

**April 10, 2013**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on April 10, 2013, in the Lincoln County Courthouse. Present are Commissioner Berget, Commissioner Downey, Commissioner Cole, Executive Assistant Bill Bischoff and Clerk and Recorder Tammy Lauer.

9:00 AM: Commissioner Berget **opened the meeting** with the Pledge of Allegiance.

9:00 AM: **Port Authority:** Paul Rumelhart and Brigid Burke of the Port Authority are here along with 10 members of the public. This is a public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development. Brigid presented a short history and explanation of the grant. Paul talked about what the grant has been used for in the past. Tom Wood talked about the streetscape project that was started a few years ago and expressed an interest in activating the Libby Beautification Committee again to proceed with that project. The Public hearing was closed at 9:35.

9:35 AM: **MIECHV Grant:** This grant has been discussed several times over the past few months. Lincoln County has received over \$450,000 for this grant so far through the County Health Nurse department. The renewal of the grant, if approved, should take place in the next month. Commissioner Cole moved to approve the grant renewal and Commissioner Downey seconded for the sake of discussion. Commissioner Cole expressed his approval of the grant and said that he is concerned that the county health department may not exist without it. Commissioner Downey stated that he does not agree with the way the funds for this grant have been spent and feels that more money should have gone to the families and children rather than salaries and contract wages. Commissioner Berget stated that he feels as though there are many other programs throughout the state that offer the same services and there is a duplication of services to the same families. Commissioner Berget called for a vote and the grant renewal was denied by a 2 -1 vote. Commissioner Cole voted for and Commissioner Berget and Commissioner Downey against.

10:00 AM: **EPA Update:** Before beginning the EPA agenda, Commissioner Berget asked to address the Troy Landfill Wood Waste issue. EPA provided an update on their tentative plans for an activity-based sampling (ABS) event for shipping the wood waste in Troy. DEQ (John Podolinsky) stated their concerns and opinion that ABS data alone should not determine the disposal or use of the wood waste material. EPA and DEQ did not appear to agree on this point. EPA noted they will need the ABS data before making any decisions, so they intend to move forward with the event. At the request of Commissioner Berget, EPA agreed to discuss the potential scenarios with DEQ and Lincoln County concurrent with planning/conducting the sampling event in order to avoid a lengthy decision process once the results are available. On the EPA agenda, the Annual Public Meeting will be May 15. EPA is working closely with DNRC on dangers of asbestos in the forest trees and fires in the forests. Mike Cirian spoke about the new construction year ahead. He said they expect to start on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The construction of the Fishing Pond at the old Stimson Lumber site will also begin in May. As was mentioned last month the air sampling as well as other sampling around the area is ongoing.

11:00 AM: **FWP/USFW Update:** Present are Mike Hensler, Jim Dunnigan, Ryan Sylvester and Kim Annis of the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks and Wayne Kasworm of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Mike Hensler talked about fisheries in Lincoln County and specifically the Bull Trout. Kim Annis spoke to the commissioners about the Grizzly Bears. She talked about a couple of specific bears that have been monitored by collars. She also talked about the black bears, wolves and wolverines. Kim suggested that next month the commissioner meet with Tim Their, Wildlife Biologist in the Eureka area at the meeting in Eureka.

1:30 PM: **Kristin Smith, Planning Director,** presented a court ordered split for the Rice's in Eureka. As a result of a divorce, the judge recommends the split however it must be reviewed by the County Commissioners. Commissioner Downey moved to approve the court ordered split as written and it carried.

1:45 PM: The **Troy Dispatch Board** has three vacancies. Shawn Thrasher has applied to fill one of the positions as of June 1, 2013. Commissioner Cole moved to approve the appointment of Shawn Thrasher to the board and it carried.

1:50 PM: The **Lincoln County Airport Board** met in Eureka on March 20, 2013. They have had two board members resign, George Wood and Russell Barnes, and had one vacancy on the board for a long time now. As a result, the Airport Board would like to appoint Bill Caldwell and Deborah Lampton as Libby representatives and John Brooks as a Eureka representative. Commissioner Cole moved to approve the appointments and it carried.

2:30 PM: **Vic White, EMA:** Vic has the letter of intent to sign for his grant for the upcoming year. This grant will allow for work on the repeater towers that Lincoln County has recently purchased and other operation funds for the EMA department. The commissioners warned Vic of the impending cutbacks in the county and the need to find grants with little or no match required. The group discussed the difference between the matching funds and doing the work without the grants. Commissioner Downey moved to allow Vic to go ahead with the grant application and return to the commissioners with the final grant approval. The motion carried.

3:14 PM: **Sheriff Roby Bowe** met with the commissioners on a personnel issue.

4:00 PM: The **meeting was adjourned.**

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

---

Tony Berget, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy D. Lauer, Clerk of the Board