

July 17, 2024

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on July 17, 2024, in the Lincoln County Annex, Eureka, Montana. Present were Commissioner Hammons, Commissioner Letcher and Commissioner Teske.

Zoom participation: Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown, Darren Short, Jesse Haag, Melanie Howell, Ray Stout, Ron Denowh and Scott Shindledecker.

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

10:30 AM Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes / Juvenile Detention Agreement Between Lincoln County and Bonner County / Resolution 2024-18 Abandon County Road Between Lots 15-16 & 23-22 in Westgate Business / Resolution 2024-19 Annex Cedar Glen Estates & Phase II into TRFD / District 3 Truck Purchase:
Present were Traci Street and Noel Duram.

- Review of July 10, 2024, regular meeting minutes: **Motion** to approve the July 10, 2024, regular commissioner meeting minutes by Commissioner Hammons. Second by Commissioner Teske. No comments. Motion carried.
- Juvenile Detention Agreement Between Lincoln County and Bonner County: **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve the juvenile detention agreement between Lincoln County, MT and Bonner County, ID. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No comments. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Teske read Resolution 2024-18 to Abandon a Portion of a County Road Between Lots 15-16 and 23-22 in Westgate Business Addition. **Motion** to approve Resolution 2024-18 by Commissioner Hammons. Second by Commissioner Teske. No comments. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Hammons read Resolution 2024-19 to Annex Ten Lots within Cedar Glen Estates subdivisions into the Troy Rural Fire District. **Motion** to approve Resolution 2024-19 by Commissioner Hammons. Second by Commissioner Teske. No comments. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Letcher advised Ray Price, Road Foreman District 3, submitted a bid for a dump truck purchase of \$190,367 as budgeted. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve the purchase of district 3 dump truck. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No comments. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Letcher advised the air conditioning at the Eureka Annex has partially stopped working. The inspection found the pressure was half of that needed. The estimate for the inspection and filling the refrigerant is \$7,920. Commissioner Teske suggested an annual maintenance contract be considered. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to authorize the repair cost from PILT. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No comments. Motion carried.

10:45 AM Public Comment Time – Non-Agenda Items: Present were Traci Street & Noel Duram.

none

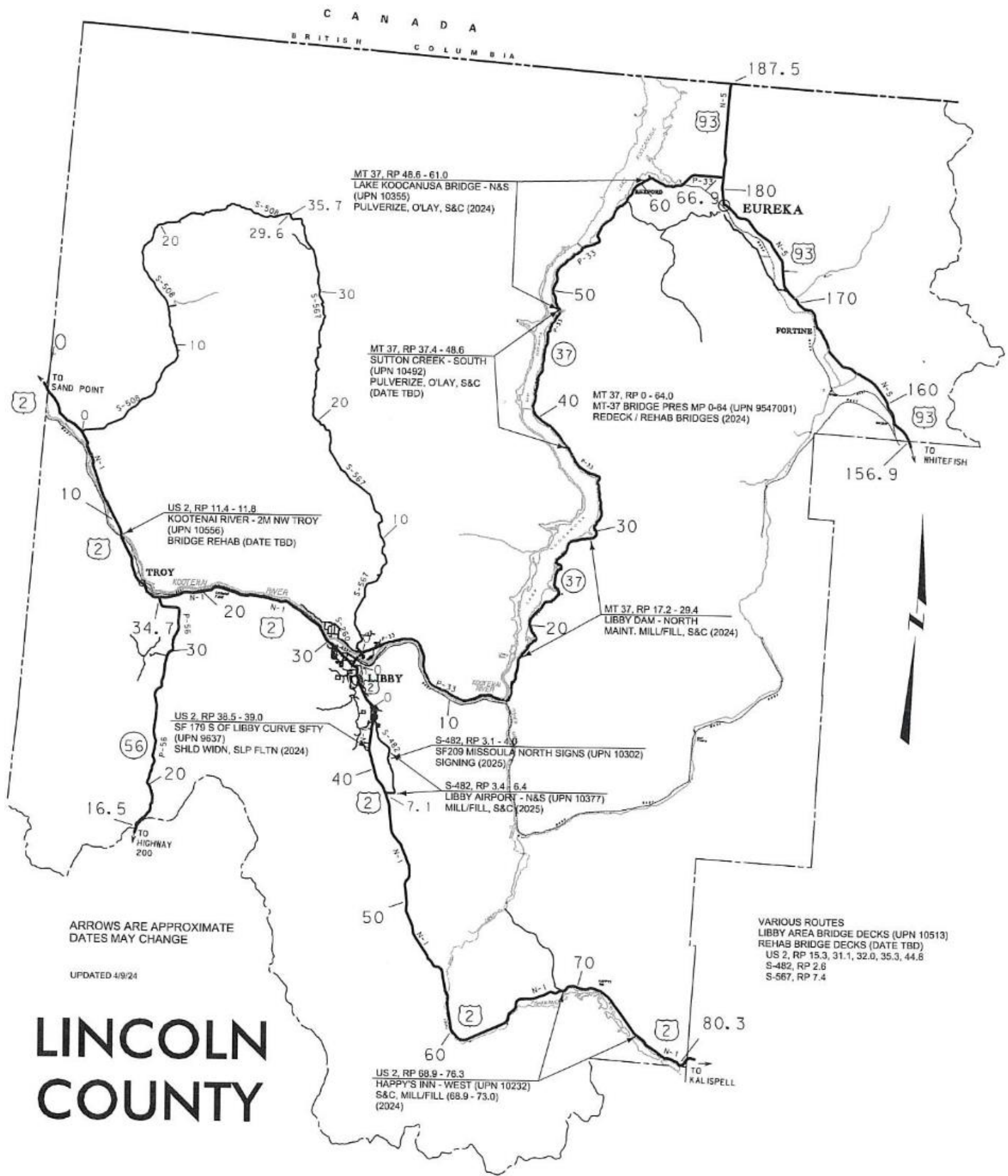
11:00 AM Discussion to Relocate County Superintendent of Schools Office to Libby School District Administration Office – Suzy Rios: Present were Traci Street & Noel Duram.

