

October 30, 2019

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on October 30, 2019, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Letcher, County Administrator Darren Coldwell and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson. Commissioner Peck absent until 10:45 AM.

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

**10:00 AM Airport Plow Truck Update:** Present were Airport Manager Rob Fox, and Road Supervisor Marc McCully. Rob talked about the current plow truck; front axle is specialized, broken and needs replacement. The truck is currently at Montana Autoworks for repairs. Replacement is estimated at \$33,000 not including labor. Rob said he has talked with the FAA about potential grant opportunities for equipment. The airport would qualify for another grant after July of 2020. Rob said we still need to make repairs until then and could potentially put the truck back into service this winter, but it could be well into the winter before it is ready. Rob said he is asking for a backup plow truck from the county during the interim.

Marc commented that the Libby District sold two trucks this year, so there is not an extra at this time. Commissioner Bennett will talk with Road Supervisor Dave Kyriss, Troy District to see if a truck can be used for the winter at the Libby airport. Darren said we will talk with the road foremen in Troy and Eureka to see if a truck is available.

**10:30 AM Administrative Issues / Adjustment in School Levies (Decrease):** Present were Treasurer/Supt. Of Schools Sedaris Carlberg, Ray Stout and Derrick Perkins.

- Robin presented the minutes for October 23, 2019 regular meeting minutes for Commissioner approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to approve minutes as presented. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried.
- Darren said the county is increasing internet speed; \$8,800 to get the fiber through Montana Sky. Darren is requesting permission to cover cost from PILT if the IT budget cannot absorb the cost since it is not a budgeted item. Commissioner Letcher and Commissioner Bennett approved the request to use PILT if cost cannot be absorbed from the IT budget. (Commissioner Peck was absent)
- Sedaris said when school levies were calculated, there was extra revenue from last year that carried over, so the levies will be lower than what was originally approved. Sedaris submitted a spreadsheet showing budget amendments. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to change the 2019/2020 school levy decrease in the Retirement/Transportation portion of the school budget. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

**10:45 AM Public Comment Time:** Present were Derrick Perkins. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet. There were no public comments

**11:00 AM Planning / Logan State Park / Roose Court Ordered Split:** Present were County Planner Jake Mertes, Derrick Perkins, Ray Stout and Ben Kibbey. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

- Jake submitted a Request for Commission Comment regarding the Roose Dissolution Court Order Split. Jake said the Exemption Review Committee found no evidence of an attempt to evade the MSPA. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Roose Court Order Split based on planning staff recommendation. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Jake received a Lakeshore Permit request from MT FWP, John Maxwell, proposing to make improvements to the Logan State Park boat ramp. Jake said the planning board conducted its review and recommends approval of Logan State Park Project Lakeshore Construction Permit on Middle Thompson Lake subject to seven conditions. Jake submitted the Planning Staff Report and explained the conditions. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Lakeshore Permit request as presented subject to planning staff conditions and recommendation. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously. This is a public use facility and needs to be updated to better protect the lake and public.

**11:15 AM Kootenai Foresters Rivers Initiative (KFRI) Grant Approval:** Present were County Forester Jennifer Nelson, Finance Director Wendy Drake, Derrick Perkins and Ray Stout.

Jennifer said the county received a grant award from DNRC for \$200,000 for a fuel's reduction program. The grant is for work to be conducted on 225 acres; approximately 25 projects. The fuels reduction program allows for cost share projects with landowners. Jennifer is requesting permission to move forward with the grant program. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Kootenai Foresters Rivers Initiative grant program as presented. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer commented the FEMA Grant for the subdivision at the bottom of Parmenter face is still a strong grant application.

Jennifer asked permission for authority to respond to small fuel treatment projects. Darren recommended using County Forester letterhead for correspondence. Commissioner Bennett said he is comfortable to leave it to Jennifer's discretion when notifying the commission.

