

## MARCH 30, 2005

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

**9:00 A.M. RE: EUREKA OUTREACH UPDATE REPORT:** Present were County Director Thorne Johnson and DPHHS Patty Guiberson. Johnson and Guiberson conveyed that staffing in Eureka needs to be evaluated due to escalating case loads. They now have the ability to do phone interviews with people in the out-laying areas, and they no longer do outreach on a scheduled basis. If they are unable to do the phone interviews then they would send someone out to that person. Most people prefer the phone interviews and it appears to be a positive move. Chairman Roose stated that she disagrees because she feels the personal contact is important. Chairman Roose commented that she foresaw this happening when this service went regional and that she will never be convinced that the phone conversation replaces the personal service. Guiberson said that she agreed that the personal service is better, the problem is the lack of people to do this and that many counties are doing the same. Case loads have gone up (Lincoln County is very high) but staffing has not gone up to cover this increase. The case load does not reflect new people coming into the State, but rather Montana working people who cannot make it. Commissioner Windom asked if they could get statistics on this so that the Board can evaluate the information. Johnson said that she could get that information to the Commissioners. Johnson said that she would like to try this because the "down" time for driving can be utilized on phone interviews. Commissioner Windom asked if the two people who are to retire will be replaced. Guiberson said she does not know at this time. Commissioner Konzen said he understands these folks are trying to plan with the hand they were dealt. The group discussed concern about fraud with phone interviews. Guiberson said she does not believe fraud is as high as thought, and that DPHHS have a tight control over this program. Errors could create loss of federal funding. Commissioner Windom said the Board is upset about the services the county is losing such as Job Service and the Driver's License Examiner and she also asked if Lincoln County would be dealing with "population" centers instead of local services. Guiberson said that she realizes many of the services have gone away and she hopes services will not have to be "centralized". Chairman Roose asked who was ultimately responsible for this decision. Guiberson said that there are people above her, but she was included in the decision. Johnson said that she initially made the recommendation and that she would have liked to have more staff to place in Lincoln County. The target date will be May 1<sup>st</sup>. Chairman Roose said the DPHHS is renting space in the Eureka Annex building and asked if they will continue to do this. Johnson said the State has a two year lease period and asked if the county will release the State from this lease agreement on May 1. Marcita would still be in the office and would pay her portion (still would come from the State).

### **10:00 A.M. RE: SHERIFF DARYL ANDERSON, SEARCH AND RESCUE:**

Anderson requested a reimbursement from Title III funds in the amount of \$38,314 for mileage costs on Federal land. This includes boats, vehicles and training. Commissioner Konzen opened the discussion to increase S & R funds from 25% to 50%. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to accept David Thompson Search & Rescue request for Title III funds and to pay 50% of the

training costs and 100% of the rescue costs per audit. Seconded by Commissioner Windom. Motion carried by quorum.

**ATTORNEY AMY GUTH, RE: PUBLIC DEFENDER COSTS:**

Amy will make an appointment with the Commissioners on April 6<sup>th</sup>, including other parties on the public defender budget.

**10:30 A.M. CABINET VIEW FIRE SERVICE AREA CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING TO FINALIZE PROCESS:** Present were Fire Chief Dale Sabine, Kathryn Witt, Bruce Witt, Austin Canavan, Lloyd Miller, Robert Mast, Tiffany Bower, Brent Shrum and Al Canavan.

Decisions to be made today during this meeting are:

Fee Structure

Boundaries

Option of exempting out

**MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to continue to move forward with the creation of the new Cabinet View Fire Service Area boundaries with the following guidelines:

1. Boundaries to be set five driving miles from the fire station
2. No parcels of property may opt out
3. Fees to be set at \$125 per residence/dwelling, and \$75 per business

Second by Commissioner Konzen and so ordered upon consensus of the Board by Chairman Roose. Commissioner Konzen questioned "parcel" as being the right wording. Possibly may use the wording "residential dwelling". Discussion of rentals took place and how to determine fees for this. Coral M. Cummings will draw up a resolution to be signed and a 60 day comment period will begin effective today.

