

February 20, 2018

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a special session on February 20, 2018, 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.

10:00 AM **Finance Meeting:** Present were Steve Byington, Amy Fantozzi, Jennifer McCully, Marc McCully and Wendy Drake.

- Steve Byington purchased the old snowshoe mine and wishes to have an agreement in writing to place a gate at the end of the bridge on Snowshoe road. Marc said there is no problem with abandoning a portion of the road that is on Steve's property but it would require the petition process. Steve said he would have no issues with the petition process. Commissioner Peck said he and Marc McCully will visit with the county attorney's office to discuss the agreement between Byington and the county.
- Jennifer is here to discuss the program proposal submitted to the commission on February 7, 2018. Jennifer is seeking a commitment of continued \$18,500 that has historically been budgeted to the Western Montana Mental Health Facility for crisis intervention, now for an incentive program for local private providers to respond to crisis calls. Jennifer is requesting an additional \$8,500 for a half time behavioral health liaison for the rest of current FY and a commitment of \$25,000 for FY 18/19 to ensure the liaison position continues. Jennifer said the liaison position will continue to keep the ball rolling and implement the crisis plan, evaluate the program and be the liaison between the hospital and the behavioral health network and it will show county support for grant opportunities. Commissioner Cole commented that saying we can find \$8,500 in the county budget is a pretty loaded statement; at a time when we are making significant cuts in the budget. Commissioner Cole questioned if the county should get more involved in expanding into healthcare. Commissioner Peck agreed the county needs to be careful on how we proceed; we don't want to take the onerous off the state, that technically this is not our responsibility. We cannot afford to do this and we need to talk with our legislatures. Jennifer said that right now we are just filling the gap. Commissioner Bennett expressed that monies can be shifted, but we need to be clear that the funds requested comes from somewhere else in the county budget. Jennifer said her request is not a sustainable option, it just buys us some time to research and establish other options. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve \$8,500 through current FY and commit \$25,000 for FY 18/19. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously. The commission agreed to continue budgeting the \$18,500 for an incentive program for local private providers to respond to crisis calls.
- Darren discussed road department overtime and comp time accrued from November through end of February, nearly 600 hours. Darren suggested commissioners have a visit with their district road supervisors, although realizing this is the time of year for more weekend work due to snowfall. Darren pointed out that some of these hours can be flexed.

11:00 AM **Meeting Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

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