

AUGUST 31, 2005

The Board of Lincoln County Commissioners met for a regular session in the courthouse at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Marianne B. Roose, Members Rita R. Windom and John Konzen, and Clerk & Recorder Coral M. Cummings.

9:00 A.M. U.S.F.S. BOB CASTENADA: RE: WILDERNESS EVALUATION REPORT:

Also present was Bill Fansler. The Board of Commissioners read the summary pages of the report and directed questions to Fansler and Castenada. Castenada expressed that there are two extreme groups. One being for more wilderness, and the other being against more wilderness. Chairman Roose expressed her shock at the amount of purple area on Forest Service maps indicating the amount of existing and proposed wilderness area. Currently there are 102,000 acres of existing wilderness area and 90,000 acres of proposed wilderness area. Roose also asked Castenada why was this area recommended as wilderness? Why weren't other options considered? Commissioner Windom said that public comments are that we have enough wilderness area. If IRA'S are put into wilderness it can never be re-visited. Castenada stated that snow mobile use seems to be a major issue. Konzen said that if an area is proposed as wilderness and then snow mobile use is allowed, he sees potential for a lawsuit. The public and biologists need to work together in the protection of wildlife. Commissioner Windom said that she is upset that the structure of GA meetings is defined by the Yaak Forest Council. The rest of us are not being heard or considered. Castenada said that he has to make a proposal, it is important for people to work something out. Is there something that can be agreed upon, and if so what do or what can groups agree upon? Commissioner Konzen mentioned the 10 Lakes Area, and asked if a study group could be put together to get adequate information about its use. Konzen said he feels the Board has put in an adequate effort to work with the Yaak Forest Council. Castenada said the Forest Service will continue with public meetings and will take a look at issues in a collaborative sense. Changes have been made from public comments and changes can still be made. A draft plan will be completed by the end of this year. Castenada said he will keep the Board informed of any changes and the progression of the Wilderness Evaluation Report. A tentative date for further discussion has been scheduled for Monday, September 19. Fansler stated that it is still not too late to make changes. Commissioner Windom commented on the importance of having areas for "driving for pleasure" for the Senior Citizens of our community. There is a concern with the amount of gated roads, non-motorized areas, and bear management areas.

11:00 A.M. COUNTY GRANT WRITER VICKI MUNSON: RE: GRANT WRITER ACTIVITIES:

Munson expressed that she would like to continue working and looking into grants for Lincoln County. Commissioner Windom asked for an update on RCDI grant and Don Harbor project. Munson said she needs to put a hold on Troy and have time to evaluate needs. Munson said she is looking at doing training with other organizations. Commissioner Konzen said Lincoln County needs to be positioned for grants in conjunction with our cities and towns. Konzen said he is targeting November for a workshop entitled Healthy Communities Incentive. Chairman Roose

requested some help for the Eureka area. Commissioner Windom said that she would like to discuss further ideas that she has in mind for grant seeking. Commissioner Konzen said he thought the Port Authority was a goal and that hasn't worked out. Munson said the Port Authority needs to define its needs before she can help and seek grant funding. Konzen said it befuddles him that the Port Authority is the 2nd biggest development for Libby and nothing is developed. Konzen asked Munson for a definition of her grant writing and Munson said she feels she is working for the Board of Commissioners.

11:30 A.M. CHAIRMAN DEL GOSS: RE: LRI – DECAY ORDINANCE: Present were Charles McFarland, Tom Wood, Brent Shrum, Bobby Whitefield, Van Swearinger, Gene McGlasson, Laura McGlasson, Mary E. Johnson, Ruth M. Rice, and Leonard D. Rice, and Del Goss.

