

May 27, 2020

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on May 27, 2020 in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Peck, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Letcher, County Administrator Patrick McFadden and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson.

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

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues:** Present were Maintenance Director Joe Nagle, and Derrick Perkins. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

- Patrick commented that Joe is here to revisit last week's request to hire a full-time employee (FTE). Commissioner Bennett commented about the budget advantage to the county by having the maintenance department absorb the cost of a part-time employee at J Neil's Park. Commissioner Peck said that the flooding that recently happened in the library is a perfect example of the need for preventative maintenance. Commissioner Bennett said when the county decreased budgets years ago, it was to balance the budget at that time; we can now look at where the gaps are and how to save money.

Commissioner Letcher said that when you start getting behind, it can cost more to get caught up and expressed an FTE would help with that.

Motion by Commissioner Bennett to approve an FTE for the maintenance department. Second by Commissioner Letcher. Commissioner Peck said we need to put it on the agenda for next week. Commissioner Bennett withdrew the motion until next week.

- Robin presented the minutes for May 20, 2020 for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve minutes as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Patrick said the Junior Fair would like to hold their summer event. The commissioners agreed to allow them to move forward with the fair, but they would have to implement cautionary guidelines. Commissioner Peck said that he supports those events happening.

Commissioner Letcher commented that the Lincoln County Fair would like to still hold their event in August.

Commissioner Peck said that he would encourage the fair director to communicate with the public health department.

- Patrick submitted an Interlocal Agreement with Department of Justice, Montana Highway Patrol and Lincoln County regarding the Statewide Public Safety Communications System. Commissioner Bennett explained the agreement is about the installation and maintenance of the radio equipment for Pinkham, Blue Mountain, Black Butte and King repeater sites to fulfill the statewide communications effort. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Interlocal Agreement for statewide communications as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** There were no public comments.

11:00 AM **County Planning:** Present were County Planner Jake Mertes, Scott Slauson, Byron Sanderson, John Damon, and Derrick Perkins. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet. Mikel Siemens was present via phone conference.

- **Brook Hollow Subdivision:** Located in S9T36NR26W, Parcel D of CS 3778AE. Jake gave an overview of the history and explained amendments to conditions of approval from the original staff report. Jake said planning staff recommends approval based on 9 conditions and with amendments to Conditions 1, 2, 4 and 6 per the consultant's request. Mikel commented there is a pipe in the ground, never investigated but proposed to remove it or investigate at a later date. Jake said the amendment to Condition #5 will require approval from the health department to properly abandon unpermitted systems. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to grant preliminary approval to Brook Hollow Subdivision per 9 conditions and based on planning staff recommendations with Condition #5 subject to health department approval. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- **Slauson Subdivision:** Located approximately 1.5 miles east of Libby on the East 5th Street Extension Road. The developers intend to create 2 lots from the 7.01-acre parcel. Jake said planning staff recommends granting preliminary approval to Slauson Subdivision subject to 7 conditions (striking condition #3 because it already exists) and based on the findings in the staff report. This is a minor subdivision and does not require planning board review. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to grant preliminary approval to Slauson Subdivision based on planning staff conditions and recommendations. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- **Miller Family Transfer:** Jake said the application was received and updated correctly with amendments. Planning staff recommends approval with access to be shown on the survey. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Miller Family Transfer as corrected subject to planning staff conditions and recommendations showing access on the survey. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

11:15 AM **Brad Salonen/Work Comp Renewal:** Present were Sheriff Darren Short and Derrick Perkins. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Brad submitted and gave a brief overview of the Montana State Fund Quote Proposal. The total estimated premium is \$181,000 which is estimated based off payroll. The county will be saving approximately \$132,000 by going to the state pool. Brad commented that also great news is the county's MOD Factor (based on claims rate) is the lowest it's been in 11 years, which reduced the premium another \$20,000.

Commissioner Peck commented that obviously the safety committee's work and employee behavior regarding safety is saving the county a lot of money. Brad said he has worked with the safety committee for many years and commended their efforts to create a safety culture within the county. Commissioner Peck suggested holding a summer employee barbeque to show appreciation to all county employees.

11:45 AM Library MOA/Resolution 2020-08:

Commissioner Peck read resolution 2020-08, a Resolution of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners to Confirm the Existence and Operation of a Free Public Library and to establish a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between Lincoln County and Lincoln County Library. Commissioner Peck said it is more of an acclamation, makes it official, and it formalizes the relationship between the county and library. Commissioner Bennett commented that we do not know the revenue side of the budget process until we get the information from the Department of Revenue. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve Resolution 2020-08 as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

12:00 PM Meeting Adjourned

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mark Peck, Chairman

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