

MAY 11, 2005

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

8:30 A.M. VERN PETERSON: RE: MONTANA JOINT POWERS TRUST (MJPT) STATEWIDE HEALTH PLAN RENEWAL: Premiums for FY 05-06 will be up 14% this year. Peterson told the Board that Lincoln County's premium will be up 22%, and that MJPT is trying to control costs. Peterson said that some hospitals will give Medicare (in patient) rates and this could save millions. MJPT is now trying to manage claims by staffing to review claims for preventative health measures. Peterson said that he is looking at health awareness for the employees. Fixed costs are about 7% but this is lower than Blue Cross. The plan wants to stay solvent and has moved into Wyoming schools, cities, and other counties. This is being done carefully to keep from jeopardizing the Montana program. Any non profit entity can be in the group. The Board recommended that Kalispell Regional Medical Center and Deaconess Hospital in Spokane be looked at as hospitals in the plan at Medicare rates.

9:00 A.M. JIM CHRISTIANSEN EPA: Also present were Peggy Churchill, Catherine LeCours, Craig Myers, Wendy Thom, and Brent Shrum. Christiansen told the Board that there are currently two big projects for the County in progress at this time; J. Neils and Stimson Central Maintenance Building. Also the ball fields at J. Neils Park. Christiansen said EPA has completed the clean-up to more houses and are looking at doing up to 220 more this year. Three companies are viable and all have done a good job. EPA has up to twelve properties going at one time and will probably stay at that pace through the summer. EPA is still looking at a Field Manager for this project, probably will be on deck in a couple more weeks. Christiansen said he will stay on as team leader, but will not be in Libby continually. The Loomis house is earmarked for demolition. Legal agreements and details are lengthy and expensive. EPA is planning on doing two training sessions for contractors and trades people on June 7th & 8th. June 7th session will be to discuss the situation in Libby and to develop a system to make it easy to do the right things. June 8th session will be a more detailed session. Various other topics were discussed with the Board.

10:00 A.M. NICK MENZIES RE: SIERRA INSTITUTE (FORMERLY KNOWN AS FOREST COMMUNITIES): Also present were Peggy Churchill, Jim Christiansen, Catherine LeCours, Craig Myers, Wendy Thom, and Brent Shrum.

Menzies said the Sierra Institute is working with groups and its focus is on assessments of what is going on in the Title II and Title III grant programs with counties, F.S., and BLM. The S.I. has been asked to do a review of public law concerning Title II and Title III. This information will be compiled into a final report for the legislators to help them determine future Title III appropriation decisions. Menzies said that counties in Pennsylvania do only Title III but

Montana is a very important part of this program. Chairman Roose pointed out the education benefits in Lincoln County, and explained that the top 15% goes to Title II and Title III projects and 1/3 of the balance goes to the State of Montana for education and 2/3 goes to the county road fund. Menzies directed specific questions to the Board. Menzies asked the Board about distribution of funds, uses of funds, advantages of the RAC Committee and its operation, effectiveness of the committee and its projects, and how the Board views the future of the RAC committee. A preliminary report will go to the internal review for consistency, with copies to the Board of Commissioners in counties and a request for feedback. Account of that feedback will be taken and then goes to final reports (there will be 16). The F.S., BLM and Congress will receive these reports. The Board of Commissioners will receive a copy of the 1st study in June or July and a copy of the final report in September.

1:30 P.M. COUNTY PLANNER KEN PETERSON: RE: SUBDIVISION & PLAT

ISSUES: Also present was Brett McCully. Peterson told the Board the developers who are subdividing are having no problems with roads, but bridges seem to be a problem for five or less families, with the question of providing a 24' bridge in these cases. Commissioner Windom pointed out precedence up Bobtail that has a 12' bridge. Peterson suggested to put on plat or covenants that if subdivision increases by further subdividing a larger bridge must be provided by the developer. McCully noted that Cooks Run II was approved by the county with a 12' – 14' bridge. Now there will be a subdivision of seven additional lots that uses the bridge, so a question of size has become an issue. The Board felt this bridge should be upgraded to a 24' bridge. McCully requested a variance on the bridge on Cooks Run II. The Board will review the bridge next week when they meet in Eureka before making a final decision.

