

August 14, 2019

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on August 14, 2019, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Letcher, Commissioner Peck, County Administrator Darren Coldwell and Deputy Clerk and Recorder Chris Nelson.

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

10:00 AM **Josh Coleman Horse Barn Discussion:** Present was Ray Stout. Robin Hadal, Clarence Meyer, and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Josh Coleman met with the commissioners to discuss the facility at the fairgrounds. He said in the past the horse barns and surrounding areas have been a mess left from the rodeo which the 4H kids end up cleaning. Josh discussed the issue with the rodeo association president Mike Cole who cleaned it up this year. Josh wants to know if there is a policy or protocol for people that use that facility to clean it when they are done. Darren said he doesn't believe they have a policy for the horse barn, but they could look at setting up something. One possibility is there could be a deposit that would be refunded only if the facility is cleaned. Commissioner Peck said they need to have a discussion and come up with a solution. Currently, the county doesn't directly benefit financially from the fair or the rodeo although Eureka businesses do benefit. Commissioner Bennett said it would be good for Josh to also talk about the issue to the fair board. The board thanked Josh for his comments and concerns.

10:15 AM **Class A Road Discussion** Present was Ray Stout. Robin Hadal, Clarence Meyer, and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Commissioner Bennett said they cannot move ahead with the project on Callahan Creek until they have a signed Class A Road agreement. Road Foreman Marc McCully said he will contact the USFS about the agreement for the commissioners. Commissioners also discussed sending letters out to inform people of certain Schedule A roads the county will not be plowing after this winter.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issue:** Present was Ray Stout. Robin Hadal, Clarence Meyer, Nikki Meyer were present via VisionNet.

Commissioner Letcher presented a contract for approval for use of office space at the Eureka Annex for the motor vehicle office. Commissioner Bennett said they should in the future put a 2% automatic increase. **MOTION** by Commissioner Letcher to approve the contract with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry to lease office space at the Eureka Annex. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** Present was Ray Stout. Robin Hadal, Clarence Meyer, Tracy Diaz, and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

No one from the public made comments.

11:00 AM **Community Action Partnership Letter of Support:** Present were Tracy Diaz, Cassidy Kipp, and Ray Stout. Clarence Meyer and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Cassidy Kipp and Tracy Diaz from Community Action Partnership introduced themselves to the board. Cassidy said they have to present their work plan bi-annually for the Community Action Partnership of Northwest Montana Program. Tracy said they look at their community needs assessment that is done every three years and see where there are needs. A lot of their plan this year looks at affordable housing and rehabbing existing houses. Annually they serve about 8,000 people. In Lincoln county the primary assistance they give is heating assistance. They are looking at expanding their services that provides home buyer classes. Commissioner Bennett asked about a needs assessment for Troy and moving forward with affordable housing. Tracy said there is a substantial list for rehabbing homes, but it would be important for applicants to note if they are elderly and disabled as they will be moved up the list. Tracy said in April 2020 they will be doing assessments. Commissioner Bennett said they have seen more people moving in to the area and home prices with acreage are increasing greatly. The board agreed there is a need for affordable housing. **MOTION** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the letter of support for Community Action Partnership of Northwest Montana Community Services Block Grant Program. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

11:30 **Health Department Update:** Present was Kathi Hooper, Bryan Alkire, and Ray Stout. Robin Hadal, Clarence Meyer, and Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Kathi said they still have the contractor in place that is inspecting restaurants in Eureka and Troy. Kathi is doing the inspections in Libby. She said they are a bit behind due to short staffing, but they have been making good headway. Kathi said she is working with Darren to get a part time sanitarium and internally trying to higher a support person to work with them. Kathi also said they ordered a new air quality sign that will provide real time updates of the air quality. The junk trailer program is coming up and Kathi said they will be advertising for that. Bryan said they are interested in getting a fire box air burner to help take care of wood waste which cost \$159,000. They will continue researching it and grants that might help pay for one. Kathi also presented two contracts to be approved and signed by the board. **MOTION** by Commissioner Bennet to approve the contract with Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services for public health services and with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services for Teen Pregnancy Prevention. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

12:00 PM **Meeting Adjourned**

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Nelson, Deputy Clerk of the Board

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Mark Peck, Chairman