

**June 1, 2016**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on May 25, 2016, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Cole, Commissioner Larson, and Deputy Clerk and Recorder Chris Nelson. Commissioner Mark Peck was out of town.

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

**8:30 AM Road Department about purchasing a loader:** Present were Dave Kyriss, Mark McCully, Dallas Wamsley, and Tim White via VisionNet in Eureka. Libby Road foreman Marc McCully said Caterpillar Financial would give \$30,000 for each loader from each district on trade in. Marc said that Eureka's excavator is older so Libby could send theirs up to Eureka and Libby could get a new one. Dallas Shaw said that it has happened in the past where one road department has sold equipment to another road department. Tim White said that he would be happy to buy Libby's excavator. Marc said the landfill bought a new excavator but couldn't use it and Marc offered to buy it. Marc said if they put money in the bank each year at the end of a five year lease, they can just roll it over and lease a new piece of equipment. Tim said he was surprised what they were giving in trade for the 936 loader. Commissioner Cole said it's a different way of doing business but said it also comes down to needs and wants. Marc said he would like to look at getting a new loader and a new excavator and at the current pricing it would be \$12,611.25 for each loader per lease agreement per year. The excavator lease per year was estimated to be \$9484.87. Commissioner Cole said if the county doesn't put the money away each year they may lose any value obtained from the trade in benefit. Marc said they would firm up the pricing with Western States and find out what the final amount will be and return the following week with the final numbers. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to move forward with receiving a final proposal from Caterpillar Financial with lease services for three loaders and one excavator. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon the consent of the board.

**9:00 AM USFS Monthly Meeting/Admin Road Use:** Present were Kootenai National Forest Service Supervisor Chris Savage, US Border Patrol Agent John Tucker, and US Border Patrol Agent Coby Lane. John said they created a liaison to work with the USFS and Border Patrol. He works from the Canadian border at the Okanagan Forest to Glacier Park. Coby Lane introduced himself as the Bonners Ferry station supervisor. Commissioner Cole said he was surprised to hear of the involvement with the Forest Service and the US Border Patrol. John said they still want to deal with protecting the borders but they also want to ensure that the natural resources are protected. Chris said they have a close working relationship with them as they are often going behind closed gates. Currently there is not an agreement; it is just professional courtesy that allows the working relationship. John said Border Patrol has a good relationship with the forest service. Commissioner Larson asked what concerns the Border Patrol has with our part of the border. John said that he thinks things are going well up here. Coby said it's hard to measure deterrent but he thinks their presence is effective. Commissioner Cole said the border patrol works very well with local law enforcement and he is pleased with the working relationship. John said the number one priority is still terrorism. Commissioner Cole asked what we as a county could do? John said just talking with the county and hearing their work is appreciated. Commissioner Cole also asked about the Federal Lands Access Program. John said there are funds available and he would gladly help with the application process. Commissioner Larson said to keep the county in mind if they are having any problems with our roads. Chris Savage said they are talking about what their priority roads are. Chris Savage said the five new RAC members were approved and they now have a quorum and can approve projects. He said they have about \$1.2 million in Title II funds and the goal by the end of the year is for the RAC to recommend about \$1.5 million in projects for his approval. Chris said that he did see SRS funding in an appropriations bill to renew that program. Chris said that at the end of April they still had 132 million board feet of uncut wood under contract which equates to \$9.6 million in remaining value. Chris said only about 16 million board feet of that total is affected by litigation.

**10:30 AM Administrative Issues:**

- IT Director Ric Kesling met with the commissioners concerning the presentation on ESPY. Ric said he still felt the audit of the county's telecommunication service was a valuable tool; he was concerned about the Letter of Agency that would preclude the county from dealing with Frontier or Verizon directly on several issues. Ric said he has investigated the company and they seem aboveboard but he recommends not moving forward with the project.
- County Attorney Bernard Cassidy met with the commissioners to get approval for pay adjustments for deputy attorney Jeff Zwang to \$60,000 and making that retroactive; deputy attorney Donald Terry to \$55,000. Commissioner Cole said they would put it on the agenda for next week.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve the May 25, 2016 minutes as written. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

**11:00 AM Public Comment Time:** No one from the public was present.

**11:30 AM Resolution: CDBG ED Certifying Environmental Official:** Tina Oliphant and Brent McCully from the Kootenai River Development Council presented a resolution designating Brett McCully as the Environmental Certifying Official to produce an Environmental Review Record and two letters for the commissioners to look at and approve. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve the resolution designating Brett McCully as the Environmental Certifying Official to produce an Environmental Review Record and to sign two letters to Debra Demarais of the Montana Department of Commerce Community Development Division offices. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

**1:00 PM EMA Update:** Present were EMA Director Kirk Kraft, Lisa Oedewaldt, Sheriff Roby Bowe, Allen Gerstenecker, and Nikki Meyer via VisionNet.

