

May 10, 2023

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on May 10, 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 Scott Shindledecker, Ray Stout, Alyssa Ramirez, Rebecca Nelson, Chanel Geer, Darren Short, Brent Faulkner and Suzanne Resch.

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

09:30 AM Libby Area Chamber of Commerce: Present were Myranda Cravens, Bruce Vincent and Veronica Bovee-Anderson.

Bruce introduced Myranda Cravens, General Manager of the Libby Area Chamber. Myranda recited the mission of the Chamber is to promote and support the business community, stimulate a vibrant and collaborative local economy and enhance the quality of life in the greater Libby area. Myranda advised there are over 270 Chamber members, and they are in the midst of a membership drive. Myranda stated in 2022 the chamber website reached over 95,000 visits, they hosted 6 Ribbon Cuttings welcoming new businesses, supported 5 local grant applications, distributed 253 Relocation Packets and 248 Visitor Packets, and printed 10,000 Libby Area Visitor Guides. The Chamber has launched a YouTube Channel and has produced 19 of 34 videos reaching 200,000 views. Myranda advised the Chamber has re-introduced Business & Banter After-Hours Networking event scheduled for May 18th at the Chamber during the Farmers Market and they are bringing back the Chamber's Duck Race on July 8th at Ace. Myranda noted the Farmer's Market season has begun with over 60 vendors signed up this season. Bruce thanked the Commissioners for their membership and support.

09:45 AM Planning Fee Increase Proposal: Present were Jesse Haag and Veronica Bovee-Anderson.

Jesse presented a proposal for planning services fee increase providing a spreadsheet depicting the breakdown of proposed fee changes and comparison made against five peer counties showing Lincoln County rates are less than half. Jesse advised they have consulted with Fire Risk Evaluators for their opinions and found Lincoln County is in line with a per acres fee. Jesse clarified the proposed fees for subdivisions are fixed, but the lakeshore and floodplain permits would be on a sliding scale based on complexity of the project and the increased planning fees will help reduce the taxpayer burden by putting the costs of statutory review fees onto developers. Commissioner Teske stated as long as the developer or planner is aware of fees from the onset of the floating scale and flood plain has gotten pretty extensive with development now being seen. Jesse agreed flood plains are tricky. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve the Planning Department services fee increase contingent upon a resolution, if necessary. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Commissioner Teske advised this is part of the growing pains Lincoln County is experiencing. Jesse advised statutory permit deadlines continually take precedence and this will help with allowing for more GIS. No online or public comments. Motion carried.

Action	Proposed New	Average	Lincoln - Current	Sanders	Flathead	Lake	Mineral	Park	Missoula
Population (2021)			20,525	12,959	108,454	32,093	4,860	17,473	119,533
Subdivision									
Pre-application	No charge	150				750	100		
First Minor	1000	869(1 lot)-1139(5 lot)	500	250+10	615+90(450)	450+80(400)	1200	1500+150(750)	
Subsequent Minor	1250	1209(3 lot)-1379(5 lot)	650	add 300		750+80		2100+150	
Major	1650 + 100 lot/acre	1514 + 100 lot	800+50	650-1250+10 (1250+250 per 5)	1235+90	750+80	1200+150	4000+150	
Phased Development Review	No charge							575	1500/4000+150
RV Parks / Trailer Court	Same as Major / Minor		100 per lot						1500/400+150
Variance	150	161	100	50/200	308	100 per	250		
Preliminary Plat Extension	150	200		100	120	100	470		
Condition Amendment	250	200		100	370+60	400	895		
Environmental Health Review	Included in Minor / Major fee					250/lot		675	
Final Plat Review	350	350 minor - 467 major		100+10	495/985+60	350+10	435+55/950+85	300/900	
Exemption Review (PT)	250	200		200			250	200	
SEA	200	295			118	250	450		
Fire Risk Assessments									
Minor	250 + \$1.50/ac **		150						295
Major	250 + \$1.50/ac **		200+10						391-489
Follow-up	100**		100						245
Waiver	Upto \$75**		50						
**	Includes mileage + Travel time @ \$40/hour								
Weed Assessments									
Minor	Fees per Weed Department		200					75+75	
Major	Fees per Weed Department		300+10					75+75	
Floodplain / Lakeshore									
Lakeshore construction	250-750*	357	100		305/430 +125 for additional activity	75-600	65-145(w visit)		266-466
Floodplain Determination	No Charge						300-790		86-199(w visit)
Floodplain	250-750*	552	100		305/430	250/450/750	300-790		897-1090
After-the-Fact	Double	double	500		quadruple	double	double	500	Double
Violation	1000+20/day		1000+10/day						
Extension	150				125	25 lake / 50 flood	50		67
Variance	150	549			615	300-400/900	750	300	1433
*	Sliding scale - Per case basis subject to actual Review Time								
Zoning									
Zoning District Creation	1800	3376-7625			1475+40acre(18470 max)	8507	3200		7980
Misc									
Wireless Communication Facility	Not regulated						300		