A letter was read requesting assistance and the committee's activity in pursuing its objective of community clean up. Goss said the group has had good cooperation from the law enforcement, but expressed disappointment with the sanitarian's lack of activity on this project with no enforcement of violations. Goss asked the Board to actively enforce the decay ordinances with enforcement, monies, and pursuing violations of the ordinance. Commissioner Windom told Goss that our County Planner has been swamped and that an Assistant Planner is being hired and hopes to have this person on board soon. The Board feels the decay ordinance should be moved to the County Sanitarian instead of the County Planner. Goss asked if the Sanitarian could attend his meetings. Chairman Roose said that the Board would need to meet with Ron Anderson to see if he could cooperate. Wood commented that it is working well in the city and it seems a uniformed office carries more weight and he was wondering if the Sheriff could assist. Commissioner Windom and Chairman Roose pointed out that the Board has no authority over the Sheriff. It was suggested that the group meet with the Sheriff and County Attorney to see what can be developed. The group expressed that no response has been forthcoming from the County Planner. Commissioner Konzen said he thinks the Sanitarian's Department will send out letters and if nothing is done, the matter goes to the County Attorney. Konzen said he does not think that the Sheriff plays a role in this issue. Complaints should be submitted to the County Sanitarian and Konzen suggested a monthly meeting with the County Sanitarian. Chairman Roose pointed out the plan needs to be reviewed before put into place. Swearinger reported on the Kalispell signed ordinance when he lived there. There was no effective sign ordinance at that time and the situation became painful. The responsibility was unified under the city manager and the planner took all complaints and sent them to the department it pertained to. Complaints were then reported to the city manager and a 30 day notice was issued. The responsibility of identifying, investigating, and enforcing was thereby dedicated. Homeowners may be sent a bill and/or a lien filed if costs were involved. Gene McGlasson asked if the Sanitarian Department is going to be funded to do this. Will it have the resources? Commissioner Windom said the Board needs to see the plan before any further decisions can be made on this issue. Wood felt the group is premature in asking assurance of the Board when the plan has not been presented. Rice said she would like to hear some assurance that the Board wants to see these ordinances enforced and will support the involved employee's efforts on this project. Commissioner Windom said that she lives in the South end of Libby and sees the violations everyday and right now the Board has other concerns and needs besides this issue. Chairman Roose said she supports the employees but realizes these employees manage their own departments and will not try to do their job. Rice

told the Board that they do have some say on priorities. Wood commented that he works with the Board and if the public hears it is being worked on, and then he feels the job will get done. Commissioner Konzen said the Board makes ordinances and should be responsible. Goss said he feels good about what the Board says and the group is probably impatient and it sounds like the Board is working on this and something will happen. Wood asked if complaint forms are given to the group to review if Ken Peterson could roll them over to Ron Anderson. Chairman Roose told the group that it would be notified of the development of this plan.

1:30 JAMIE A. BREBNER RE: COURT ORDER SURVEY: Present were Sharron Sverdrup, Jamie A Brebner, and Ken E. Davis and County Planner Ken Peterson.

Sverdrup appealed to the Board to pass the Court Order Survey. Brebner owns 20 acres and would like to split this property into 4 – 5 acre lots. Peterson said the property would need a driveway with standard width requirements. Sverdrup explained that Brebner did not charge enough to pay for a new road and that there is a dilemma with a buy/sell agreement currently in place. Commissioner Konzen pointed out that this needs to go through subdivision review. Konzen explained that there are road standards and regulations that need to be met. Konzen further explained that realtors need to understand that property cannot be sold before preliminary plat approval. Davis pointed out that there would need to be health reviews.

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Peterson said the purpose of Court Order Splits are for conflict resolution such as divorce or other extenuating circumstances. Commissioner Windom said the Court Order Split could still be presented to the Judge, but it will not get support from the Board. Commissioner Konzen and Chairman Roose agreed.

1:30 P.M. SUPERINTENDANT OF SCHOOLS, RON HIGGINS RE: RURAL SCHOOL BUDGETS:

Higgins presented the Board with the 05-06 School District Levies.

KEN PETERSON, COUNTY PLANNER:

Subdivisions presented for Signing:

Shannon Flats: A 6 lot major in the N½, Sec. 21, T31N, R33W.

Alfalfa Flats: A 1 lot minor in the SW¼, SW¼, Sec. 4, T36N, R27W.

Costich Lake Meadows: A 5 lot minor in the SE¼, SW¼, Sec. 12, T36N, R27W.

Timber Lake Subdivision: A 2 lot minor in a portion of Sec. 9 & 10, T35N, R26W.

Subdivisions presented for review:

- 1) **Lake Creek Views**
- 2) **Mack Road Subdivision**

OTHER ISSUES:

Public Hearings Scheduled: Public hearing for Kootenai Valley Estates (9 lots) has been scheduled for October 11th at 10:00 a.m. Public hearing for Fairway Terrace (Lot 4 Amended Camp View) has been scheduled for October 11th at 11:00 a.m.

Brief discussions took place pertaining to:

- Lakeshore Construction Complaint/ Christine Lee
- Doug Newmaster Request for Variance – Wants a 40’ easement instead of a 60’ easement.
- GEO Comm Point Discrepancy – Peterson pointed out a discrepancy in the point amounts between Lincoln County and GEO COMM. The Board unanimously agreed to have our County Attorney look into this matter. Chairman Roose stated that nothing will be given out until point numbers have been clarified. Commissioner Windom stated her agreement with this. Commissioner Konzen said that we need to verify points, and get a legitimate account of point numbers.
- G.I.S. Position Applicants – Three applicants will be contacted for interviews.
- Subdivision Regulations Decision

The Board will further review these issues.

Routine business completed the day and the Board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LINCOLN COUNTY

Chairman of the Board

ATTEST: _____

Coral M. Cummings, Clerk of the Board

Marianne B. Roose,