

June 24, 2026

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on June 24, 2026, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Duram, Commissioner Hammons and Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown.

Zoom participation: Commissioner Duram (afternoon), County Administrator Matt Williams, Brian Berreman, Dallas Bowe, Darren Short, Dustina Deans, James Davidson, Jeff Koskela, Jesse Haag, Jessica Jenson, Justin Horner, Kathleen Sheffield, Katie Anderson, Kerri, Ray Stout, Roland Jorgenson, Scott Shindledecker and Traci Street.

09:50 AM **Interagency Agreement for Court Security - Barbara Benson:** Present were Barbara Benson, Judy De'Leon, Sam Hale, Stuart Hall, Tom Lane and Tom Maxwell.

Barbara Benson, 19th District Court Law Clerk, presented an interagency agreement related to a Montana Supreme Court-funded court security grant. The District Court has been allocated \$10,000 for security upgrades, which the County would initially fund and then seek reimbursement through the agreement. Benson explained that many recommended security improvements, such as access controls and cameras, have already been completed, and current plans focus on installing ballistic-resistant paneling near the judge's bench. She also discussed the formation of a required court security committee and noted the potential future use of the Graves emergency alert application. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to enter into the interagency agreement. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.

10:00 AM **Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes. PILT Claims. Resolution 2026-1 Local Government Review Study Commission. Board Appointments. West Kootenai Rural Fire District Creation Petition #321421. LCPA Trail Easement Agreement. Commissioners' Report:** Present were Dustina Deans, Ernie Anderson, Jennifer McCully, Judy De'Leon, Justin Burich, Kate Stephens, Sam Hale, Stuart Hall, Tom Lane and Tom Maxwell.

- Approval of primary election canvas meeting minutes: **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the June 16, 2026, election canvas minutes. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Approval of budget meeting minutes: **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the June 16, 2026, budget meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Approval of regular meeting minutes: **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the June 17th meeting minutes. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.
- PILT claims: Jackson Murdo & Grant, P.C. MEIC \$562.50 **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to pay the \$562.50 out of PILT. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.
Jackson Murdo & Grant, P.C. State of Montana \$712.50. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the claim for \$712.50. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Commissioner Duram read Resolution 2026-1, adopting the recommendation of the Local Government Review Study Commission for a Commission Form of County Government and submitting the recommendation to county electors at the 2026 General Election. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve Resolution 2026-1 *amended* to Local Government Review Study Commission Resolution 2026-1. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Board appointments: **Motion** by Commissioner Duram, second by Commissioner Hammons, to appoint Charles Ledigh and Craig Johnson to the Boyd Hill Cemetery Board. No public comment. Motion carried. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons, second by Commissioner Duram, to appoint Sylvia Maffit and Daniel Pearce to the Bull Lake Rural Fire District Board. No public comment. Motion carried. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram, second by Commissioner Hammons, to appoint Joel Cobb to the Eureka Area Dispatch District Board. No public comment. Motion carried. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons, second by Commissioner Duram, to appoint Gary Edwards, Agnes Kemp and Steve Woolley to the Fisher River Valley Fire Service Area Board. No public comment. Motion carried. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram, second by Commissioner Hammons, to appoint Sally Warren and Trudy Doble to the Fortine/Trego Cemetery Board. No public comment. Motion carried. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram, second by Commissioner Hammons, to appoint Kerri Teisberg-Libby and Ariana Moore-Eureka to the Lincoln County Library Board. No public comment. Motion carried.
No applications were received for the Libby Park District or Upper Yaak FSA. These positions will be re-advertised.
- West Kootenai Rural Fire District Creation Petition #321421: Commissioner Teske read Resolution 2026-18, Resolution of Intent to Create the West Kootenai Rural Fire District, following receipt of Petition #321421 filed June 12, 2026. The petition was reviewed and determined to meet statutory requirements for creation of a rural fire district. The Board approved the resolution of intent, declaring its intent to create the district and setting a public hearing for July 15, 2026, at 10:45 a.m. at the Lincoln County Annex in Eureka. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve Resolution 2026-18. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.
- The Board discussed entering into the Lincoln County Port Authority trail easement agreement. The easement preserves public access to the existing trail system, with the legal description completed and reviewed prior to approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to enter into the easement agreement. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.
- Commissioners' Report:
 - Commissioner Duram provided an update regarding the Abayance Bay Band Festival, including planned camping at the Fairgrounds. Discussion also included ongoing disaster repairs.

10:23 AM **Public Comment Time Non-Agenda Items:** Present was Kate Stephens. No public comments were received.

10:30 AM **ARP Updates:** No representative was present.

10:45 AM **a) Hall Lakeshore Extension. (b) Davidson Lakeshore Application (Upper Thompson Lake). (c) Rodgers Lakeshore Application (Glen Lake)-Canceled:** Present were Alisha Osborne and Jesse Haag.

Alisha Osborne, Planning Department, presented a request on behalf of landowner Jim Hall to extend the Hall lakeshore permit due to poor weather conditions and delayed seasonal road access affecting project completion. **Motion** by

Commissioner Duram to approve one-year extension for the Hall Lakeshore permit to expire June 26, 2027. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.

Alisha presented the Davidson Lakeshore application for Upper Thompson Lake, proposing a floating dock, stairs, and concrete pad. Discussion included final permit inspection requirements to ensure the project is completed according to the approved plans. James Davidson advised the dock will remain in the lake year around. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the Davidson Lakeshore construction on Upper Thompson Lake with the seven conditions. Second by Commissioner Duram. No public comment. Motion carried.

10:56 AM **Break**

1:34 PM **Budget Discussion:** Present were Dustina Deans, Jesse Haag and Wendy Drake.

The Commission continued budget review, discussing department requests, proposed increases and potential adjustments. Ambulance, Public Health and Extension budgets were reviewed with minimal changes. The Library budget was reviewed in detail, with several line items adjusted to better reflect anticipated needs and available funding. The Planning Department revisited their prior request to replace contracted services with a full-time planner, with discussion of workload demands, revenue impacts and future growth. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to hire an additional Planner for Planning Department and dissolve the contract position. Second by Commissioner Duram. Discussion of continued growth and grant funding opportunities. No public comment. Motion carried. Final budget numbers remain subject to updated revenue and levy information.

2:34 PM **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board