

March 8, 2017

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on March 8, 2017, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Cole, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Peck, County Administrator Darren Coldwell and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson.

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

9:30 AM Noxious Weed Grants: Present were Weed Director Dan Williams, Suzanne Resch, Alan Gerstenecker and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Dan informed the commission that he has successfully received four grant awards fully funded as follows:

\$4800 Bio-Control for work in Eureka

\$40,675 Rush Skeleton Weed

\$15,000 Tansy Ragwort Weed

\$21,000 Tansy Ragwort Weed

DNRC asked Dan to apply for a FWP grant for aquatic monitoring. Dan said the county was awarded \$5,000 now for planning and will receive another \$10,000 in July for monitoring. Commissioner Cole asked about local lakes that will be monitored. Dan stated he would be monitoring all of them. Dan said he will try to borrow a boat, but if the weed department ends up purchasing one, it will be low-key and fully paid from the grant award.

Dan informed the commission he will need four 90 day-temp employees working for the weed department during the summer months. Dan said most of the 90-day temp's are college students and are fully funded through the grants. The weed department receives contract revenue from DNRC, DOT, Bonneville Power Association (BPA) and Weyerhaeuser.

Dan has been asked to help with a survey in Pablo to Nirada. There is a real problem with Rush Skeleton Weed in those areas. These efforts are also fully funded by grants.

Commissioner Bennett asked if there was a factor built in to the weed grants for equipment maintenance and replacement. Dan said all equipment was bought with contract money and the equipment is very good; it will be years down the road before any equipment will need replaced. Commissioner Cole commented that now is the time to be putting something aside for replacement down the road. Commissioner Peck said the county needs to seriously look into capital improvement accounts.

Commissioner Cole commended Dan for his hard work and acknowledged that the county weed program is one of the most successful in the state.

10:00 AM Health Department Update: Present were Bryan Alkire, Jennifer McCully, Jake Mertes, Suzanne Resch, Alan Gerstenecker and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

- Bryan submitted a report on the recycling programs at the Lincoln County Landfill. Bryan said it was a good year for E-Waste which is grant based; should hear about this year's grant that funds the E-Waste program later this month or early April. The report shows recycling is increasing every year for cardboard, plastics, paper, aluminum and steel cans. Landfill employees have been diligently educating the public and encouraging public participation to use the new recycling infrastructure installed at the Libby Landfill. Bryan said as far as our cities go, Eureka is leading in recycling efforts.
- Jake said the new Pizza Restaurant in Eureka has been inspected and approved; the state will make periodic inspections. Permitting and approval from Environmental Health is based on maximum capacity.
- Creekside Trailer Park is trying to get approval for public water; approval is from the State.
- Open burning has started countywide except for the Libby Air Pollution Control District which burning is only allowed in April.
- Jennifer said that Lincoln County is low in cases compared to the rest of the state regarding influenza. There have been a total of 40 cases reported and 5 hospitalizations.
- Jennifer said expenses have increased this year as the need to supply more immunizations has increased due to the outreach efforts for flu clinics and childhood vaccinations as well. Fund 2272 Public Health anticipated vaccination revenue of \$7,000.00 for current fiscal year, but as of March 3, 2017 vaccination revenue is \$16,075.53. Jennifer is requesting a budget amendment based on unanticipated revenue. Adjusted vaccination revenue request is \$18,000 and a request to increase the budget by \$11,000. Commissioner Peck asked if we are filling a gap? Jennifer said definitely filling a gap reaching people and meeting them where they are at. Robin explained that once budgets are set, there can be no amendments or changes without a signed resolution by the county commissioners and suggested Jennifer visit with her so she can prepare a resolution for approval.

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10:30 AM Administrative Issues: Present were IT Director Nikki, Eureka via VisionNet

- The commissioners read the minutes for special session February 28, 2017, special session March 3, 2017 and regular session March 1, 2017. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve all minutes as amended. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously.
- Darren said in Tuesday's conversation, we talked about automating payroll. Darren said it is not difficult to implement. The cost is \$4,000 annually for maintenance and taking our entire black mountain to the cloud. This allows for time study of employees for department supervisors and commissioners to review and less time spent for processing in the payroll department. Darren asked if the \$4,000 should be divided between all departments based on number of employees for FY 17/18. Employees will enter their time and itemize how they spend their time; beneficial for employees who work in various departments or areas within a department. Commissioner Peck commented that it is logical and beneficial for time management and offers analysis to see where employees spend

their time. Commissioner Cole questioned what happens if employees enter information incorrectly. Dallas said electronic timecards are reviewed and approved by the department supervisors.

