save money now to help fund future improvement costs, realizing this is difficult to do with tight budgets.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues:**

- The Commission read the minutes for January 13, 2016. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve minutes as submitted. Second by Commissioner Larson and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve a letter to Governor Bullock from the Commissioners. The letter supports the Montanore project, the mining plan and stresses the criticality of this project with the hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars of economic stimulus it will bring to the citizens of Lincoln County. Second by Commissioner Peck and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
- Robin Benson said she has conducted research about the property located in Montway Commercial Park which is the property of the Lincoln County Campus. The property was deeded to the county in 2003. There are no maintenance or lease agreements in place at this time that have been recorded. Robin will make copies of recorded documents for the commission to review. Commissioner Peck will contact the college to verify there are no agreements in place that possibly did not get to the Clerk & Recorder's Office for recording.

11:00 AM **Public Comment Time:** There were no public comments.

11:30 AM **County Agreement with MSU/County Extension:** Present were Svea Jorgensen and Nikki Meyer.

The Commission signed the FY2016 Extension Service Agreement between Montana State University Extension and Lincoln County, Montana. The county will contribute funds for the support of extension work in agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H/youth development, community development, and related subjects as part of the FY2016 budget. The agreement is a total of \$32,579.00 and covers the period beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016.

1:00 PM **Tracy McIntyre:**

- Tracy is requesting the commissioners to approve the Ksanka Creek Project planning grant applications to DNRC (\$50,000) and RAC (\$25,000). The Ksanka Creek Project is the relocation and restoration of approximately 1 mile of Ksanka Creek in Eureka. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve planning grant applications as stated. Second by Commissioner Larson, and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board..
- Tobacco Valley Industrial District: Vacancies on the TVID Board were advertised, but no applications were received. Tracy is requesting the appointment of Debbie Gwynn and reappointment of Ethel White to the Tobacco Valley Industrial District Board. Commissioner Larson expressed concerns of a possible conflict because Debbie is a recipient of industrial district action. Tracy said the board thought it would be good to have someone on the board that is part of the district, stating that Debbie would not vote on any action that would benefit Glacier Peak Holistics. Commissioner Peck suggested Tracy to get a legal opinion from County Attorney, Bernie Cassidy. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve reappointment of Ethel White to the TVID Board. Second by Commissioner Larson, and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
- Map 21 Program/Federal Land Access Program (FLAP): Commissioner Cole said the state program is asking for projects that would improve rural counties roads. The roads would have to connect with federal land. Commissioner Cole said this may be a good opportunity for projects alongside the reservoir to develop road bases that are good year round. Commissioner Larson asked if repairs to the Kootenai Falls Bridge would be a project that qualifies within the program. Tracy said she felt there are other funding opportunities that may be a better fit for bridges. Commissioner Peck district ranger in Libby, making sure all of this is coordinated. Larson-repairs to Kootenai falls bridge. Tracy gave a brief overview of other counties that have been successful attaining funds for road bridges. Tracy said the application is due in March and she is looking at the Sophie Lake corridor and its trail system around the lake. Commissioner Peck asked about the possibility of a tie in with Pipe Creek road projects and Commissioner Larson said he would check on Troy road projects. Commissioner Peck stressed the importance of organized efforts and understanding how one project impacts another; we do not want to jeopardize other projects. Tracy will gather more information about the FLAP Program and bring it to the commissioners on next weeks agenda.

- USDA Strike Force Program: Tracy is learning about the program which addresses poverty for rural growth in high poverty counties.

1:30 PM **Meeting Adjourned**

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Mike Cole, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin A. Benson, Clerk of the Board