

April 15, 2026

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on April 15, 2026, in the Lincoln County Annex, Eureka, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Hammons and Commissioner Duram.

Zoom participation: Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown, Alaena Woody, Brian Berreman, Bryan Alkire, Dallas Bowe, Darren Short, Jesse Haag, Jessica Jenson, Kathi Hooper, Ken Davis, Matthew Stull, Melanie Howell, Ray Stout, Scott Shindledecker, Stu Crismore, Travis Sigea and Wendy Drake.

10:00 AM **Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes. PILT Claims. Commissioners' Report:** Present were Traci Street and Mary Duram.

- Approval of minutes: **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve April 8, 2026, regular commissioner meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- PILT claims: Columbia Mountain Mechanical \$175 maintenance heat/ac unit at Troy Library. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to pay the \$175. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried. Best in the West Carpet Cleaning \$468 Troy Library carpet cleaning. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the carpet cleaning claim of \$468. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried. Jackson Murdo & Grant, P.C. \$2,025 MEIC FOIA. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram for \$2,025. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Discussion of researching prior balance status. No public comment. Motion carried. Evensen Engineering & Consulting, Inc. \$35,191.92 total for county projects. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to pay Evensen Engineering \$35,191.92. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Discussion of ER Assist reviewing the invoices against individual projects for applicable reimbursement. No public comment. Motion carried. HDR Engineering Inc. \$16,709.25 Biomass feasibility study. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to pay HDR \$16,709.25. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Discussion that HDR is scheduled to present a waste to energy update next Wednesday at 2 PM. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Discussion of a request from Barry Dexter to support the Stimson Timberland Legacy Project, covering about 20,824 acres, including pros and cons of conservation easements and balancing public access with concerns about increasing corporate land control. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve a letter to Stimson to support their conservation easement program. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Commissioners' Report:
 - Commissioner Duram reported that Commissioner Hammons is handling annual marijuana letters and noted schools are seeking SRS funding, which he will discuss with MACo. He expressed a desire for more commissioner communication and discussed forest-related programs and upcoming meetings.

10:15 AM **Hauling Contract Discussion:** Present were Traci Street and Mary Duram.

Kathi Hooper, Health Department, reviewed hauling cost estimates, noting increased fuel costs and that county operation would be more expensive initially but could break even by year three. She outlined equipment and startup costs and noted interest from additional bidders. Commissioners discussed flexibility, cost considerations, contract options and agreed to reissue the bid due to limited responses. No public comment.

10:30 AM **Public Comment Time Non-Agenda Items:** Present were Traci Street and Mary Duram. No comments.

10:45 AM **Preliminary Plat Review Pitman Minor Subdivision. Preliminary Plat Review Sayre Subdivision. Preliminary Plat Review Krinklehorn Subdivision – Planning:** Present were Thomas Sibson, Traci Street and Mary Duram.

Kristin Smith, Planning Department, presented the preliminary plat review for the Pitman Minor Subdivision on Glen Lake Road, proposing three residential lots. She reported no significant impacts to agriculture, local services, natural environment, or public health and safety and noted compliance with growth policy. Planning recommended approval with standard conditions. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to grant preliminary plat approval to Pitman Subdivision subject to sixteen conditions and based on the findings of the staff report. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.

Kristin presented the preliminary plat review for the Sayre Subdivision on Deep Creek Road, proposing five residential lots with no existing structures. She reported no significant impacts to agriculture, services, or the natural environment. It was noted for the record that law enforcement services will be provided by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and that ongoing development is straining resources. Planning recommended approval subject to eighteen conditions based on the staff report. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve Sayre Subdivision subject to eighteen conditions and based on the findings of the staff report. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Thomas Sibson raised concerns that Condition #10 could restrict boundary line adjustments and aggregations. Kristin clarified this was not the intent and suggested adding language to exclude applicable exemptions. It was noted that boundary line adjustments could still allow equal acreage swaps and that Condition #10 could be modified accordingly. Commissioners discussed the intent to prevent creation of smaller lots and agreement was reached to clarify the condition language. No further comment. Motion carried.

Kristin presented the preliminary plat review for the Krinklehorn Subdivision on Crystal Lake Road in Fortine, proposing four equal residential lots on approximately 28 acres. She reported no significant impacts to agriculture, local services, natural environment, public health and safety, or growth policy and noted that each lot will be required to obtain sanitation review and a DNRC notice of authorization to appropriate groundwater for individual wells. Planning recommended preliminary plat approval subject to 14 standard conditions based on the staff report. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve Krinklehorn Subdivision subject to fourteen conditions and based on the findings of the staff report. Second by Commissioner Duram. Discussion of approximately 7.13-acre narrow lots along Crystal Lake Road. No public comment. Motion carried.

11:15 AM **FVCC Libby Campus Lease Discussion:** Present were Traci Street and Mary Duram.

Acknowledging that legal review had been completed, commissioners discussed terms for the Flathead Valley Community College lease for the Libby campus building (31,307 sq. ft.), which includes an annual insurance cost of approximately \$18,000. A five-year lease term was agreed upon. Based on comparable market data, the lease was valued at \$3.77 per square foot, totaling approximately \$118,000 annually, or about \$9,833 per month. Commissioners approved using these figures as a proposal for negotiation with the college. No public comment was received.

11:23 AM **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board