Dallas said the program is already installed and she is currently training employees. Darren said he is asking permission from the commissioners to utilize and move forward with the automated time cards. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the purchase of the full Black Mountain Software License for \$4,000.00 to be paid out of PILT at this time. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

- **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Modification of Grant or Agreement between the Forest Service and Lincoln County Sheriff's Department. The agreement is standard and accommodates Lincoln County Dispatch to fill in for the forest service when necessary. Lincoln County may dispatch as a fill in for certain security areas on federal lands such as campgrounds. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the agreement as submitted. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

11:00 AM **Sheriff Roby Bowe/Sheriff Department Discussion:** Present were Sheriff Roby Bowe, H.R. Director Vic White, Alan Gerstenecker and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Roby informed the commission that he offered full time employment to 9 of the Troy Juvenile Detention employees in the adult detention facility; three have accepted at this time and are currently working in the adult facility. Positions are advertised to fill four remaining positions.

Roby informed the commission that he visited with Coeur d' Alene juvenile facility and is excited that it offers a great program and the cost is \$175 per day. Roby said this is a lot better program for the kids and is cost effective.

Commissioner Bennett questioned if we will need an interstate compact. Roby is checking into this, but feels it will not be an issue, everyone is on board.

11:15 AM **Public Comment Time:** There were no public comments.

11:30 AM **Troy Property Discussion:** Present were Alan Gerstenecker and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Commissioner Bennett said that he is following up where former Commissioner Larson left off regarding the Troy land purchases of three properties. There have already been two public meetings for the first two properties. The property purchase has closed on the adjacent piece to the Troy County Shop but he is still working on the second property that has a home on it. There will need to be an inspection on asbestos tile and roofing. The third property has had no public hearing which is the proposed rock quarry site owned by Dennis Welch. The appraisal has been received and the assessment is valued well in comparison to the asking price. The property is located up St. Regis Road. Rob Orr has inspected the rock and his opinion is that it is a good quality rock. Commissioner Bennett said the opinion is from an email record from Rob to Mr. Larson and asked if that is a good enough record or does the commissioner want something more formal. Commissioner Peck said that the property has been inspected by someone (Mr. Orr) who has been working in that area of expertise for many years and feels an email record is sufficient. Commissioner Bennett expressed the estimates on how much rock is used by road departments makes this a valuable investment for the county. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to schedule a public hearing for the purchase of the rock quarry site. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

Robin said she will write the public notice and get it sent to the paper of record.

1:00 PM **Libby Park Board Update:** Present were Road 1 Supervisor Marc McCully, Alan Gerstenecker and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Commissioner Peck said he met with Mayor Teske and President of the Libby Park Board Jim Germany to discuss the Master Trail Plan for biking recreation. There needs to be someone to coordinate and lay out a strategic plan with cost analysis to pursue this project. There will be contracts and contributions from the City of Libby, the Park Board and Libby Economic Development Fund, each contributing \$10,000 to hire a contractor to get this all laid out. Libby Park Board would like to see the county manage the grant. The grant would fall under Road 1 Supervisor Marc McCully's supervision. Commissioner Peck said there is conversation to look at a restructuring the Libby Park Board to expand or change their mission statement beyond just the scope of swimming pool planning. The Libby Park Board may become a joint City/County Park Board. Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) will be implemented so roles and responsibilities are clearly recognized. Commissioner Peck said the bike trail project is for all non-motorized recreations and will allow approximately 40 miles of supreme mountain bike recreation.

1:15 PM **City of Libby Sidewalk Discussion:** Present were County Road 1 Supervisor Marc McCully, City Administrator Jim Hammons, Alan Gerstenecker and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Jim gave a brief history of the Balsam Street Sidewalk Project. The project is grant based but also has committed monies from the City of Libby, Lincoln County and the Libby School District #4. The project was to construct a sidewalk from Main to the south parking lot of the Libby Elementary School. Jim said that once the grant was received, MDOT picked a contractor out of Missoula. Jim said the project has never been completed and expressed frustration about DJ & A Engineering Firm's increased costs and delays for less sidewalk than originally planned four years ago. Engineering fees alone are now pushing \$60,000 just for a sidewalk that has decreased from 7 blocks down to 2 blocks. Jim is informing the commissioners because the county committed and Libby School District #4 to a small portion of the project.

Commissioner Peck asked if Jim could provide a bulleted timeline of the project showing cost changes and delays.

Commissioner Peck will visit with Mike Tully, Director of MDOT and will include Mayor Teske and Craig Barringer, Libby School District Superintendent.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Robin A. Benson, Clerk of the Board