

January 29, 2020

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on January 29, 2020 in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Letcher, County Administrator Patrick McFadden and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson. Commissioner Peck was absent.

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

9:30 AM **EBMS Update:** Present were Pete Shatwell and Sarah Harne from Leavitt Great West, and HR Director Dallas Bowe.

Pete updated the commission on healthcare options, markets and potential costs for FY 20/21. Pete said he will bring information of what other counties are doing for the commissioners to review. Commissioner Bennett commented the break down per employee for the full family plan is approximately \$9.00/hr. Pete talked about Health Savings Accounts and how employees are using them as a part of their retirement plan by using the funds to pay for Medicare Supplement Plans at age 65. Dallas said telemedicine is starting to be used more, but it's a matter of getting out the information. Pete asked about an opportunity to get a meeting together with the city, school system and other local businesses/agencies to see if there is interest in a captive/consortia plan saying, that one way to attack health care costs is volume. Commissioner Bennett said initially he can call cities, schools to see if there is interest to move forward with a meeting. Dallas commented that to shop for coverages, she will have to put out public notices. Pete said he will come back end of March to go through bench marking, considerations and options.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues:** Present was Derrick Perkins.

- Robin presented the minutes for January 22 regular meeting and January 16 closed session for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve minutes as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried.
- Robin informed the commission that she has authorized Jason Singleton of GeoControl to move forward with a Montana Land Information Act Grant (MLIA) application. Jason is currently contracted out to create a workflow and train staff to move from hand drawing plats and surveys into the section maps to digitizing that work, which offers significant improvement to the process, employee time and public service. Robin said she informed Jason that Wendy Drake would be the grant administrator and needs to know county responsibilities before grant submittal and approval. Currently, the contract with GeoControl is paid from the County Land Information Fund, which receives its funds from recording documents in the Clerk & Recorder's Office and is not a tax-based fund. Any grant funds would be used for the purpose to continue GeoControl services into FY 20/21.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** Present was Derrick Perkins.

There were no public comments

11:00 AM **PayneWest Insurance/Worker's Comp Update:** Present were Brad Salonen of PayneWest and HR Director Dallas Bowe.

Brad submitted the following overview of Lincoln County Worker's Compensation Claims update for 2019 as follows:

Lincoln County worker's compensation claims update meeting 1/29/2020

The claims below is from 1/1/19-12/31/19

There were 7 claims turned into Maco. 3 of the 7 claims were \$0 claims. The other 4 claims totaled \$9,640. Based on the information provided last year, 2018 was the lowest claim year since 2012/2013; 2019 was even better. Congratulations!! There is one claim that does have a \$46,500 reserve on it, so we will monitor it to see what happens.

In 2017 I stated that about 26% of your claims come from slips, trips and falls. 26% is very low as most of my clients have more like 40%-50% of their claims from slips, trips and falls. In 2018 Lincoln County did not have one slip, trip and fall turned into Maco. My loss runs show no slips, trips and falls again in 2019 but maybe one of the shoulder strains resulted from a slip/fall.

I do not see any red flags within Lincoln County. No trends that concern me. This past year's claims were from (2) inmate situations (bite, spit). (2) strains (shoulder, leg).

The safety committee is doing well. Good representation at most of the meetings. Very proud of the effort the entire committee is giving but especially proud of Robin and Brent for their efforts.

Brad congratulated the commissioners, the safety committee and county employees on a record claims year. Commissioner Bennett commented the work is paying off and employees are safety aware and cautious.

11:15 **Contract for Area VI Agency on Aging and Lincoln County Senior Centers:** Present was Ray Stout. The commissioners signed the annual renewal contract for Western Montana Area VI Agency on Aging. The contract allows reimbursement for meals to the Lincoln County Senior Citizen Centers. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to approve the Western Montana Area VI Agency on Aging annual contract as presented. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried.

1:30 PM **FWP Fishpond Grant:** Present was Duncan Adams. Mike Fraser was present via phone conference. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Mike said he has been working with Commissioner Letcher and has put together a planning grant for the fishpond in Eureka. The pond needs a liner. Eureka Road Department will do in-kind services of time and materials. Grant would be for approximately \$26,000 and the completed project would be a fix for the pond for 20 years. Grant will be submitted this week and an award will go out in 30 days. Total project cost including in-kind services is estimated at \$86,000. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to move forward with the FWP Grant for improvements to the Eureka Fairgrounds Fishpond. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried.

2:00 PM Meeting Adjourned

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mark Peck, Chairman

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