**RE: INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR W.I.C.**

Commissioner Konzen signed Amendment Number One to Contract Number 05-07-521-013-0 for W.I.C. to increase funding from \$76,665 to 85,078, an increase of \$8,413.

**1:30 P.M. COUNTY PLANNER KEN PETERSON: RE: PRELIMINARY SUBDIVISION REVIEW:**

**Subdivisions presented for approval:**

- 1) Taylor Peak Subdivision: A 2 Lot minor in a portion of the NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Sec. 4, T30N, R33W. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to approve subject to planning staff recommendations. Second by Commissioner Windom, and so ordered upon consensus of the Board by Chairman Roose.

**Subdivisions presented for review:**

McGinnis Hills Subdivision Phase 1

Timber Lake Subdivision

**Approved & Signed:**

Amended Plat of Lot 1 French Creek Subdivision in the NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, Sec. 25, T31N, R34W for Bolle.

**BOARD APPROVED CERTIFICATES OF SURVEY & PLATS FOR RECORDING:**

- 1) C. of S. in Sec. 25, T36N, R25W for Florey.
- 2) C. of S. in Sec. 12, T36N, R28W for Bigham & Nelson.
- 3) C. of S. in Sec. 20, T31N, R33W for Cole, Merritt, & Ninneman
- 4) C. of S. in Sec. 3, T36N, R27W for Stamper.
- 5) Plat of Jakes Run, Sec. 25, T37N, R27W for Workman.

**RE: NOEL WILLIAMS, RENO FOREST COUNCIL MEETING:**

Discussion of salary and a new contract took place. The Board authorized \$300 from Title III funds for William's trip to Reno. **MOTION** carried by quorum.

**RE: COUNTY PLANNER KEN PETERSON, GPS POSITION:**

Peterson conveyed that he has had feedback of wages for the GPS position of \$45,000-50,000, but feels this is a little high for Lincoln County. Peterson said some things need to be added to the County Planner job requirements as he will be retiring and it would be wise to start training

someone for his position. **MOTION** carried by quorum to approve grade 12 as the starting wage for the GPS position.

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**RE: TAX ABATEMENT REQUEST:**

Tax abatement order signed by Chairman Roose for Mustang Ornamental Glass & Iron and Kitty Foster of Eureka, MT., Parcel #106508. **MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to approve and sign. Second by Chairman Roose, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

**RESOLUTION APPROVALS AND SIGNATURES:**

**Resolution No. 695: A Resolution creating the (Altered) Cabinet View Fire Service Area.** The area is created effective 60 days after passage of this resolution unless by that date more than 50% of the property owners of the proposed fire service area protest its creation, pursuant to 7-33-2401(2)(d) (MCA). **MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to approve and sign. Second by Commissioner Konzen upon consensus of the Board.

**RE: TAX DEED, FARAG PROPERTY:**

Discussion took place and the Board decided that they need to look at Farag's property more closely. **MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to instigate the process of acquiring the tax deed of five properties of George & Annie Farag. Second by Commissioner Roose. Motion carried by quorum.

**MONTH END TOTALS FOR FEBRUARY 2005 PER  
ADDENDUM OF PAYROLL WAS:**

Total payroll approved for the month of February 2005 was:  
\$ 336,621.12

Total employer payroll contributions for February 2005 were:  
\$ 127,094.44

Total payroll and payroll contributions for February 2005 was:  
\$ 463,715.56

Total warrants approved and paid for February 2005 was: \$  
444,770.70

Total payroll, contributions & warrants for February 2005 was:  
\$ 908,486.26

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**LINCOLN COUNTY**

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**Chairman of the Board**

**Marianne B. Roose,**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Coral M. Cummings, Clerk of the Board**