

February 27, 2019

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on February 27, 2019, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Letcher, Commissioner Peck and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson. County Administrator Darren Coldwell was absent.

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

9:30 AM **Air Quality Re-designation & Junk Vehicle Grant:** Present were Kathi Hooper, Bryan Alkire, Wendy Drake, Sheriff Darren Short, Alan Gerstenecker, Ben Kibbey and McKenzie Williams. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Kathi presented the annual FY 2018/19 Junk Vehicle Grant funded by DEQ that pays 100% of the County Junk Vehicle Program. The grant amount is \$43,283.80. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Junk Vehicle Grant as presented. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously. Kathi commented that HB 15 would allow counties the option of using funds for junk trailer removal as well.

Kathi talked about the Request to Redesignate the Libby PM10 Nonattainment Area completed by DEQ, now open for public comment until March 23. Kathi is asking for commissioners to submit a letter of support. The redesignation removes the label of "dirty air" and creates new opportunities for businesses. A second public comment currently open is 2017 exceptional events (data on wildfire smoke). Commissioner Bennett commented the commission would submit a letter of support for this as well.

Solid waste and recycling would like to hire one seasonal employee that is already budgeted. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve solid waste to hire one seasonal employee. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

10:00 AM **Unite for Youth (UFY) Update:** Present were Maggie Anderson, Vel Shaver, Jennifer McPherson, Trista Gilmore, Amy Fantozzi, Dan Jenkins, Ben Kibbey, Alan Gerstenecker and McKenzie Williams.

Vel introduced Jennifer McPherson, Prevention Specialist to the commissioners.

Maggie briefly explained the grants that fund the Unite for Youth (UFY) Program and submitted the UFY's Combined Action Plan Components October 2018-September 2019 outlining the focus of the UFY Plan for Lincoln County, including Intentional Organizing, Applied Data and Research, Policy, Enforcement and Media Advocacy.

Maggie described the UFY's Youth Connections Magazine that was distributed to every parent of every student (Head Start, Preschool, K-12) in Troy, Libby and Eureka, as well as to businesses and offices throughout Lincoln County.

Maggie said UFY is excited about focus groups and community listening sessions. The idea of community briefings is talking and hearing what other agencies and organizations are doing and then ask ourselves what we need to be doing in our community for substance prevention.

Maggie submitted a summary, providing information the UFY Coalition worked on or did August 2018-February 2019. UFY distributed parent tip cards to all parents via report cards. Tips focused on bonding through conversation, family activities, and increasing perception of risk and reducing access.

Dan Jenkins joined UFY six months ago and shared some of his own personal struggles with addiction and his work experience at Turning Winds and other local schools. Dan expressed the importance of teaching and showing adolescents positive reinforcements such as sports or outdoor recreation. Dan said that sometimes as adults, we need to think outside the box to teach kids about opportunities they have and how to believe in yourself; some things kids may not hear anywhere else.

Amy said her focus in UFY is mental health, medications, marijuana and opioids; raising public perception through articles and other media.

Trista spoke about the gap with transitional ages 16 to 18 to 25. Trista said her focus is to get those transitional ages together and create involvement doing positive activities (instead of meeting in bars). Trista said she wants to help with plugging them in positive activities depending on what their interests may be; sports, recreation, gardening etc... Trista said she also wants to work with people who are in jail and help the transition with families when a family member returns home after being in jail.

Commissioner Peck commented on the effectiveness of the misdemeanor probation officer, not only supervising them, but helping them to become productive, self-reliant citizens. When we add the drug treatment court, how do we tie it all together with UFY and communicate with each other at least once a year in a comprehensive communitywide effort.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues:** Present were Wendy Drake, Alan Gerstenecker, McKenzie Williams, Ben Kibbey, Sheriff Darren Short, and Boyd White. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

- Wendy submitted the contract from The Western Montana Area VI Agency on Aging, Inc. The annual contract is to establish and operate the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, Commodity Supplemental Food Program and to provide supplemental foods and nutrition education to eligible persons through state or local agencies. **Motion** by

Commissioner Bennett to approve the contract from **The Western Montana Area VI Agency on Aging, Inc.** Contract Number 19-027-21010-30. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously

