

April 29, 2025

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a budget meeting on April 28, 2025, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commission Teske, Commissioner Hammons, and Administrative Assistant Nikki Fox.

Zoom participation: Commissioner Duram

10:00 am **Maintenance Department:** Present was Joe Nagle

Joe Nagle presented the Maintenance Department's preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Joe Nagle confirmed he had the current wages and insurance added to the budget. Joe Nagle began with informing the Commissioners that he added 3% to all professional services, as most providers indicated they would have an increase in price this coming year and he estimated there would be at least a \$5,000 increase. Joe Nagle confirmed he had reduced his budget in Operating Supplies, Utility Services and J Neils Park to compensate for the increase of Professional Services, in an attempt to preserve the County's budget. Joe Nagle had questions about the \$144,000 estimate for a boiler replacement and if it would come out of the Maintenance budget. Commissioner Teske stated it would come from the PILT fund and remove from the department budget. Open discussion among all Commissioners regarding the boiler replacement. Commissioner Teske asked Joe Nagle to get the parts for the boiler ordered and on hand, in case of malfunction before the replacement could take place. Joe Nagle indicated there will be a change of his insurance budget, due to an employee coming off of the Lincoln County insurance and will be receiving money in lieu of. Commissioner Hammons mentioned the budget changed minimally and mostly due to payroll increases. Joe Nagle spoke about the influx of seasonal costs, i.e. sprinklers, and stated the water bill could increase of a \$1,000 a month during the hot season. Commissioner Teske asked if it was possible to cut back on the sprinkler usage, which Joe Nagle informed him it was not advised, as it has a dramatic effect. The Commission took note the Maintenance Departments budget was at \$389,573, after the removal of the boiler replacement

10:08 am **J Neils Park**

Joe Nagle informed the Commissioners of the current status of the J Neils Park budget. Joe Nagle indicated that an employee will continue to receive money in lieu of health insurance. Joe Nagle noted that the changes in this year's budget are payroll and the decrease of Utilities and Services, which was added to the Maintenance budget. There was open discussion regarding the amount left in the current budget, which Joe Nagle stated it was due to a majority of costs arise during spring. Commissioner Teske confirmed J Neils is mostly funded through levy. Commissioner Teske asked Joe Nagle if he has any issues or needs for FY 25-26, to which Joe Nagle indicated he was upgrading the lighting to LED and that will help decrease

electricity cost. Commissioner Hammons questioned if the park generated its own revenue. Joe Nagle advised it did not, however, the local clubs and associations that use the park usually contribute to the park in non-monetary way, such as providing garbage cans and new lighting. Commissioner Teske brought up the trailer located at the park, which was originally placed to add to park security, however, it may not have benefit to the park any longer and should be discussed at a later date.

10:13 am **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Nikki Fox, Administrative Assistant