

April 30, 2025

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on April 30, 2025, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Duram, Commissioner Hammons, Administrative Assistant Nikki Fox and Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown.

Zoom participation: Adam Stephenson, Chanel Geer, Colette, Darren Short, DJ Welch, HR, John Hyslop, Ray Stout, Robin Blumberg, Sierra Gustin, Tony Wickham and Traci Street.

10:00 AM **Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes. Board Appointments. Planning Project Contract MCR Grant Approval. Emergency Services Boundary Modification. Update on GLID Grant:** Present were Brian Berreman and Scott Shindledecker.

- **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the April 21, 2025 Planning Department budget meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Duram. No comments. Motion carried.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the April 23, 2025 Clerk and Recorder and election budget meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Commissioner Teske confirmed the election portion of the budget was delayed. No public comments. Motion carried.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the April 23, 2025 Treasury Department budget meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Duram. No comments. Motion carried.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the April 22, 2025 Justice Court budget meeting and Adult Probation budget meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Commissioner Duram noted Vanessa Williamson was not present for the preliminary budget meeting. No public comments. Motion carried.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the April 23, 2025 regular commissioner meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Duram. No comments. Motion carried.
- Board Appointments: Commissioner Teske advised they would vote as they proceed through the eleven boards.

Weed: 1 vacancy. 1 applicant – Catherine Schloeder	Motion by Commissioner Duram to appoint Catherine Schloeder to the Weed Board. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No comments. Motion carried.
Ambulance: 3 vacancies. 2 applicants re-applied – Janet Ivers (Libby) Herb Cargill (Troy)	Motion by Commissioner Hammons to appoint Jan Ivers and Herb Cargill to the Ambulance Board. Second by Commissioner Duram. Commissioner Teske noted one Eureka position is vacant. No public comments. Motion carried.
Fair: 1 vacancy. 1 applicant – Killian Coleman	Motion by Commissioner Duram to appoint Killian Coleman to the Fair Board. Second By Commissioner Hammons. No public comments. Motion carried.
Eureka FSA: 2 vacancies. 2 applicants re-applied – Shawn Vandeberg and Ron Hvizdak	Motion by Commissioner Duram to re-appoint Shawn Vandeberg and Ron Hvizdak to the Eureka Fire Service Area Board. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comments. Motion carried.
LC Rural Fire District: 1 vacancy. 1 applicant – Gary Wood re-applied	Motion by Commissioner Hammons to re-appoint Gary Wood to the Lincoln County Rural Fire District Board. Second by Commissioner Duram. No comments. Motion carried.
McCormick Rural FD:	1 vacancy. No applicant
Port Authority:	1 vacancy. No applicant
Trego/Fortine/Stryker FSA:	2 vacancies. No applicants
Troy Park District: 2 vacancies, 2 applicants – Jamie Campbell re-applied and Jordan Graves	Motion by Commissioner Hammons to appoint Jamie Campbell and Jordan Graves to the Troy Park District Board. No comments. Motion carried.
Upper Yaak FSA: 2 vacancies. 2 applicants – William VanderVoorden & Gary Lynch	Motion by Commissioner Hammons to appoint William VanderVoorden and Gary Lynch to the Upper Yaak Fire Service Area Board. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comments. Motion carried.
Libby Park District: 2 vacancies. 3 applicants – Tina Oliphant, Joseph Taylor and Patty Rambo	Commissioner Teske noted the board recommended appointing Joe Taylor and Tina Oliphant. Motion by Commissioner Hammons to appoint Tina Oliphant and Joseph Taylor to the Libby Park District Board. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comments. Motion carried.
- Planning Project Contract MCR Grant Approval: Commissioner Teske noted an error by the state on the contract that Jesse brought to their attention. He advised this will be continued until it’s corrected and returned.
- Emergency Services Boundary Modification: Commissioner Hammons advised the Troy Rural and Bull lake Fire Districts along with Sheriff Short met with emergency services to define a line for call out. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the proposed boundary adjustments as outlined in the maps and direct the appropriate entities to update the official fire district boundary maps to reflect the change and authorize the installation of signage designating the revised district limits along the relevant public roadways. Second by Commissioner Duram. Discussion of the importance of maintaining clear lines with adjoining districts. No public comments. Motion carried.
- Update on GLID grant: Commissioner Duram noted a contract-change order had been received.

10:15 AM **Public Comment Time – Non-Agenda Items:** Present were Brian Berreman and Scott Shindledecker. None.

10:30 AM **Rural Propane Services Subdivision Extension Request:** Present were Alisha Osborne, Brian Berreman, Jesse Haag and Scott Shindledecker.

Alisha Osborne, Assistant Planner, presented a request of Rural Propane Services to extend the preliminary plat approval for one year. She described the subdivision details and recommended approving the 1-year extension to the preliminary approval of Rural Propane Services subdivision to expire May 18, 2026. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the extension request. Second by commissioner Hammons. Discussion of timeline. No public comments. Motion carried.

10:45 AM **Lincoln Electric Co-op-Funding Opportunities:** Present were Brian Berreman, Jacob DeLong and Jamie Stark.

Jacob DeLong, Lincoln Electric, advised Lincoln Electric Co-op was awarded a BRIC grant to put overhead power lines from the tunnel to the Trego substation underground and phase II, the construction, has been shut down. He stated they are obligated phase I funding of \$300,000 for design and procurement. He noted the estimated total project cost is \$7 million. They are seeking assistance through congressional direct spending opportunities to help with the project construction costs. Jamie Stark provided maps and advised 50-60 trains per day pass through the tunnel, and this is their single largest customer and load on their system. He provided site details and intent to convert nearly fourteen miles to underground for outage protection. Jacob requested Lincoln County champion this process with a letter of support for the \$6 million construction. Commissioner Duram advised congressional direct funding may be a way to get that funding and highlighted the BRIC status emphasizes the importance of this project. Discussion of keeping the project in the forefront as grant movement continues. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to write a support letter for the Lincoln Electric Coop and to send to all four congressmen. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.

11:00 AM **Resolution 2025-17 Annexation of Iron Creek-Freeman Ridge-Shannon Lake Road Properties into Troy Rural Fire District:** Present was Brian Berreman.

Commissioner Hammons read resolution 2025-17 annexing Iron Creek-Freeman Ridge-Shannon Lake Road Properties into the Troy Rural Fire District. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve resolution 2025-17. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment was received. Motion carried.

11:04 AM **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board