

May 23, 2018

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on May 23, 2018, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Cole, Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Peck, County Administrator Darren Coldwell, and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson.

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

9:00 AM **MACo Update:** Present were Payne West Brad Salonen, Glacier Insurance Kevin Peck, MACo Shannon Shanholtzer, Alan Gerstenecker, Mary Hickey, and John Blodgett.

Shannon said today's meeting is to review the MACo Property and Casualty Trust/Worker's Compensation for FY 2018/2019. Shannon briefly discussed the MACo Property & Casualty Trust as a pool of all participating counties, comparing 2018/2019 renewal to 2017/2018.

Property & Casualty Trust Renewal Comparison specific to Lincoln County showed an increase of 10.65%.

Shannon presented a five year history of property & casualty loss ratio and a five year history of liability & property claims. Shannon explained increased limits, added coverages, loss control report, claims update and agreements with agents. The county mod factor increased from 1.03 to 1.10. Brad commented that from a current claim standpoint, Lincoln County is doing very well; the mod factor increase is from old claims that has spiked in cost.

10:00 AM **LCRFD Annexation Public Hearing:** Present were Election Administrator Leigh Riggelman, LCRFD Steve Lauer, Mary Hickey, Kevin Peck, John Blodgett and Alan Gerstenecker.

Leigh explained the history of the petition that was submitted to the commissioners, public notice and Resolution 2018-04 INTENT FOR ANNEXATION was signed and adopted by the commission on April 11, 2018.

Commissioner Cole asked for any public comments. Mary asked about notification to landowners in the area and asked if the annexation affects her property. Steve explained that her property is not affected by the annexation and clarified the petitions for annexation were submitted by property owners requesting to be annexed. Steve explained the areas that LCRFD went door to door to ensure properties affected were notified. Mary said she is now letting the fire district know that she is interested to be included in the fire district. Steve invited Mary to visit with the fire district for further discussion regarding her specific property.

Motion by Commissioner Peck to approve **Resolution 2018-09** TO ANNEX PROPERTIES INTO THE LINCOLN COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT in accordance with 7-33-2125 MCA. Big Horn Terrace to not be included until January 2019. Exhibit "A" attached to show property description and assessments. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions can be viewed on the Lincoln County Website/Clerk and Recorder: www.lincolncountymt.us OR can be obtained in its entirety from the Clerk and Recorder's Office.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues:** Present were Election Administrator Leigh Riggelman, Weed Director Dan Williams, Kevin Peck, Alan Gerstenecker and John Blodgett.

Leigh presented the list of Certified Election Judges to be appointed for the June 5, 2018 election. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the certification of the election judges for the 2018 election cycle as presented. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously. Leigh commented that she has a judge from Trego that has been working elections for 60 years. The commissioners asked Leigh to recommend to the commissioners an idea to acknowledge long-term election judges. Leigh said she would present something to the commissioners after the 2018 election cycle.

Dan is seeking approval of the annual contract agreements between the Lincoln County Weed District and the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service KNF. The purpose of the agreement is to document the cooperation between the parties to share expenses and materials to accomplish mutually beneficial objectives related to the control of invasive and noxious weeds on national forest lands and/or private lands within or adjacent to the KNF. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the agreements as presented. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously. Title: **Rush Skeletonweed Treatment Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund Grant.**

Ernie presented the contract between Frontier and Lincoln County to implement the VOIP Phone System. Ernie clarified the savings is approximately \$27,000 annually. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the new **Frontier contract** for \$115,097.18 to be paid out of PILT. Darren said the payments will be broken down into departments to pay back PILT. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

Kevin asked about the unmanned drone that was used to look at the water flow on Libby Creek. Kevin said it is not covered under the county. Ernie said there is an online liability insurance that covers property damage if the drone were to crash. Kevin said he would like to review the insurance and look at the language. Ernie explained the drone is mainly used in unpopulated rural areas. Commissioner Peck recommended the county to have a policy for drone use.

Robin informed the commission that the 6204 Wide Format Scanner required in the Clerk and Recorder's Office for scanning plat and survey mylars has broken down and is unrepairable. The scanner is 14 years old and needs to be replaced. Ernie said he found a color scanner for \$8,021.19. Robin said the current scanner has an annual maintenance agreement of \$3,744 and the new scanner will not require a maintenance agreement; basically, the new scanner will pay for itself in a little over two years. Ernie said the IT Department could perform the maintenance. Robin said the new

scanner will be paid from the Records Preservation Fund which is funded from recording documents in the Clerk and Recorder's Office and is not a levied fund.

