

June 26, 2025

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a budget meeting on June 26, 2025, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commission Teske, Commissioner Hammons, Commissioner Duram and Administrative Assistant Nikki Fox.

Zoom participation: NONE

9:00 am **Library**: Present was Dustina Deans and Michael Mason

On June 26, 2025, the commissioners reviewed and discussed the library's budget. A 5% wage increase led to a \$26,000 rise in personnel costs. Major HVAC work was already completed, and the roof was deemed sound, allowing the repairs and maintenance budget to be reduced from \$32,000 to \$16,000. Cleaning needs, especially in Troy, were noted as a concern. Utilities remained at \$25,000 due to rising costs. Office supplies were reduced to \$2,000, technology to \$12,000, and operating supplies to \$3,000. Recreation and education supplies stayed at \$5,000 and \$24,000, respectively. Communications and transportation were trimmed to \$3,000, with concerns about maintaining interlibrary loan services. Travel was reduced to \$5,500, with some committee members volunteering to assist. Training remained at \$5,000 to allow staff development opportunities. Other categories such as subscriptions, vehicle insurance, and depreciation transfer remained unchanged. An updated budget will be submitted, with final figures pending the state's mill value determination.

9:19 am **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Nikki Fox, Administrative Assistant

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Zoom participation: NONE

9:30 am Sheriff's Department: Present was Sheriff Darren Short and John Hyslop

On June 26, 2025, the commissioners reviewed the Sheriff's Department budget, focusing on salary and benefit adjustments, including a 1% raise and new longevity pay. A \$232,000 vehicle upfitting cost was added, and the \$300,000 vehicle purchase remains a top priority. A proposed \$256,000 radio system upgrade was deferred pending further details. The committee also discussed reviewing a \$184,000 "other purchases" line for possible cuts and proposed increasing city/county animal control funding from \$20,000 to \$25,000. They discussed using impact fees from new developments to support public safety needs. An update was given on repairs at the Blacktail radio site, with improvements nearly complete. Final budget adjustments will follow, with some costs possibly covered by PILT or general funds.

9:48 am Adjourned

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairperson

ATTEST: _____
Nikki Fox, Administrative Assistant