

July 6, 2022

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on July 6, 2022 in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Letcher, Commissioner Bennett, County Administrator Jim Hammons and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson.

Meeting allows for teleconferencing and VisionNet availability.

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

**9:45 AM Planning / La Lomita Subdivision Preliminary Plat / Southsider Subdivision Preliminary Plat / Elk Camp Subdivision Preliminary Plat:** Present were County Planner Jesse Haag, Planning Consultant Kristin Smith, Cody Jensen, Tom Lane, Solomon Alcaín, Rebecca Nelson, and Ray Stout.

Kristin commented that all the preliminary plats presented today are minor subdivisions.

- Southsider Subdivision is located approximately 2.5 miles south of Libby at the intersection of US Hwy 2 and Farm to Market Road. Proposal is to create 2 commercial lots. Kristin reviewed the subdivision report and gave an overview of the recommended 7 conditions for approval. Planning staff recommends commissioners to grant preliminary approval to Southsider Subdivision, subject to conditions and based on the finding in the staff report. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve preliminary plat to Southsider Subdivision subject to 7 conditions and based on planning staff recommendation. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- La Lomita Subdivision is located along Douglas Hill Road, Eureka. Proposal is to create 3 residential lots. Kristin reviewed the subdivision report and gave an overview of the recommended 8 conditions for approval. Planning staff recommends commissioners to grant preliminary approval to La Lomita Subdivision, subject to conditions and based on the finding in the staff report. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to approve preliminary plat to La Lomita Subdivision subject to 8 conditions and based on planning staff recommendation. Second by Commissioner Teske, motion carried unanimously.
- Elk Camp Subdivision is located across Hwy 37 from the Town of Rexford. Proposal is to create 2 residential lots. Kristin reviewed the subdivision report and gave an overview of the recommended 11 conditions for approval. Planning staff recommends commissioners to grant preliminary approval to Elk Camp Subdivision, subject to conditions and based on the finding in the staff report. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to approve preliminary plat to Elk Camp Subdivision subject to 11 conditions and based on planning staff recommendation. Commissioner Letcher said the motion includes the stipulation that Elk Camp Subdivision is to join the Madden Lake Road Users Association, and to note that Madden Lake Road is not maintained by the county. Second by Commissioner Teske, motion carried unanimously.

**10:00 AM USFS, Libby District Ranger Nate Gassman:** Present were Mark Peck, Scott Shindledecker, Ray Stout, Solomon Alcaín and Rebecca Nelson.

**Recreation:** Campgrounds were near full capacity coming off of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. There was one bear incident reported at McGregor; bear was trapped. There have been no other concerns reported. Nate said trails are being cleared, and the trail crew is getting good work done. There was a brief conversation regarding additional work on the Snowshoe Trail that needs completed and the county willing to support those efforts. Trail systems for other groups, bicycle, horseback riding, cross country skiing and walking trails were discussed. Commissioner Teske commented he is hopeful everyone is communicating and working together.

**Projects:** Nate gave a brief overview of road, culvert and drainage work and funding available for Wolf Creek to repair conditions of the stream.

YCC is a full crew this year, local students get to experience portions of everything the forest service does and is funded through the RAC Program.

Fire Crews are fully staffed and have been busy thinning. A helicopter will be stationed here for OU3. Working with other agencies to be fully prepared for fire season.

Looking at a drainage system improvement near the Em Kayan Village.

Hoo Doo GNA timber sale project is ongoing.

Joint Chiefs contracts include approximately 1100 acres in the project to treat. Nate noted that it is encouraging to see this moving forward.

Ripley Project still in litigation.

Nate gave a brief overview of current and potential vegetation treatment opportunities and will share more as those projects are confirmed.

**10:30 AM Administrative Issues/Old Business/Board Appointments:** Present were Sheriff Darren Short, Mark Peck, Scott Shindledecker, Rebecca Nelson, Solomon Alcaín, and Ray Stout.

- Resolution 2022-16 Elected Officials Base Salaries for FY 22/23. Commissioner Letcher read Resolution 2022-16. There were no public comments. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve Resolution 2022-16 as submitted. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution 2022-17 Justice of the Peace Base Salary for FY 22/23. Commissioner Letcher read resolution 2022-17. There were no public comments. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve Resolution 2022-17 as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution 2022-18 Adjustment to the Standard Mileage Rate. Commissioner Letcher read Resolution 2022-18. There were no public comments. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve Resolution 2022-18 as submitted.

Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously. Resolution is to adjust county travel rate from 58.5 cents per mile to 62.5 cents per mile in conjunction with the IRS Special Adjustment.

**All resolutions can be viewed in their entirety on the Lincoln County Website: [www.lincolncountymt.us](http://www.lincolncountymt.us) under the Clerk & Recorder's Office.**

- Robin submitted the minutes for June 29, 2022 regular meeting for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve minutes as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Bennett explained that per Montana Code, the county must pass a preliminary budget for FY 22/23 allowing for spending as of July 1. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve the Preliminary Budget for FY 22/23 as submitted, allowing for spending July 1. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Teske talked about the Tobacco Valley Animal Shelter annual fees request for increase. Tabled until further conversation with Kathi Hooper.
- Commissioner Bennett presented the annual Service Provider Designation Form, designating alcohol tax money to Many Rivers Whole Health (formerly Gateway Services) for the treatment, rehabilitation, and prevention of alcoholism and mental health. Commissioner Bennett explained the county may be set up with a qualified employee to potentially have these services provided by the county next fiscal year. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve the Service Provider Agreement designating Many Rivers Whole Health for one year as the Lincoln County provider. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Letcher explained he has been sitting on the Area VI on Aging Board for several years and is asking Commissioner Teske to take his place on the board. Commissioner Teske accepted to serve on the Area VI Area on Aging Board. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to appoint Commissioner Teske to serve on the Area VI on Aging Board. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

**11:00 AM Public Comment Time:** There were no public comments.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Jerry Bennett, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin Benson, Clerk of the Board