Robin presented the minutes for May 15 & 16, 2018 for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously.

Darren submitted terms and objectives for auditing firm WIPFLI to examine payroll files, time cards, authorized pay rates and employment contracts to determine how the payroll errors occurred and to ensure we are moving forward correctly. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the terms and objectives between Lincoln County and **WIPFLI Auditing Firm** out of Great Falls at \$125/hour. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously. Agreement is for \$125.00/hour with an estimation of 2 to 3 days of service.

All contracts/agreements can be obtained in their entirety from the Clerk and Recorder's office.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** There were no public comments.

11:00 AM **Firewise Grant Funding:** Present were Ed Levert, Bill Swope, Alan Gerstenecker and John Blodgett. Bill Swope helps write and administers firewise grants. Bill said the 2017 firewise grant was \$227,000 and is combined with some Title III funds to stretch the money for fuel mitigation projects. Ed said there is only \$10,000 left due to the previous fire season. Ed said the issue is to how to keep the firewise program going, explaining that he is applying for the firewise grant now, but the money does not come in for 18 months. There is currently approximately \$260,000 in the Title III fund and Ed recommended drawing \$30,000 to keep the firewise program operating while waiting for the grant cycle to work through its process. Ed verified the money would be specific to Lincoln County projects. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to pay \$30,000 out of Title III Fund to Flathead Economic Policy Center in support of the firewise fuel mitigation program. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously.

11:30 AM **GeoControl Contract Agreement:**

Darren submitted the annual contract for GeoControl GIS services. Darren commented the service to county addressing has been an endless resource and the training provided by GeoControl is being used less as staff learns the work. Robin commented that she is requesting GeoControl services to update and improve the process of duplicating tract maps and surveys in the tract books. Currently, the Clerk and Recorder staff is still hand drawing the maps with pencil. Robin said the new process will better serve both the public and the county. Robin clarified that GeoControl services specific to the Clerk and Recorder's Office will be paid from the Records Preservation Fund, not a levied fund. **Motion** by Commissioner Bennett to approve the annual **GeoControl Contract** as submitted. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously. The new contract has a rate increase from \$50 per hour to \$75 per hour for GIS editing, training, and consulting. Travel is \$50/hour and \$35 a month per web map or service used for publishing or collecting data.

11:45 AM **Representative Mike Cuffe:** Present were Representative Steve Gunderson, Alan Gerstenecker and John Blodgett.

Rep. Cuffe informed the commissioners that the official negotiations on the Columbia River Treaty begin May 29 to set up the framework and agenda; it will be a full year or two of negotiations. Cuffe said he has visited with several members on the negotiating team and feels there has been effective input and Lincoln County will be considered during this time. Cuffe is looking for a good, strong delegation from Lincoln County for Pacific Northwest Economic Region 28th Annual Summit in Spokane July 22-26, 2018. Cuffe is requesting commissioner presence specifically on Wednesday, July 25 when the Columbia River Treaty will be discussed.

Commissioner Bennett asked Cuffe to put together five or six points that he would like to be expressed a month before the conference so we have time to organize a Lincoln County presentation.

1:30 PM **Youth Leadership Camp/Unite for Youth:** Present were Maggie Anderson and Alan Gerstenecker.

Maggie is requesting a contribution for the Youth Leadership Camp/Summit. Last year the commissioners did contribute from their districts and over 50 kids attended last year's camp from each community. Maggie said there are now youth leadership groups in the schools representing Libby, Troy and Eureka and she is anticipating 60 to 70 kids this year. Maggie said the camp is a very good opportunity for kids; and may be a life changing event for many. The camp focus is for grades 7 through 12.

Last year each commissioner gave \$1,000 out of the Libby, Troy and Eureka Economic Development funds. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to contribute \$1,000 from the Libby, Troy and Eureka Economic Development funds for the Youth Leadership Camp; total \$3,000. Second by Commissioner Bennett, motion carried unanimously. Maggie invited the commissioners to stop in and hang out with the kids anytime during camp. The Youth Leadership Camp is scheduled for June 11-13th at Elohim Camp on Bull Lake Road.

2:00 PM **Meeting Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Robin A. Benson, Clerk of the Board