

**January 21, 2026**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on January 21, 2026, in the Lincoln County Courthouse Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Hammons, Administrative Assistant Nikki Fox and Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown.

Zoom participation: Commissioner Duram, Bruce Howie, Erin Benzinga, Jesse Haag, Melanie Howell, Omar AlShafie, Ray Stout, Sierra Gustin and Traci Street.

**10:30 AM Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes. PILT Claims. Commissioners' Report:** Present were Brian Berreman and Travis Sigea.

- Approval of minutes: **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the minutes from the January 14, 2026 regular commissioners' meeting. Second by Commissioner Teske. The spelling of Freemyer and Pine Phlats were verified as correct. No public comment. Commissioners Hammons and Teske voted aye.
- PILT claims: none
- Commissioners' Report:
  - Commissioner Hammons reported that the Yaak Community Hall contract bids remain under review. The committee has narrowed the selection to two contractors and is seeking clarification on construction details, including building elevation and excavation methods. Commissioner Hammons noted that once these questions are resolved, the committee will provide a recommendation to the Commission for consideration and a vote.

**10:45 AM Public Comment Time Non-Agenda Items:** Present were Brian Berreman and Travis Sigea. No comments.

**11:00 AM Proposal Opening for Disaster Debris Removal Services-** postponed

**Proposal Opening for Disaster Debris Monitoring Services-**postponed

**Proposal Opening for LC Campus of Flathead Valley Community College Water Damage Repair-** postponed

Present were Brian Berreman and Travis Sigea.

Commissioner Teske advised that the proposal openings for disaster debris removal services and disaster debris monitoring services were postponed in order to republish the solicitations with required Libby Amphibole Asbestos language. DEQ and ARP are assisting with the revisions. Commissioner Hammons reported that the proposal opening for Lincoln County Campus Flathead Valley Community College water damage repairs may also be republished to generate additional interest, as only one contractor attended the walkthrough and no bids were submitted by the deadline.

**11:02 AM Break**

**02:00 PM HDR kickoff Meeting / Work Session:** Present were Brian Berreman, Kate Stephens, Jen Brown, Ray Stout and Zach Maassen.

Zach Maassen of HDR Engineering provided an overview of work completed to date and outlined ongoing efforts for the biomass and solid waste feasibility study. Preliminary biomass availability estimates were discussed, with an initial target of approximately 100 tons per day and consideration of a combined biomass and municipal solid waste system. Discussion focused on county priorities, air quality regulations and permitting considerations, including Libby Amphibole Asbestos restrictions and EPA standards. Potential site locations in Libby and Eureka were reviewed, including the Libby Port, county landfills and private industrial properties, with considerations given to acreage, fuel supply, water rights, wastewater handling and proximity to electrical infrastructure. HDR will conduct site visits, facility tours and further data collection, including coordination with DEQ, DNRC, the Health Department and other stakeholders. Phase one site evaluation and fatal flaw analysis remains on schedule, with final feasibility reporting anticipated by the end of September.

**03:00 PM Adjourned**

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Brent Teske, Chairman

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board