

December 7, 2016

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on December 7, 2016, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Cole, Commissioner Larson, Commissioner Peck and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson. Commissioner Peck was absent from 10:30 AM - 2:00 PM.

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

9:45 AM **Coroner Position:** Present were Vic White, Alan Gerstenecker and Bethany Rolfson.

Vic informed the commission that during the November 9 commissioner meeting, it was stated the deputies pay rate would be at 70% of coroner's wage. Vic said that is incorrect and deputies pay rate would be adjusted to 90% of the coroner's wage. Vic said the Coroner's Department was still looking for approval to hire a third deputy coroner. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve hiring of third deputy coroner predicated on knowing there will be no increase to the FY 16/17 budget. Second by Commissioner Larson, motion carried unanimously.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues:** Present were Vic White, Dallas Wamsley, Bethany Rolfson and Alan Gerstenecker.

- The commissioners read the minutes for November 30 and December 1, 2016. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve minutes as presented. Second by Commissioner Cole, motion carried.
- Vic informed the commission that Juvenile Detention would like to fill a position for an employee who has resigned. Dallas said the county needs to focus on whether the Sheriff's Department is moving forward in overseeing the Juvenile Detention facility. Commissioner Cole said he realizes staffing is an issue but wanted to know if the costs are being covered. Dallas said those numbers or stats have not been received. Dallas expressed this issue needs to become a top priority. Commissioner Larson expressed frustration that the commissioners are expected to make decisions without the stats and numbers to base any decisions on. Commissioner Cole said he does not want to move forward yet with a hire, but requests another meeting to include more information about other vacancy availability, other optional facilities, costs to maintain the county facility vs. incarceration and travel costs to locate kids in another facility and a report from the sheriff's department on their findings and interest in managing the facility.
- Robin presented a document provided by MACo regarding the Steed Permit for the commission to review. The document summarizes the history, public hearing and process pertaining to the Steed Permit issue. Robin said she would present it next week during "administrative issues" for discussion and approval.
- The Commissioners signed the Certificate of Election for Jerry Bennett and Tricia Brooks. The certificates will be presented to Tricia and Jerry when they are sworn in on December 19, 2016 at 1:00 PM.
- The Commission signed a letter of approval to the Western Montana Area VI Agency of Aging to appoint Gene Auge to their board.

11:00 AM **Public Comment Time:** There were no public comments.

2:00 PM **Callahan Creek:** Present were Mike Fraser, Alan Gerstenecker and Bethany Rolfson.

Mr. Fraser said the current focus is attaining signed access agreements; Commissioner Larson and Mr. Fraser will be visiting with land owners next Monday. The bid package will be completed after the land owner concurrence is complete. Mr. Fraser commented that once we get through next spring, should see a natural flow and new vegetation after the restoration.

2:30 PM **Public Hearing/Troy Real Estate Purchase:** Present were Troy Road Supervisor Dave Kyriss, Bethany Rolfson and Alan Gerstenecker.

Today's hearing is to notify the public of the intent of the county to purchase property. Commissioner Larson presented agreements with the land owners and stated the purchase prices are at or below the appraised value. It has been advertised that the county is interested in purchasing the properties resulting in today's public hearing. If the county receives no public complaints and if nobody from the public desires to bid on the properties, the county has authority to purchase. The purchase price for property #1 is \$59,000 located at S13, R31N, R34W, TR 7JB in Placer Claim #3458 and 7JA3 Abandoned Rd. PF 5471, 0.591 acres. The purchase price for property #2 is \$24,000 located at S13, T31 N, R34W, TR 7JBA in Placer Claim 0.43 acres. Commissioner Larson said the reason to purchase the properties is to provide additional space to store equipment and materials for the Troy Road Department. Robin suggested closing through a title company to ensure properties are clear of any liens. There were no comments in opposition. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson for Lincoln County to purchase both properties as described subject to meeting EPA approval and clearance and Title Company closing review conditions. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously. Properties will be purchased from the Troy Road Department Budget.

3:00 PM **LCRFD Board Appointment:** Present were Bethany Rolfson and Alan Gerstenecker.

Robin said she received notification from Tom Wood of a board vacancy on the Lincoln County Rural Fire District Board. The position is to fill the vacancy from the resignation of Gary Elmore. The position was publicly noticed and only one application came in by deadline from John "Curt" Jones. A letter was received from the LCRFD Board recommending Mr. Jones to be appointed. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to appoint John "Curt" Jones to the LCRFD Board of Trustees. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously.

3:15 PM **Meeting Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Robin Benson, Clerk of the Board