

**April 12, 2023**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on April 12, 2023, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Letcher, Commissioner Hammons, Lincoln County Administrative Assistant Jennifer Brown and Clerk & Recorder Corrina Brown.

Meeting allows for teleconferencing and VisionNet availability.

Present online were Rebecca Nelson, Anthony South, Ray Stout, Tom Lane, Chris Bachman, Chanel Geer, Michelle Weinberg, Ashley South and Ben Palmer.

Commissioner Letcher opened the meeting with the **Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**.

**09:30 AM Critical Incident Stress Management Team:** Present were Terry Cooks, Veronica Bovee-Anderson, Kevin Lindgren.

Terry introduced himself and spoke of a mental crisis program which deals with traumatic situations. Terry proposes a \$4,000 course to train emergency personnel in handling trauma and stressed the importance of this service to our northern communities. Terry is asking for County help fund a training course for mental crisis. Commissioner Teske advised he feels the county should participate in this program. Kevin advised this program helps keep everyone in the game, reducing volunteer turnover by providing the tools to deal with trauma. Commissioner Hammons asked for a timeline as budget is coming up. Terry confirmed they can schedule it to suit. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to support the Critical Incident Stress Management Team. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Tom advised of interest in the Eureka area for this program. Motion carried.

**09:45 AM Resolution 2023-15 Libby Hwy 93 Trail Grant Application:** Present were Terry Cooks, Veronica Bovee-Anderson, Kevin Lindgren.

Commissioner Letcher advised Andy, Evensen Engineering & Consulting, Inc. is working on the Hwy 93 Trail Grant through the DOT and a resolution is required for the application. Commissioner Teske read the resolution. Commissioner Letcher emphasized the importance of safety and advised he has received several photos of teachers helping safeguard kids navigating these areas. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve Resolution 2023-15. Second by Commissioner Teske. Motion carried.

**10:00 W.R. Grace: KDID Spillway Construction Update:** Present were Nick Raines, Tony Penfold, Scott Shindledecker and Jesse Haag.

Nick advised concrete was poured throughout the winter keeping spillway construction on schedule. Nick anticipates a substantial portion of the upper half will be complete by fall. Nick advised design on the lower half is currently being reviewed by DNRC. Nick will have a completion timeline for the lower half once bids are returned from contractors. Tony provided details of the construction. Nick gave a video presentation of site plans. Tony stressed they are seeking qualified locals for this construction project. Commissioner Teske commented on long term maintenance and responsibility for the project. Nick advised the gate on Rainy Creek Road will be pulled in the next couple weeks and a gate to the construction site remains.

**10:15 LCRFD Adoption of 2021 International Fire Code:** Present were Veronica Bovee-Anderson, Nick Raines, Tony Penfold, Scott Shindledecker, Steve Lauer and Steve Allen.

Steve Lauer provided information on why adoption of 2021 International Fire Code is needed and the requirements to adopt it. Commissioner Teske clarified the County resolution requirements.

**10:30 AM Administrative Issues/Old Business:** Present were Veronica Bovee-Anderson, Nick Raines, Tony Penfold, Scott S, Ray Stout and Steve Allen.

- Corrina submitted the minutes for April 5, 2023, regular meeting for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve minutes of April 5, 2023, minutes. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comments. Motion carried.
- State of Montana Standard Lease Contract – Counties. Commissioner Letcher commented on a lease contract for Driver Services at the North County Annex. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the lease. Second by Commissioner Teske. Commissioner Teske discussed the lease calculation. Motion carried. Bitter

**10:45 AM Public Comment Time:** Present were DC Orr, Scott Shindledecker, John Driebusch, Larry Smith, Leanna Smith, Doug Crum, Merle Chott, John Chott and Robert Bitter.

DC commented on his concerns over comments in the paper regarding election issues. DC is concerned with the County and City police. Doug Crum advised he has read the newspapers regarding election turnover and noted the State commended this same election staff. Commissioner Teske made a point of correction stating, they quit.

11:15 PM **Planning: South Yaak Preliminary Plat Approval, West Pine Preliminary Plat Review, Big Water Final Plat Approval, Dutton Acres-Final Plat:** Present were Scott Shindledecker, Paul Johnson, John Driebusch, Larry Smith, Leanna Smith, Doug Crum, Merle Chott, John Chott, Owen Baisden, Brett McCully, Toni Franke, Matt Franke, Chris Faulkner, Crawford Dinning, Gary Huntsberger and Robert Bitter.

South Yaak Preliminary Plat Approval: Jesse described the subdivision and advised the Planning Department recommends granting preliminary approval based on findings in the staff report and subject to conditions stated. Commissioner Teske commented on McCormick Fire Department's letter. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to remove condition number 8 and add in residential sprinkle systems requirement. Second by Commissioner Teske. John agreed the storage tank/cisterns and fire system are needed. Owen stated the developer is good with this and would like the tank to be located on the south side of 508. Commissioner Teske commented on the location and that it will go through DEQ review and other agencies as required. Motion carried. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve South Yaak Preliminary subdivision. Second by Commissioner Teske. Public comment, John asked if the well electrical will be paid by the developer. Owen commented the HOA will ultimately be responsible for the tank/cistern. Chris commented on subdivision impacts. Motion carried.

West Pine Preliminary Plat review. Jesse reviewed the subdivision proposal. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to remove condition number 8 and add in residential sprinkle systems requirement. Second by Commissioner Teske. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve West Pine Preliminary plat subject to conditions and based on the staff report. Public comment. Chris and Ashley both advised this approval has long term impacts on the Yaak. John commented that the fire department has two access points to pine creek. Brett advised MDOT right-away applies. Commissioner Teske stated all easements have to be in place prior to final plat. Motion carried. Commissioner Teske encouraged the developer to work with the community to the benefit of all. Ben commented on fire danger. Matt commented that the commissioner has read their comments and tried to mitigate the concerns. Commissioner Letcher commented on the climate change between the valley and the Yaak and thanked everyone for attending.

Big Water Final Plat Approval: Jesse reviewed the subdivision and advised all twelve conditions have been met. **Motion** commissioner Hammons for final approval of Big Water Subdivision. Second by Commissioner Teske. Jesse elaborated all conditions have been met. Motion carried.

Dutton Acres Final Plat Approval: developer postponed pending approvals.

12:09 PM **Adjourned**

## **LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Josh Letcher, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board