- Robin presented the minutes for February 20, 2019 for Commissioner approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve minutes with correction. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Peck talked about the need to hire a facilitator for the EPA/DEQ operation and maintenance committee and suggested hiring Brett Romney as the facilitator. The Committee is way behind in the transition from the EPA to DEQ/County schedule and it is crucial that we have the Institutional Control and O&M plans in place this calendar year. With the EPA essentially done, the responsibility for mitigation work falls to DEQ and ultimately to the county, DEQ has no contracting mechanism in place for the county to get the work done. It is critical that we get this completed ASAP. There will most like be refunds for all or part of the cost once the new legislation passes granting new spending authority on the state funds. Funds will come from the PILT reserve fund. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to move forward hiring Brett Romney to facilitate the development and implementation of the O&M Plan, up to \$20,000. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Bennett submitted the annual certification for roadway mileage in each community and requested each commissioner to attain verification from the road foremen in their district. Mileage verification is due March 15, 2019.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** Present were Sheriff Darren Short, Boyd White, Mckenzie Williams, Alan Gerstenecker, and Ben Kibbey. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Darren presented a letter to the commission that was received from Bison Ford out of Great Falls regarding two decommissioned vehicles up for sale. Darren said one new vehicle has been purchased from Timberline Auto, but the sheriff's department is still one vehicle short. Darren said the decommissioned vehicles are from Cascade County and are fully equipped. Sheriff Short would like permission to purchase both vehicles which would put the new deputy into a vehicle and one to support the fleet; we still have several vehicles well over 200,000 mileage. Total purchase price is \$12,450 each. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to allow the Sheriff's Department to purchase two vehicles as presented. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Peck said the purchase will be paid from the current budget and is not a request for new money. Nikki asked why is it necessary to have commissioner approval since it is not a budget increase? Sheriff Short said these vehicles were not a budgeted item, so if the budget does go over, the purchase was approved.

11:00 AM **Library Update:** Present were Library Director Alyssa Ramirez, Alan Gerstenecker, Ben Kibbey and McKenzie Williams. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

**Alyssa submitted the following Lincoln County Public Libraries Mid-Year Report.**

## LINCOLN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES MID-YEAR REPORT

July 2018- December 2018

### Circulation

Libby Branch	15,961
Troy Branch	5,753
Eureka Branch	8,570
Digital Items	6,819
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,103</b>

# 41,305

PATRON VISITS

Lincoln County Public Libraries busiest month was July 2018, with over 9,500 visitors to all 3 branches.

# 15,565

ITEMS TRANSFERRED BETWEEN PARTNER LIBRARIES

On average, Lincoln County Public Libraries moved nearly 2,600 items per month.

### Collection Size

Libby Branch	23,608
Troy Branch	11,330
Eureka Branch	11,741
Digital Items	37,583
<b>Total</b>	<b>84,262</b>

### Service Levels and Programs

# 12,904

REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED

# 7,918

COMPUTER/ WI-FI SESSIONS

# 153

PROGRAMS OFFERED

# 2,384

PROGRAM ATTENDEES

Alyssa said circulation does include digital downloads. Collection size items may decrease in future to provide more space for the community; the library survey results provided information the public wants more space.

Alyssa expressed that it is rewarding to help citizens in our communities. Libraries in Lincoln County are very busy considering all the services provided. Alyssa said she wants to address and anticipate some of the new emerging technologies as part of the library strategic plan moving forward.

Alyssa commented that the ramp at the Eureka branch needs some repair. Commissioner Letcher said he would be willing to help address this.

**11:30 AM GeoControl, Addressing Update:** Present were Jason Singleton GeoControl, Heather Benjamin, Wendy Drake, Ben Kibbey, McKenzie Williams and Alan Gerstenecker. Also present was Nikki Meyer, Eureka via VisionNet.

Jason shared a PPT Presentation showing how he is working with the County IT Department using GIS technologies to help maintain and update the county 911 system. Hardware, networking, cell tower routing, GIS data, phone companies and telephone lines, road names, addresses all need to match for accuracy. There are many layers, all overlapping and working together.

Lincoln County has 3,673 sq. miles of Emergency Response Zones; fire, law enforcement and EMS. All 911 calls must have an address match within the GIS System.

It's a non-stop, continual, huge workflow to keep the GIS System updated. Jason expressed the importance and the benefit to have dispatch centers notify GeoControl or the County IT Department of any changes, corrections or updated information. The database is constantly being adjusted as accurate information is received.

Jason commended Heather for being a quick learner and for the great job she is doing for GIS and addressing maintenance.

**1:30 PM Planning Department Update:** There was no agenda for Planning.

**2:00 PM Troy Rural Fire District (TRFD), Intent for Annexation:** Present were Election Administrator Leigh Riggelman, Alan Gerstenecker and Ben Kibbey.

The Troy Rural Fire District (TRFD) has requested 1 property for annexation to be included in their district. The property owners are Bryan and Carrie Pope. Election Administrator Leigh Riggelman informed the commission that in accordance with 7-33-2125, the 40%/40% required for annexation of adjacent territory that is not contained within current TRFD boundaries has been met. Leigh presented Resolution 2019-05 Intent for Annexation for Commissioner approval and provided a map indicating the location of the property and the TRFD boundaries. Because the property was not "touching" the boundary of TRFD, the commission questioned the statutory language of the wording "adjacent to or within a fire district". The commission requested the county attorney's office review for clarification. Leigh said she would visit with the county attorney's office and Steve Lauer for further clarification. Commissioner Bennett commented there are many statutes with language that is not clearly defined. Resolution 2019-05 Intent for Annexation will be placed on next week's commissioner agenda for further discussion and approval.

**2:30 PM Meeting Adjourned**

## **LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Mark Peck, Chairman

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