10:00 AM **Health Department:** Present were Kathi Hooper, Haley Benjamin, Alissa Fifield, Robin Blumberg, Jesse Haag and Jenn McCully.

- Kathi presented the Annual Report for 2022 advising it was reviewed at Board of Health yesterday. Kathi reviewed Environmental Health Update: Air Quality; 796 residential burn permits and 1,053 activations in April along with 17 management burn applications. Septic Permits; 71 applications. Kathi advised of a Soils Evaluation Class, May 23rd for licensed installers and qualified site evaluators. The class is to be conducted by Jesse Haag and Brett McCully. Food Safety: next food safety class is in August in Eureka. Commissioner Letcher inquired about fees. Kathi affirmed there is a fee to cover the cost of books and tests. Solid Waste & Recycling; Green box sites are bear resistant but are being misused. Commissioner Hammons questioned ramifications of improper green box site dumping. Kathi advised she has given notice to appear, issued letters and warnings. Kathi advised that cardboard is not being broken down. Kathi advised they have some cameras. Commissioner Teske advised this continued misuse will result in requiring site managers. Commissioner Letcher advised there is a misunderstanding by taxpayers thinking they pay for the Green Box sites; however, they actually pay fees for the landfill. Commissioner Teske suggested the newspaper may publish information regarding these Green Box sites which could go away due to misuse. Commissioner Hammons questioned consequences of Green Box misuse. Kathi clarified this is a misdemeanor which goes through Justice Court and is punishable up to \$200 fine and or 90 days in jail.
- Jenn McCully introduced Alissa Fifield of Zero to Five and Haley Benjamin of Outreach, both are grant funded positions. Commissioner Teske questioned the van wrap status. Haley advised they have found an artist out of Kalispell and expect to roll it out in June. Kathi advised they have modified the van inside as well.
- Jenn presented a contract between Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and Lincoln County Health Department Immunization Program. Commissioner Letcher requested this action item be scheduled for next week.
- Teen Mental Health First Aid: Jenn advised they have worked with 76 high schoolers in Libby on Suicide Prevention receiving great feedback. Jenn is looking at offering another course where adults work with young people. Commissioner Teske questioned funding and Jenn advised they purchased 2,000 books with project's funding and the time to teach the curriculum is in-kind at health department, through other partners and volunteer from community members. Kathi advised they are looking at replacing the compactor and Flathead County has a used one. Kathi stated they are close of having a complete application for expansion of the landfill site which will then go to DEQ.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues/Old Business:** Present were none.

- Corrina submitted the minutes for May 3, 2023, regular meeting for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve minutes of May 3, 2023. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Motion carried.
- Lincoln County Precinct Numbering and Name update: Commissioner Teske reviewed a revised map provided by GIS of the updates agreed to at the May 3rd Commissioner meeting which clarified precinct identifiers county wide. Commissioner Teske advised he'd like the Precincts listed numerically for ease of viewing. Corrina will follow up.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** Present were none.
No public comment.

11:00 AM: **Administrative Claim:** Commissioner Letcher advised of a closed session for administrative claim.

12:00 PM **Adjourn**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Josh Letcher, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board