

October 7, 2026

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on October 7, 2026, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Teske, Commissioner Hammons, Commissioner Duram, County Administrator Matt Williams and Clerk and Recorder Corrina Brown.

Zoom participation: Bri Hilyer, Chanel Geer, Danielle Faris, Kathi Hooper, Katie Anderson, Gail Burger, John Boyke, LCCR, Neil R, Nikki Meyer, Noah Pyle, Ray Stout, Roland Jorgenson, Sierra Gustin and Wendy Drake.

10:00 AM Administrative Issues/Old Business: Approve Minutes. ~~County Budget Correction~~. PILT Claims. Claim Approvals. Notices to Proceed. Grant Approvals. Letters of Support. Proclamations & Commendations. County Administrator's Report. Commissioners Report: Present were Brian Berreman, Crawford Dinning, Mike Lee, Patty Rambo, Stuart Crismore and Tony Wickham.

- Approval of Minutes: **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve the September 30, 2026, minutes. Second by Commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.
- PILT Claims: none
- Claim Approvals: none
- Notices to Proceed: none
- Grant Approvals: none
- Letters of Support: none
- Proclamations & Commendations: none
- County Administrator's Report: Administrator Williams reported on election preparations, including recent election administrator training attended by staff and ongoing compliance with statutory deadlines. Absentee ballots are scheduled for mailing Friday and preparations for the upcoming election are proceeding as planned. He also reported researching potential ways to reduce the impact of SRS funds on the County's PILT deduction and expects to present additional information to the Commission in the coming weeks. He noted meeting with Flathead Valley Community College representatives and the contractor overseeing restoration work at the Lincoln County campus. He toured the facility and noted that the resolution on the agenda would provide him with the authority to effectively manage and oversee the project.
- Commissioners Report:
 - Commissioner Duram discussed a proposed easement request involving County property at the Eureka Annex and will consult with legal. He plans to work with MDT to address the existing highway access and pursue an approach permit, which may also support completion of the walking path to Highway 93. He noted a standard utility easement at the airport for electrical service to the hangars and will coordinate with legal and the clerk and recorder staff regarding the easements and legal descriptions.
 - Commissioner Hammons reported that the Montana Weed Control Association is in Lincoln County for its fall weed management training program and will tour the Kootenai Falls area to review weed management efforts and recent trail and other property improvements.

10:15 AM Designate County Administrator as Owner's Representative for FVCC Campus - Resolution 2026-27: Present were Ann German, Brian Berreman, Crawford Dining, Mike Lee, Patty Rambo, Stuart Crismore and Tony Wickham.

Administrator Williams read Resolution 2026-27 designating the county administrator as owner's representative for county facilities for short-term use of county property. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve Resolution 2026-27. Second by Commissioner Duram. Discussion that the \$50,000 limit for new commitments, purchases, contracts, and service agreements is consistent with the County's procurement policy. They discussed the duties and authority outlined in the resolution and noted that the Administrator will provide a consistent point of contact while maintaining communication with Commissioners and their respective districts. Tony Wickham questioned whether the proposed County designation would affect the authority of the Port Authority over decisions involving Port property. Commissioner Teske clarified that the Port Authority is a separate entity with its own board. No further public comment. Motion carried.

10:30 AM Public Comment Time Non-Agenda Items: Present were Ann German, Brian Berreman, Crawford Dining, Mike Lee, Patty Rambo, Stuart Crismore and Tony Wickham.

Mike Lee asked for clarification on election administrator training attendees. Administrator Williams confirmed that Corrina Brown, Clerk and Recorder, also attended.

10:45 AM Final Plat Review: Bottlenose Subdivision & Pitman Subdivision - Planning: Present were Brett McCully, Brian Berreman, Crawford Dining, Kristin Smith, Mike Lee, Patty Rambo, Stuart Crismore and Tony Wickham.

Kristin Smith, Planning, presented the six-lot Bottlenose Subdivision on Farm to Market Road for final plat approval. All conditions of preliminary approval had been met and Planning recommended approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to approve final plat of Bottlenose Subdivision on Dolphin Way. Second by commissioner Hammons. No public comment. Motion carried.

Kristin Smith , Planning, presented the three-lot Pitman Subdivision on Glen Lake Road in the Eureka area. All 16 conditions of preliminary approval had been satisfactorily completed. **Motion** by Commissioner Hammons to approve the final plat of Pitman Subdivision. Second by Commissioner Duram. Commissioners confirmed that access for the subdivision has been resolved, with separate access for Lots 2 and 3 and an existing driveway serving Lot 1. No public comment. Motion carried.

11:00 AM Schools Budget Update: Present were Ann German, Brian Berreman, Mike Lee, Patty Rambo, Stuart Crismore, Suzy Rios and Tony Wickham.

Suzy Rios, County Superintendent of Schools, provided an update on the school budgets and levy process, including changes under House Bill 156. She clarified that the budget presented to the Commission in September is preliminary and does not become final until OPI issues the final mill rates. She reported that levy discrepancies have been corrected in coordination with OPI, with no further action required from the Commission at this time.

11:15 AM **Resolution Appointing Post-Election Audit Committee and Resolution Affirming Time & Location of Polling Locations and Establishing Time & Location of Voting System Performance Testing & Certification:**
Present were Ann German, Brian Berreman, Mike Lee, Patty Rambo, Rosalie Warboys, Sierra Gustin, Stuart Crismore and Tony Wickham.

Administrator Williams read Resolution 2026-29, correcting the addresses of designated polling places and establishing a secure ballot vault service for county residents. The resolution supersedes portions of Resolution 2026-09 and does not change the physical locations of polling places or ballot vaults. **Motion** by Commissioner Duram to adopt Resolution 2026-29. Second by Commissioner Hammons. Commissioners discussed clarifications regarding polling place addresses, the 5:00 p.m. ballot vault deadline and the Sheriff’s concurrence to administer the service. Tony Wickham asked about security procedures for the ballot vaults and voter instructions for absentee ballots. Administrator Williams explained that the Sheriff’s Office will oversee secure retrieval and transport, with at least two individuals involved and a written log maintained. He noted the recent court injunction regarding birth year requirements on ballot envelopes and will provide voters with clear information. Sierra Gustin, election deputy, noted that the ballot instructs voters not to make identifying marks and requested clarification regarding election office staff transporting ballots. Administrator Williams said guidance would be provided. No further public comment. Motion carried.

Administrator Williams announced that voting system performance testing and certification will be held October 13th at 3:00 p.m. at the Election Office at 418 Mineral Ave. Libby, including testing of the ExpressVote machines and tabulator. He advised that the Commission will appoint at least three members to the post-election audit committee, with the appointments to be forthcoming.

11:38 AM **Adjourned**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Brent Teske, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Corrina Brown, Clerk of the Board