**11:30 AM LCSO Radio Discussion:** Present were Sheriff Darren Short, Undersheriff Brad Dodson, Boyd White, Kirk Kraft, Brent Teske, Ernie Anderson, Karen Hyslop, Barb Pfaff, Wendy Drake, Derrick Perkins, Ray Stout and Ben Kibbey. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Sheriff Short talked about the CAD and Radio Systems in the sheriff's department. Coldwell asked if the CAD System will work on the current radios. Short clarified the CAD System is separate from radios. Darren asked if the new dispatch console will work with current radios. Short explained current radios are no longer serviceable. Short explained the upgrade in more detail, and how the emergency services communicate countywide. Short submitted a quote from

Montana Electronics Company, Inc. for \$848,014.26 that covers software, hardware, mobile car radios, and console. The dispatch console receives all the radio transmissions for emergency services. Coldwell said there is no place in the budget to fund this except from PILT. Currently the county has close to 3 million in the PILT budget and receives approximately \$635,000 annually. Commissioner Bennett asked about the projected longevity and maintenance. Short said the quote is for 5 years and then we will have to look at maintenance cost. Wendy asked if money from the E911 funds can help offset some of the cost. Short said yes, we can use some E911 funds for maintenance. Commissioner Peck said this is a lot of money, but when we look at EMS, dispatch, and countywide emergency services, this is just a drop in the bucket; we need to really sit down and look at emergency services countywide. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve to provide \$848,014.26 from PILT for an upgrade system to Montana Electronics Company, Inc. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Peck added a caveat to set up a capital improvement plan moving forward.

1:30 pm **Mikel Siemans / Core Water Consultants:** Present were County Planner Jake Mertes, Brett McCully, Chris Nelson, Ray Stout, and Derrick Perkins.

**Glen Lake Tract 13/14:** Mikel explained that MT DEQ has requested an easement be obtained for the replacement drainfield to encroach upon the 10-ft setback requirement from the property line. Initially, a waiver was submitted with a \$200 fee, but this fee is anticipated to be refunded as this was not the preferred route for satisfying Arm 17.36.323. Ray Price, Eureka Road District Supervisor feels that an encroachment permit would be permitted, thus the County Commissioners would be able to approve an easement. Lincoln County plat room reviewed the records and did not find Glen Lake Drive as a deeded road. Instead, the Glen Lake Tract described the access road for public use. Jake said he is ok with the easement for the setback, but questions commissioner authority. Mikel said the goal is to replace the outhouse with a real, functioning sanitation system. Commissioner Bennett commented that an option is to deed the road and then we could make the statement, but there may be other options, starting with a letter to DEQ that the commissioners are not opposed to an easement. Commissioner Peck suggested this go to the county attorney's office for review.

1:45 PM **Troy Dispatch Board Appointment Steve Allen / Resolution 2019-20 Treasurer Authorization to Deal with Outstanding Taxes Concerning Junk Trailers:** Present were Kathi Hooper, Sedaris Carlberg, Derrick Perkins and Ray Stout.

**Troy Dispatch Board Appointment:** Robin informed the commission that she received a board application from Stephen Allen to serve on the Troy Dispatch Board. Robin said she also received a recommendation from the Troy Dispatch Secretary on behalf of the board recommending the commission to appoint Stephen Allen to fill the vacant position. Robin said when she last advertised for district boards, no applications were received for Troy Dispatch at that time. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to appoint Stephen Allen to serve on the Troy Dispatch Board as presented. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2019-20:** Robin submitted Resolution 2019-20 authorizing the county treasurer to waive delinquent taxes of abandoned or uninhabitable (junk) mobile homes in order to obtain a 40-day moving permit for proper disposal to the Lincoln County Landfill per 15-24-206 MCA. Robin said the resolution has been vetted through the county attorney. Kathi stated that trailer permit fees can be paid out of the Junk Vehicle Program. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve Resolution 2019-20 as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

## LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Mark Peck, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin A. Benson, Clerk of the Board