

June 13, 2018

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on June 13, 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.

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

10:00 AM **Health Department Update:** Present were Kathi Hooper, Jennifer McCully, Noah Pyle, Jennifer Nelson, Jake Mertes, John Landon, John Blodgett, and Alan Gerstenecker. Josh Letcher and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Public Health:

Jennifer requested commissioner signatures for the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant and the Annual Immunization Program Grant. Grants are between Lincoln County Health Department and DPHHS. Jennifer said the program goals for the immunization grant now includes health assessment and referrals for inmates ages up to 17 years old, as well as immunizations to reduce the burden of vaccine preventable disease. Grant total for the MCH grant is \$21,000 and the grant total for the Immunization Program is \$10,303. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the Immunization Program and the Maternal, Child Health Block Grant as submitted. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bennett asked if the federal government will do any analysis of these grants to look at efficiencies.

Jennifer said her department will track its numbers which are sent to the state as part of the grant reporting requirements.

Jennifer submitted the *Lincoln County Mental Health Strategic Plan for FY 2018-2020* outlining goals for mental health, including but not limited to care coordination, crisis intervention and jail diversion for persons suffering mental disorders and co-occurring disorders.

The Lincoln County Mental Health Strategic Plan for FY 2018-2020 and grant documents can be obtained in its entirety from the Public Health Department.

Asbestos Resource Program (ARP): Noah commented the candidate that was selected for the DEQ liaison position has not accepted and is requesting a higher salary for the position. Noah said DEQ is set on what they can do, and ARP wants to re-advertise the position to potentially obtain a bigger pool of candidates. Commissioner Peck feels that we need to visit with DEQ to find out what the role of this position is.

Solid Waste and Recycling: Kathi presented a draft county recycling policy written by Jennifer Nelson. Kathi reminded the commission that there are approximately 7 years left in the current cell at the landfill. The policy is just a basic guideline for county employees to reduce, reuse, recycle and rethink. The commission expressed its support. Darren suggested that instead of a policy, to make it a county standard operating procedure for employees to recycle within their departments.

Green Box Sites: Kathi said there is progress on the Yaak Hill site with upgrades and fencing. Kathi explained the Troy site is going to be charged \$4,000 annually so the site is being relocated. Kathi said a meeting was held in the West Kootenai and public input was received for a proposed new location.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues:** Present were John Landon, John Blodgett, and Alan Gerstenecker. Josh Letcher and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

- Robin presented the Lincoln county AED Program for commissioner approval. Robin explained it is a basic program that describes where the courthouse AED's are located, maintenance records and care procedures. The program was written by Amy Fantozzi and Joe Nagle and was approved by the county attorney's office. Commissioner Cole asked about AED's located in Eureka. Robin said she is not aware if there are AED's at the North county annex, but will look into it. Commissioner Peck asked if there are any county hosted CPR/AED trainings. Robin said she is aware of numerous employees that are certified CPR/AED, but believes the training is hosted by the ambulance department, but will bring this up for discussion during the July county safety committee meeting. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Lincoln County AED Program as presented. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously.
- Robin presented the minutes for May 6, 2018 regular meeting to the commission for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously.
- Darren submitted an email from Cinna Vallejos, EPA approving for ARP to access Trihydro to help ARP and the Board of Health write institutional controls, and help with the development of a steering committee for the Libby, Troy area. Darren commented the approval is good news, since the request was originally not an allowable cost.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** John Landon, John Blodgett, and Alan Gerstenecker. Josh Letcher and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

John Landon spoke about what he has been reading in the paper regarding the county budget and spending. John stated that it is spectacular that you have saved the taxpayers as much as you have, and it is obvious that it was a great decision to hire county administrator Darren Coldwell. John commended the commission and Darren for doing a wonderful job.

John talked about recycling in other states, costs and options for increased awareness and recycling in Lincoln County.

11:00 AM **USFS Update:** Present were Chris Savage, Dakota Bowers, Madeline Clark, John Landon, John Blodgett, and Alan Gerstenecker. Josh Letcher and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Chris introduced two of the Montana Conservation Corp employees working this summer in Lincoln County. One of the requirements is to include attending a public meeting. Madeline said her and Dakota are conducting an accessibility survey by going to all campsites and boat launches and looking at access. The information will go back to DC, 10% of campsites, must be completely accessible.

Chris Savage submitted the following update to the commission.

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Post Fire Salvage

- Total acres currently proposed for salvage is about 10,475 acres.
- Total acres burned from fires was about 85,000 acres.
- Six salvage projects totaled for the KNF:
 - Caribou, EA: 5300 acres – currently in the 30 day comment period. Closes 7/11.
 - West Fork, EA: 3100 acres – comment period closed. Received BO, waiting on ESD from WO.
 - Cub, EA: 1600 acres – comment period closed. Received BO, waiting on ESD from WO.
 - Tamarack, CE. 225 acres. **Completed. Sold 3/06/2018**
 - Gilbralter, CE. 200 acres. – **Completed. Sold 6/12/2018.**
 - Moose Peak, CE. 80 acres. – **Completed, will sell on 6/14/2018.**
- Caribou, West Fork and Cub have been submitted to the WO for Emergency Situation Determination for Chief approval. Would remove objection period and save about 90 days on our timeline for decision.
- Sales will be offered and sold this fiscal year. Seven timber sales will come out of these three larger projects.