EMA is finishing the generator request for proposal and has asked the Libby road crew to pick up the Connex boxes at Tacoma, WA. The solar is ordered for Meadow Peak and they have the license for it. They are currently making arrangements with Montana Highway Patrol to finish Blue, King, and Pinkham Mountain Repeaters. Lisa and Kirk are

helping with the Wildland Firefighter Challenge on June 11<sup>th</sup>. They will also be working with Cabinet Peaks Medical Center planning a Bio Hazard Airborne Contamination Exercise for September 17<sup>th</sup>, which will be a full evacuation of the hospital. The Yaak community invited EMA to a community preparedness workshop on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Kirk said he's part of the Northwest Incident Command staff and said they are trying to organize individuals in Lincoln County to be part of an unofficial Command Staff team in preparation for managing any large scale county emergencies. Kirk said they should look at funding options if they had to use the team. Kirk said they should start thinking of a funding mechanism in case an incidence did occur. Lisa said they do have an idea for some of the people they would like to be part of the team. Commissioner Cole felt that it would be a good discussion to have and Commissioner Larson agreed.

**3:00 PM Robin Benson County Board Appointments:** Present were Rick Ball, Alan Gerstencker, Kate Huntsberger, Marilyn McDougall, Rob Dufficy, and Chuck Gorheim.

Chris Nelson said the Lincoln County Library had two members on their board with expiring terms; Kate Huntsberger and Bryan Kaufman. Applications were submitted by Barb Hvizdak, Chuck Gerheim and Kate Huntsberger to be reappointed. The Library Board recommended the commissioners reappoint Kate Hunstberger and appoint Barb Hvizcak. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to reappoint Kate Huntsberger and appoint Barb Hvizdak to 5 year terms. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

The Airport Board has two members with expiring terms; Zack McNew and Kevin Brown. James Perhay was the only person that sent an application to the board. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to appoint James Perhay to a term of 4 years. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

Boyd Hill Cemetery Advisory Board has one member with expiring term; Camille Leidigh. Camille sent an application and a letter requesting to be reappointed. There was also an application from Jacqueline Robinson for appointment to the board but lives in Eureka which is out of the district. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to reappoint Camille Leidigh to a 3 year term. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

Eureka Area District Dispatch Board has one member with an expiring term; Andy Kindel. Andy sent an application requesting to be reappointed. No other member of the public sent in an application. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to reappoint Andy Kindel to a 3 year term. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

Fisher River Valley Fire Service Area Board has two members with expiring terms; Robin Swimley and George Neils. Both Robin and George asked to be reappointed and no other applications were received. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to reappoint Robin Swimley and George Neils to a term of 3 years. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the commissioners.

Troy Area Dispatch District Board has one expiring term; Gene Rogers. Roger Gilligan sent a letter requesting appointment and his was the only application received. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to appoint Roger Gilligan to a 3 year term. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon the consent of the board.

The commissioners tabled appointing any members to the Fortine-Trego Cemetery Board to take more time to review the candidates and will make a decision on June 8, 2016.

**3:30 PM Charles Arnold: Easement:** Present were Charles Arnold, Marc McCully and Allen Gerstenecker. Charles Arnold purchased the Cabinet View Fire building and the corner of the building is actually in the cul-de-sac and Marc is asking the county to grant an easement. Marc said he would recommend that nothing permanent be put on it. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve moving forward with the easement process. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

**3:45 PM Lisa Oedewaldt-Callahan Creek:** Present Lisa Oedewaldt and Mike Frazer were in to talk about Callahan Creek. Mike said the engineers have made several changes and those include recommendations for wages. Mike said he and Lisa are communicating with MACo. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve the contractor's engineer's contract pending MACo's decision and review. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

**4:15 PM DUI Task Force:** Present were Brad Dodson from the DUI Task Force and Allan Gerstenecker. Brad said the task force has to submit to the state coordinator how they are spending money. Brad said the budget is the same as last year except for one line item. There used to be an admin fee of \$900 that Flathead Chemical Dependency had for an admin fee and they are no longer the administrator so the line has been deleted. Commissioner Larson said the budget was very well done. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve the budget as presented. Commissioner Cole asked if the program is having success. Brad said they had a recent meeting and a lot was accomplished. Commissioner Cole commended the training offered to vendors of alcohol and said it seems to be well received. Commissioner Larson asked how someone can tell if someone is drunk and shouldn't be served anymore. Brad explained several ways to tell if someone has had too alcohol. Brad said that during the training, they show people different things to look for to see if someone shouldn't be served or purchase any more alcohol. Second by Commissioner Cole and so ordered upon consent of the board.

**4:45 PM Meeting Adjourned**

## **LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Mike Cole, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Nelson, Deputy Clerk of the Board