

October 2, 2024

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on October 2, 2024, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Hammons, Commissioner Letcher, Administrative Assistant Jennifer Brown and Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown.

Zoom Participation: Brian Phillips, Chanel Greer, Elections, Feleisha Storkson, HR, Jesse Haag, Kathleen Sheffield, Kristie Eggebrotten, Maranda, Ray Stout and Scott Shindledecker.

Commissioner Letcher confirmed the meeting will commence at 10:30 AM.

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

10:00 AM **USFS**: canceled

10:30 AM Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes / DNRC Water Rights Transfer to Lincoln County from ARP Building Purchase: Present was Noel Duram.

- Minutes of September 25, 2024, for approval: **Motion** to delay the approval of these minutes until the next meeting, when a quorum of those who attended that meeting are present by Commissioner Hammons. Seconded by Commissioner Letcher. No comments. Motion carried.
- DNRC Water Rights Transfer to Lincoln County from ARP Building Purchase. **Motion** to approve the water rights transfer by Commissioner Hammons. Second by Commissioner Letcher. Discussion regarding the geothermal well on record at 15 gallons per minute, and this transfer being prudent if the county were to sell the property. No comments. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Letcher said the road crew will begin paving the grant funded trail at the Eureka Sports Park tomorrow.

10:45 AM Public Comment Time – Non-Agenda Items: Present were Art Dudley and Noel Duram.

Art Dudley asked if the commissioners have a plan for dealing with the potential influx of illegals moving to the county. He wonders if these individuals would be handed over to the Border Patrol, ICE or others and would like the commission to consider this and follow up with him.

11:00 AM Trego Hall PAR Community Development Block Grant Update: Present were Art Dudley and Noel Duram.

Kristie Eggebrotten presented a request via Zoom for a payout of \$20,000 in CDBG planning grant funds to Encompass Design for an architectural review at the Trego Community Hall. She explained that the planning grant totaled \$26,000, and after the payout, \$6,000 will be returned to the state. Kristie noted that the PAR proposal has been submitted to the commissioners for further action. She requested the Commissioners sponsor an application for a CDBG facilities grant to fund improvements to the Community Hall, aiming to request the full amount of \$750,000, with no matching funds required. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the facilities grant for the TFS Community Hall. Second by Commissioner Letcher. Jesse Haag noted that the Planning Department has been hindered in the past by grants allocated outside the county departments. Commissioner Hammons discussed other grant types that have been approved. Jesse advised of intending to apply for planning grants when they come available, adding he does not believe the facilities grant is the same. Kristie noted that once the commissioners have signed, she will submit the final documents to close out the planning grant. No further comments. Motion carried.

11:15 AM Proclamation – National Domestic Violence Awareness Month – Kathleen Sheffield: Present were Art Dudley and Noel Duram.

Kathleen Sheffield, Victim Witness Advocate, noted that October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and provided statistics and information on resources available in Lincoln County. Commissioner Letcher then read the proclamation. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the proclamation of October as national domestic violence month. Second by Commissioner Letcher. No comments. Motion carried.

11:30 AM Wilderness Club Phase 6 & 7 SIA Release: Present were Art Dudley, Kristin Smith and Noel Duram.

Kristin Smith presented a request from 406 Engineering on behalf of Wilderness Club Phases 6 & 7 for the release of their bond, which was guaranteed in the SIA of October 2023, for completion of water, sewer, stormwater, and road infrastructure. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to release the \$264,000 held by Lincoln County for the completion guarantee of the remaining improvements for Phases 6 & 7 of the Wilderness Club. Second by Commissioner Letcher. Art questioned who is involved with inspection of workmanship. Discussion of the county not having an engineer, and that the developers hire an engineer who certifies the work, and they are all private roads. No further comments. Motion carried.

11:38 AM Adjourned

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Josh Letcher, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board