Kootenai National Forest Timber Program

- Currently have 165 mmbf of uncut wood under contract, equates to \$15.38M in remaining value.
- With TRO on East Reservoir and Miller West-Fisher sales, currently have 44.7 mmbf held up in litigation (all Libby RD sales).
- Volume estimated to be sold this year will be approximately 90 mmbf. Primarily will depend on final salvage volume.

Good Neighbor Authority/Omnibus Bill Opportunities

- Projects slated for 2018 include Elk Gem timber sale, young growth surveys, and Ski Dahl.
- State DNRC Libby Unit will be hiring a Forester just to work with KNF on GNA projects.
- Omnibus bill removed the road construction/reconstruction clause for GNA projects. A very positive change for us to now consider projects in Lincoln County.
- Looking at new project area related to Young Growth for new Wildland Fire CE category under omnibus bill (see attached sheet).

Commercial Mushroom Harvest

- Mushroom pickers seem to be tapering off.
- Sold 589 Commercial and 613 Personal permits as of yesterday – permit sales slowed down dramatically middle of last week.
- West Fork still very busy, most activity in north end of fire area (Loon Lake, Mt. Tom).
- Caribou has moderate activity, but will be picking up here soon.
- Translated mushroom, camping, and bear materials have been useful.
- Law enforcement has had over 8 arrests, lots of violation notices.
- Excellent support from both the County, City and Border Patrol.

Rock Creek and Montanore

- Rock Creek: waiting for concurrence from WO and Department to publish the Notice of Availability for the ROD. This is hinging on the outcome of the Hecla/State of Montana Lawsuit.
- Montanore: working on SDEIS and BA for draft publication. Hecla's contractors are finalizing the wildlife section for both documents.

Secure Rural Schools

- Omnibus Bill renewed SRS for another 2 years, with back payments from the last two years.
- Title II funds have yet been determined or distributed to the KNF.
- Currently finalizing RAC package for new membership approval to the USDA.
- We had a good level of interest from all communities, wanting to participate in the RAC.
- Hopefully to have new members approved and first meeting by end of the calendar year.

Recreation Highlights

- Awarded Swinging Bridge Contract to Wesslen Construction Inc. out of Spokane. They plan to get all the permits and supplies this year and will start construction next year.
- Have 58 YCC and MCC youth hired this summer to help us out for the season. Also 19 campgrounds have hosts this year. Over the past two years, the KNF has had more volunteer hours of work completed on the Forest, than any other Forest within the Region.
- Northwest Lookout Association plans to renovate three lookouts for us this season: Mt. Wam, Meadow Peak and Northwest Peaks.
- Waiting for Washington Office approval to advertise our increase in fee's at our recreation fee collection sites. Hoping new fees will be established for next year.
- Fees on the forest have not been changed since before 2008. From the fees collected at recreation sites 95% is returned to the Forest. The current receipts do not cover annual maintenance and field staffing needs.

Commissioner Peck commented the public feedback has been great regarding the shooting range; there has been no negative comments about the new code access. Commissioner Peck conveyed that to bring the range up to the next level of professionalism is to have a small prefab building for administrative use, storage and to provide a place for range safety officers to sit and observe range activities.

Commissioner Peck asked about Travel Management on Ten Lakes; Chris said we are really close to starting the objection process. Commissioner Peck questioned now that the original comment period is over, what is the next step. Chris said all the comments have been incorporated into the EA to start the objection process.

1:30 PM **Planning Department:** Present were Jake Mertes, Kristin Smith, Byron Sanderson, Maranda Davis, and Alan Gerstenecker. Josh Letcher and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Hammond Subdivision: Joshua Coyne Smith, PE has certified that the driveway meets standards and is completed per the Lincoln County Subdivision regulations. Planning staff recommendation is to approve the final release of SIA funds (check #2771; \$2,000). **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the final release of SIA funds subject to planning staff conditions and recommendations. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

Burnett Subdivision: The developer is proposing that the Agricultural Restriction imposed on the property at the time of creation be lifted and that the resulting lot be developed for single family residential use. Planning staff recommendation is to grant preliminary approval to Burnett Subdivision, subject to conditions and based on the finding in the staff report. This is a minor subdivision/removal of restrictions and does not require planning board review. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to grant preliminary approval and removal of agricultural restrictions for Burnett Subdivision, subject to planning staff conditions and recommendations. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

Imboden Subdivision: The developer is proposing the agricultural restriction imposed on the property at the time of creation be lifted and that the resulting lot be developed for single family residential use. This lot will be served by an individual well and septic system. The planning staff recommends granting preliminary approval to Imboden subdivision, subject to conditions and based on the finding in the staff report. This is a minor subdivision/removal of restrictions and does not require planning board review. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to grant preliminary approval and removal of agricultural restrictions for Imboden Subdivision, subject to planning staff conditions and recommendations. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

2:00 PM **Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks: Cancelled**

2:00 PM **Meeting Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

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