Suzy Rios, Superintendent of Schools, read a message from Ron Goodman of Libby Public Schools, advising of available office space that could benefit both the county and school district for lease at \$250 per office per month. She feels this is a better setting for the public than her current small office space near youth and drug court traffic. She would like to be in a more educational setting for conducting business with parents and children. Suzy confirmed this is within her budget and will obtain a contract for commissioner consideration. Commissioner Teske requested that Suzy review what this transition with IT. Discussion of the quantity of records in storage. Suzy will review the record retention schedule.

11:08 AM Break

01:30 PM Montana Department of Transportation Project Updates: Present were Bob Vosen and Noel Duram.

Bob Vosen, Administrator of District 1 MDOT, provided a review of projects shown on the map below, noting various bridge deck repairs dependent on funding. Commissioner Teske questioned the speed zone at Happy's Inn. Bob advised the Transportation Commission reviewed the location and determined to accept the speed study as written and will work with Happy's Inn on special use permits for speed limit reductions to 35 MPH during events. Commissioner Teske noted the RV Park is concerned with this being event-driven only. Bob noted they'd like to put up some no parking signs at major approaches to allow better visibility. He also cited a need to balance travel impacts between everyday traffic and event traffic. Commissioner Teske advised of ongoing growth in the Happy's Inn area and feels the speed will need to be readdressed in the future. He mentioned the speed study and signs have been beneficial on Hwy 37, adding seconds to trips. Commissioner Hammons noted congestion remains at Kootenai Falls. He added the new parking lot is not getting as much use as hoped. Bob suggested a portable steel barrier rail with a crash cushion at the end might be considered in this area as it is seasonal use and not an issue with winter plowing. Discussion of a future need for safe egress at the Bull Lake Fire Department facility once constructed. Jesse Haag, Planning Director, requested a specific contact regarding Happy's Inn area development. Bob stated Rebecca Anderson is the contact. Jesse stressed the speed study did not recognize the growth happening in the Happy's Inn area as the report was not revised to acknowledge this development. Bob will pass this comment on and clarified that speed studies capture what is present today and not potential future developments. He stressed the importance of maintaining driver trust in posted limits.



02:22 PM Adjourned

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Josh Letcher, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board