

July 2, 2025

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on July 2, 2025, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Hammons, Commissioner Duram, Administrative Assistant Nikki Fox and Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown.

Zoom participation: Alaena Woody, Craig Alanen, Danielle Maiden, Darren Short, Deb Burrell, Feleisha Storkson, Jesse Haag, John Hyslop, Kristie Wilson, Landfill, Larry, Melanie Howell, Ray Stout, Roland Jorgenson, Sarah Michaelson, Scott Shindledecker, Tyler Reed and Zach Sherbo.

09:30 AM **Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes. Approve TSP Grant. Road Project Agreement. Resolution 2025-15 Amend Voting Precinct Boundaries Pursuant to City of Libby Annexation:** Present were Brian Berreman and Melanie Howell.

- Approval of the minutes: **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the June 25, 2025, minutes. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Approve TSP Grant: Commissioner Hammons announced that Lincoln County received a Montana Trail Stewardship Grant of up to \$75,000 from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks for the resealing of the Troy Airport Fitness Trail. The project requires a 10% local match, to be provided through in-kind labor by the county road crew. Project completion is required by October 15, 2028. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the TSP Grant for the airport trail in Troy. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Road Project Agreement: Commissioner Teske discussed a Road Project Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service to pave Lower Granite Creek Road, a Schedule A road. The total estimated project cost is \$31,631.29, with Lincoln County contributing the paving, while the Forest Service will fund materials and labor. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the road project between Lincoln County and the Forest Service for the Lower Granite Creek Road paving project. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Resolution 2025-15 Amend Voting Precinct Boundaries Pursuant to City of Libby Annexation: Commissioner Duram read Resolution 2025-15. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve Resolution 2025-15. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.

09:45 AM **Public Comment Time Non-Agenda Items:** Present was Brian Berreman. No public comment.

10:00 AM **USFS:** Present was Brian Berreman. Postponed.

10:30 AM **Public Hearing – Proposed Fee Schedule for the Lincoln County Animal Shelter:** Present were Brian Berreman, DL Fitzpatrick, Kathi Hooper, Mark Jacobs and Scott Mattheis.

Commissioner Teske opened the public hearing with Resolution 2025-11, a proposal to establish fees for the Lincoln County Animal Shelter. Discussion of the proposed fees helping offset the cost of operating the shelter, the use of grants and the hiring of two part-time employees. Kathi Hooper, Health Department, reported that no public comments were received and noted that most fees remain unchanged, with a few additional ones—such as adoption fees—added with the county operating the shelter. After further discussion about shelter operations and with no public input, Commissioner Teske announced Resolution 2025-11 a fee scheduled for the LC animal shelter, will move forward next week.

10:45 AM **Jet A Fuel Tank Project at the Eureka Airport-Change Order Approval:** Present were Brian Berreman, DL Fitzpatrick, Mark Jacobs and Scott Mattheis.

DL Fitzpatrick, LC Airport Board member, discussed a \$39,496.55 change order to install a Prist deicing additive system for Jet A fuel at Eureka Airport. This will allow customers to choose fuel with or without the additive through the existing payment kiosk. Scott Mattheis provided an overview of the financial details related to the change order, including an estimated Airport project cost of \$10,500. Sara Michaelson from Morrison-Maierle noted this is one of the first FAA-funded systems of its kind, helping reduce costs. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the request for the change order. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Commissioner Duram noted there is no conflict, although his son's company will be performing this work. No public comment. Motion carried.

11:00 AM **County Vehicle Bid Opening. County Bid Selection:** Present were Brian Berreman, Jesse Knapp and Tessa Knapp.

Commissioner Teske noted that a county pickup truck from the Troy Road crew was put out for bid and received no offers; it will be readvertised.

County Diesel and Gasoline. One bid from Golden State Oil was received; prices per gallon are: Libby \$3.40 for unleaded gasoline, \$3.87 for Dyed Diesel #1, and \$3.32 for Dyed Diesel #2; Troy \$3.45 for unleaded gasoline, \$3.92 for Dyed Diesel #1, and \$3.37 for Dyed Diesel #2; and Eureka \$3.60 for unleaded gasoline, \$4.07 for Dyed Diesel #1, and \$3.52 for Dyed Diesel #2 in Eureka. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the diesel and gasoline bids for Troy, Libby and Eureka. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.

Road Oil. One bid from McAsphalt Industries Limited for delivery to the Libby, Troy, and Eureka shops. The delivered prices are as follows: HF-150 — Libby: \$669.80, Troy: \$647.47, Eureka: \$676.78; HF-250 — Libby: \$676.80, Troy: \$654.47, Eureka: \$683.78; HF-500 — Libby: \$761.80, Troy: \$739.47, Eureka: \$768.78. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the bid. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.

