

May 8, 2018

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a special session on May 8, 2018, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Cole, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Peck, County Administrator Darren Coldwell, and Deputy Clerk and Recorder Chris Nelson.

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

10:00 AM **Finance Meeting:** Present were Dallas Bowe, Wendy Drake and Nikki Meyer.

- Darren told the commissioners the finance department has been looking at the park budgets and would like the board's direction on what they need in those budgets. Commissioner Cole said an increase would help with the mowing of the Eureka Fairgrounds. Darren said they could hire a 90-day temporary employee to mow allowing the rest of the staff at the fairgrounds to focus on maintenance. Commissioner Cole said a 90-day temp would probably be a more economical choice over going out to bid. Darren said the park budgets had previously been cut by \$10,000 and increasing it by \$10,000 would be an option. Commissioner Bennett said he would probably only need to increase the Troy Park budget by \$5,000. Commissioner Peck said he wouldn't need an increase. Commissioners agreed to increase the Eureka Parks budget by \$10,000, Troy by \$5,000 and no increase for Libby Park budget.
- Darren presented the commissioners with data from last year's payroll to see what an increase in employee pay would possibly look like. Dallas said the numbers presented, are higher than they would be for the next year as they include employees who have since retired, early retirement buyouts, comp time cash out and sick/vacation buyouts. Commissioner Peck asked what can be done to fix the pay issues in the Sheriff's Office. Darren said that since the sheriff's deputies' longevity increases were based on the sheriff's wages and not the deputies' base salary, the county is out of compliance. Darren said they are currently looking at all options on how to fix the issue. The commissioners agreed they first want to make sure the issue was addressed to the deputies before a decision is made.
- Commissioner Bennett said going forward they need to also address insurance issues and get the employees involved in the yearly increases. Dallas said that she just received the increase for employee health coverage and it will be 3%.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Chris Nelson, Deputy Clerk of the Board