

May 21, 2026

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for budget meetings and interview on May 21, 2026, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Duram, Commissioner Hammons, Commissioner Teske and Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown.

Zoom Participation: Wendy Drake

10:00 AM **Road 1 and Road 2 Budget Meeting:** Present were Craig Schultz, Dallas Bowe, Dexter Hardy, DJ Welch and Jeff Koskela.

DJ Welch, Troy Road Foreman, presented the upcoming road district budget, noting increased maintenance costs for cutting edges and tires, offset by prior-year savings and planned reallocations. He reported the overall budget remains consistent with last year, with machinery and equipment adjusted for an off-cycle purchase year. He discussed anticipated road materials, including gravel and asphalt projects. He explained that disaster-related work is tracked separately and will be reimbursed to the road fund upon receipt. Commissioners noted the importance of properly accounting for reimbursements and coordination with Finance to finalize figures.

Dexter Hardy, Libby Road Foreman, presented the upcoming year's budget, reflecting an overall increase of approximately \$6,000. He reported increased maintenance needs for older trucks, tires and a shop heater, along with planned purchase of ¾-inch crushed material for road projects. Fabricated materials increased in anticipation of chip sealing and machinery and equipment costs reflect evaluation of a chip spreader and future equipment replacement needs. Discussion also included disaster fund reimbursement and coordination with the road department to ensure proper accounting of revenues and expenses.

10:30 AM **District Court Budget Meeting:** Present were Boyd White, Dallas Bowe, Jeff Koskela and Tricia Brooks.

Tricia Brooks, Clerk of District Court, presented her departmental budget for review, noting a slight decrease in supplies due to reduced copier service fees. She reported jury services remain an estimated expense with approximately 90% reimbursement from the State, with the primary non-reimbursable costs being jury questionnaires and mailing expenses. She had no major changes to the budget and final figures will be updated once wages and benefits are finalized.

10:45 AM **EMA Budget Meeting:** Present was Boyd White.

Boyd White, EMA, presented the FY 2026/27 budget, including revenue and expense projections. He reported a small overall increase of approximately \$1,500, primarily due to added utility costs for a Eureka phone line. He discussed rent for the Emergency Operation Center space at Libby City Hall, tower lease and rental revenue and adjustments related to the Blue Mountain Forest Service lease. He also provided an update on the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) grant funding, noting the application cycle has not yet opened due to delays at the federal level.

11:00 AM **Administrator Interview:** Present were Kathi Hooper and Marcia Boris.

Commissioner Teske noted a scheduling miscommunication and stated the meeting would begin at 11:15. He called the meeting to order and requested public comment. No comment was received. The meeting moved into a closed session.

12:08 PM **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board