11:15 AM **Drop-In Center Coordinator Position Approval. Drop-In Center Recovery Support Specialist Position Approval:** Present were Brian Berreman, Judge Jay Sheffield, Kathleen Sheffield, Zach Sherbo.

Commissioner Teske noted receipt of the Drop-In Center grant with two support positions. He opened the meeting to discuss the job descriptions for the Drop-In Center Coordinator and the Drop-In Center Recovery Support Specialist.

Motion by Commissioner Hammons to approve the Drop-In Center Coordinator and Drop-In Center Recovery Support Specialist positions. Second by Commissioner Duram. Discussion was held with Judge Sheffield regarding the Drop-In Center positions, noting that both roles are fully funded through the grant. No public comment. Motion carried.

11:30 AM **Neighbor Works Contract – Danielle Maiden:** Present was Jesse Haag.

Commissioner Teske introduced an amendment to the professional services agreement with NeighborWorks Montana, extending the contract term from February 1, 2025, to February 1, 2026, and increasing the contract amount from \$36,712 to \$44,240. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the amendment to agreement for professional services. Second by Commissioner Duram. Danielle noted cost of the project went up and they were awarded additional grant funding to pay for the approximate increase of \$7,500. No public comment. Motion carried.

11:45 AM **Board Updates from Commissioners:** Present were none.

Commissioner Duram noted: review of the selenium letter is still pending with a triennial review scheduled in March. The West Kootenai Fire Department has a fire truck out of service and is considering whether to operate as a Fire Service Area (FSA) or a Fire District. Tobacco Valley Industrial District (TVID) may be an avenue for North County MSA operations. Eureka School is requesting a letter of support from Lincoln County for grant application(s).

Commissioner Hammons noted that the Health Board will meet on Tuesday. He also reported meeting with the City of Libby regarding the animal control agreement, which is now under the city's review.

Commissioner Teske reported on last week's quarterly meeting of the Libby Asbestos Superfund Oversight Committee (LASOC). The committee discussed the EPA soon publishing its findings and recommendations on the OU3 mine site as a technical report and they may hire a consultant to provide input. He noted the EPA's Five-Year Review is now available online and the committee expressed concern over the protectiveness statements related to wildfire events and public health emergencies. A letter communicating these concerns has been drafted to the EPA. He also announced the upcoming EPA public meeting scheduled for July 15, 2025, from 6–7 p.m. in the Ponderosa Room, to discuss the Five-Year Review results, the status of the former mine site, ongoing maintenance in cleaned areas and fire preparedness. He noted the Lincoln County Port Authority met last Monday and approved \$7,000 in sand to complete the fishpond. He anticipates bonding matters for Industry Way will be brought back to the commission for further discussion.

11:53 AM **Break**

01:30 PM **Lincoln County Landfill Fee Schedule Discussion:** Present were Brian Berreman, Bryan Alkire, Kathi Hooper and Matt Stull.

Kathi Hooper, Health Department, presented budget projections for solid waste management, highlighting remote sites as the biggest cost variable. She outlined three options. Discussion of hybrid hauling options and expanded service days. Brian Berreman raised concerns about the county entering the hauling business, citing increased liability and questioning the affordability of the proposed fee increases for residents, given limited wage growth. The commission agreed to move forward with a proposal of a \$200 annual fee and a 2.5% annual increase for the next five years, after which the rate will be revisited, develop a draft resolution and schedule informational sessions and a formal public hearing.

01:45 PM **Planning - Montana Wild Subdivision Extension Request. Road Surfacing / Dust Mitigation Plan for North Star Landing Subdivision:** Present were Alisha Osborne, Brian Berreman and Jesse Haag.

Alisha Osborne, Assistant Planner, presented a request for a one-year extension to the preliminary plat approval for the Montana Wild Subdivision due to scheduling conflicts and delays with the previous contractor. She advised remaining work includes completion of drain fields, potable water storage, building, and electrical systems and Planning staff recommended approval of the extension through July 7, 2026. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to grant the extension. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.

Jesse Haag, Planning Director, presented condition #6 requiring a perpetual road surfacing and dust mitigation plan for North Star Landing. He advised the plan is intended to meet subdivision regulations and ensure maintenance of private roads by the Homeowners Association, with provisions that cannot be amended without county approval. He noted that planning staff recommended approval of the plan, contingent on its inclusion in the North Star Landing Road Maintenance Agreement. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve it. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Via zoom, Larry provided project updates. No further public comments. Motion carried.

01:57 PM **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board