

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

JUNE 17, 2015

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on June 17, 2015, in the Commissioner's office at the Lincoln County Eureka Annex Building. Present were Commissioner Mike Cole, Commissioner Greg Larson, Commissioner Mark Peck, Administrative Assistant, Bill Bischoff and Assistant Election Administrator, Leigh Riggleman.

10:00 AM - Commissioner Cole **opened the meeting** with the Pledge of Allegiance.

10:00 AM- **Montanan's for Multiple Use/Snowmobile Club:** Present are Mr. Mattheis , Jim Voyles, Donavan Truman, Steve Curtiss, Mark Peterson, Mike Cuffe, and Krista Nemeroff.

Mr. Mattheis gave a brief history of the MT Wilderness Association study conducted in 1975. The report from that study states the Ten Lakes area does not meet the criteria for designated wilderness. The Ten Lakes Snowmobile Club and Montanans for Multiple Use North Lincoln County Chapter submitted a proposal as an alternative to the Ten Lakes Travel Management Plan. *(The proposed alternative is available in its entirety in the Clerk & Recorder's Office)* Mr. Mattheis said the group has worked on the alternative plan as a way to become proactive with a solution to the problems regarding the Forest Service proposed action for the Ten Lakes area Travel Analysis Plan. Mr. Mattheis feels the current travel plan proposal by the Forest Service is to eliminate snowmobiling in the area and reduces snowmobile use area by 54%. This is a recipe for disaster as far as snowmobile recreation.

The alternative plan recommends a season opening Thanksgiving Day through April 30th and addresses potential for over use by having discernible boundaries and a timeframe. Mr. Truman explained the plan needs to be for the entire area, instead of "cherry pick" specific areas with different rules. This will not work for any plan to be successful. The alternative plan requires a recreational bridge crossing Grave Creek where the road bridge was removed on the road that was used to access Williams Creek during the timber harvest of the area. This access point would be a great advantage to both summer and winter recreation groups because of the ability to use the good facilities at Birch Creek and a way to access the Whitefish Divide area, user pressure in the WSA would see an immediate relief and would address user impact on the WSA for years to come.

The alternative plan will be turned into the Forest Service today for review. Commissioner Peck suggested the county GIS/Mapping Department help to formalize the map as presented and tie it in with the county official position on this issue.

Mr. Curtiss said it is clear the Forest Service Plan targets exclusively snow activities although summertime use has expanded dramatically. It is imperative to get this proposal to the Forest Service as one of the options to be considered in the Forest Service Travel Analysis Plan. Commissioner Larson commends the group for their efforts and time that has been put into this proposal.

Motion by Commissioner Peck to formalize and adopt the proposal as presented as the county adopted travel management plan for the Ten Lakes Area. Second by Commissioner Larson and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.

11AM Bid Opening/Libby Airport: Present are Mr. Orthmeyer, Bob Parker, Will Hedrick, and Sharon Tikka. Bids were advertised and due today by 11:00 AM. Four bids were submitted and Mr. Orthmeyer checked bids for all requirements.

Bid from Colvico Inc./Spokane arrived at 11:10 AM. The bid was rejected subjected to recommendation by Morrison/Maierle Tim Orthmeyer.

Stillwater Electric/Kalispell: Schedule 1-306,930, Schedule 2- 16,830

Thompson Contracting/Libby: Schedule 1-282,890, Schedule 2-19,700

Boundary Electric Company/Bonnars Ferry: Schedule 1-234,950, Schedule 2-26,500

Idagon Homes LLC/Sandpoint: Schedule 1-311,804.60, Schedule 2-29,500

Bids will be taken into advisement. Mr. Orthmeyer said he will have announcement for award by Friday at the latest, as early as tomorrow. Morrison-Maierle will submit a recommendation of award letter to the Commission for approval.

11:30 PM **Administrative Issues:**

- The Commission read the minutes for June 10, 2015. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve minutes as presented. Second by Commissioner Peck, and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
- The Commission received a request from Maintenance Supervisor Tom Magone requesting to replace all existing 48" fluorescent tubes and standard bulbs with energy efficient LED tubes and bulbs. Initial cost would be \$5924.70. The majority of the cost will be reimbursed by Flathead Electric as an incentive for this project. The county cost after the reimbursement would be under \$1000. Energy savings in the first year would more than cover expenditures. Mr. Magone would like to order bulbs within the current fiscal year, but is unsure if funds are available. Commissioner Larson said he supports the project, and the county could pay for the bulbs out of PILT funds if necessary. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approval project proposal submitted by Mr. Magone as submitted. Second by Commissioner Peck, and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
- The Commission received a letter from Denikka Miller offering to volunteer to help with the Commodities Program. Denikka Miller runs the Troy High School Mentoring Program along with Anita Winslow and are looking for opportunities to give back the their community.
- The commission read two agreements between Lincoln County Weed District and the USDA Forest Service Kootenai National Forest. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approved the agreements as submitted. Second by Commissioner Peck, and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board. The agreements are to treat Tansy Ragwort and Rush Skeletonweed using funds from the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund Grant Program.

2:00 PM **Meeting adjourned.**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Leigh Riggleman, Assistant Election Administrator