

February 8, 2022

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners attended the Lincoln County Safety Committee Meeting on February 8, 2022 in the Lincoln County Emergency Operations Center, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Letcher, County Administrator Jim Hammons and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson. Also present were EMA Director Tom Lane, Clerk of Court Tricia Brooks, Mack Kirk and Brad Salonen representing PayneWest.

Meeting allows for teleconferencing and VisionNet availability.

**LINCOLN COUNTY SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2022, 10:00 AM.**

Motion by Brad to approve January 2022 minutes as submitted. Second by Tricia, motion carried.

Round Robin:

- **Tricia Brooks/Clerk of Court:** Tricia said the Smartboard is in the courtroom but waiting for some IT updates. Smartboard decreases trip hazards and allows for social distancing.
- **Brent Teske/Commissioner:** Brent said there is some concrete heaving at the courthouse gazebo. Cones are in place until the issue can be fixed.
- **Tom Lane/EMA:** Tom reminded people of the ice and slip hazards right now and for people to remain diligent.

Safety Meeting Discussion Topics:

- **Mid/Year Workmans Comp Report:** Brad submitted the following report.

Lincoln County worker's compensation claims update meeting 2/8/2022

In 2018 Lincoln County had 6 claims for \$13,454. This was the lowest paid out on claims since 2012/2013. 2019 was 4 claims for \$95,932. One shoulder claim is at \$89,830 and is still open so more dollars will be paid on this shoulder claim. 2020 was 2 claims for \$7,351 and now for the lowest claims year ever 2021 was 3 claims \$971. Congrats to everyone at Lincoln County.

Lincoln County moved from Maco to the Mt State Fund on 7/1/20, The premium savings was substantial and the service from the Mt State Fund has been great. In the 18 months since the move to the Mt State Fund there have been 6 claims for \$1,105 so what a great 18 months with the Mt State Fund.

In 2017, I stated that 26% of your claims come from slips, trips and falls. 26% is low as most of my clients have 40%-50% of their claims from slips, trips and falls. In 2018 and 2019 there were no slip, trip, fall claims. There was 1 in 2020 and none in 2021. Your employees are paying attention to the conditions and your maintenance crew is doing a great job making the premise as safe as possible.

I do not see any red flags within Lincoln County. No trends that concern me.

The safety committee continues to meet monthly. I know all of us would like to see more representation from some of the departments, but we all know they have work to do. Very proud of the effort of those who do attend and especially proud of Brent, Robin and Tom for their efforts. I attribute the low claims numbers to the effort put out by Lincoln County on your monthly safety committee meetings, monthly safety topics, quarterly dinner drawings, commissioner buy-in to safety and an overall awareness to safety.

Congrats again,
Brad Salonen

Brad said he is retiring in April and introduced Mac Kirk who will be replacing his role with Lincoln County. Mac gave a brief history and work experience to the committee, commenting that he has never seen a claims report this good ever in an agency of this size.

The commissioners commended and thanked Brad for his years of service and contributions working with Lincoln County and the safety committee.

- **Winter Driving Conditions:** Tom reminded the safety committee about the importance of winter driving conditions, adequate tires, speed, and winter kit-basic essentials.
- **AED Update:** Robin informed the safety committee that the AED Policy does need updated. After reading the MCA's, Tom suggested that the public health department review it. Robin met with Kathi Hooper and she agreed the public health department would help moving forward. Tom said per MCA there should be a list of trained people within the county and the county nurse could potentially provide first aid, CPR and AED training for county employees.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Safety Meeting is March 8, 2022, at the EOC Office, 10:00 AM.
Respectfully submitted by Robin A. Benson, Vice Chair

11:30 PM Meeting Adjourned

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jerry Bennett, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Robin Benson, Clerk of the Board