

April 23, 2019
Finance Meeting

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a special session on April 23, 2019 in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Peck, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Letcher via VisionNet, County Administrator Darren Coldwell, Finance Director Wendy Drake, and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson.

3:00 PM

The following agenda submitted by County Administrator Darren Coldwell.

Budget Meeting April 23, 2019

1. What are the Commissioners priorities for this year
 - Need to look at a priority based budget
 - Have cut \$1.5 million out of the last two budgets
 - Have eliminated many positions, employees are covering those cuts in almost every department
2. We are working with Black Mountain to create a program to be more transparent to the public
3. Remember the budget is a financial document, not a wish list for department heads
 - How much do we have, rather than how much do you need
 - What are the revenues for each department
 - Starting from last year's numbers
 - What are the county's legal requirements

Darren talked about looking at priority-based budgeting, no department increases and questioned if there were any large priorities.

Commissioner Peck commented that one priority is to offer management and leadership training to department heads and other county leadership positions.

Commissioner Bennett commented about prioritizing county infrastructure needs.

There was a brief discussion about defining expenditures and invoices; potentially creating a cover sheet to be submitted summarizing purpose of expenditures to help commissioner review and approval.

Darren said he is working with Black Mountain to create a budget breakdown using charts and graphs to be placed on the county website; still a work in progress.

Darren talked about legal requirements of mandatory vs. discretionary services and what level of service is required. Darren said now that the county has cut department budgets and departments are now spending less, this is what we need to look at as we continue to balance expenditures to meet revenues.

There was a brief discussion about establishing a CIP for sheriff department vehicle rotation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mark Peck, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Robin Benson, Clerk of the Board