RE: GEOCOMM, INC. CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT:

Peterson reported on GeoComms progress and presented to the Board the Contractual Agreement between Lincoln County Commission and GeoComm, Inc. The Board approved and signed the Phase II Contractual Agreement. The Lincoln County Commission agrees to pay GeoComm a total of \$37,389 in five monthly payments as outlined in Exhibit B of the Contractual Agreement. **MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to approve and sign Phase II Contractual Agreement. Second by Commissioner Konzen, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

2:00 P.M. RE: DISPATCH REMODEL: Kramer Enterprises of Kalispell believe they can shave costs to approximately \$85,000 with several ideas reconsidered. The original amount was \$105,000. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to approve expenditure of \$85,000 as follows:

Fund 2900 P.I.L.T \$50,000

Fund 2902 Title III \$35,000

Total \$85,000

Second by Commissioner Windom, and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

2:30 P.M. COUNTY SANITARIAN RON ANDERSON: RE: AIR QUALITY UPDATE:

Also present were Gary Smith, John Crouch, Jack Goldman, Bob Habeck, Vicki Munson, Debra Wolfe, Jerry Marquez, and Gary Huntsberger.

Anderson told the Board that it will cost approximately \$165,000 up front to start the wood stove change-out program. A Stove Fair is scheduled for June 18. A public discussion will take place explaining the two year program. Jerry Marquez will be visiting applicants after the stove fair as prioritization progresses and the first 300 families closest to the monitoring area are identified. H.P.B.A. will be the sponsor for year one of this project, and Vickie Munson will work on grant funding for year two.

3:00 P.M. SANDY SHARKY KNOX: RE: C.H.O.I.C.E.S. PROGRAM:

Knox told the Board that she has applied for a \$40,000 dollar grant. Knox said that she is having a problem with Youth Court Services and she hasn't been able to get a lot done that she had planned. Knox said that census is down and that it is the lowest she has ever seen (has only two residents). Commissioner Konzen conveyed that the enrollment in schools is down about 200 kids. Preparations are being made for closing the facility. A final examination from the State is scheduled for June 9th. Employees will be given a 30-day notice. **MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to notify the employees of the closing of the C.H.O.I.C.E.S. program on June 30th, 2005. It was recognized that the ownership of the equipment and furniture in the facility belongs to the county. Second by Commissioner Konzen, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

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3:30 P.M. FISHER RIVER VALLEY FIRE SERVICE AREA (F.R.V.F.S.A.): RE: DISCUSSION OF BOUNDARIES: A discussion on the boundaries of the Fisher River F.S. Area took place. **MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to approve the

amended boundaries of F.R.V.F.S.A expanded boundaries subject to the identification and exemption as presented. Second by Commssioner Konzen and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 701 A RESOLUTION TO CREATE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT PORT AUTHORITY:

MOTION by Commissioner Windom to approve the creation of an Industrial District and that the Lincoln County Port Authority serve as the Industrial District Board. Second by

Commissioner Konzen and so ordered upon consensus of the Board. Discussion was held concerning Calvin St. Onge's request from exemption due to distance from the Fire Hall. **MOTION** by Commissioner Windom to approve the alteration of the F.R.V.F.S.A. subject to identification and exemption of Calvin St. Onge's dwelling parcel. Second by Commissioner Konzen and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

WEED MANAGER DAN WILLIAMS: RE: NOXIOUS WEED GRANT: MOTION by Commissioner Konzen to approve and sign Noxious Weed Grant #MDA 2005-711 presented by Dan Williams. Second by Commissioner Windom and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

BOARD APPROVED CERTIFICATES OF SURVEY & PLATS FOR RECORDING:

- 1) C. of S. in Sec. 30, T31N, R33W for Stapley.
- 2) C. of S. in Sec. 23, T37N, R27W for Wachholz.
- 3) C. of S. in Sec. 20, T30N, R33W for Maontan Mountain Valley, L.L.C./Kreshel
- 4) C. of S. in Sec. 24, T33N, R26W for Hollman

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LINCOLN COUNTY

Chairman of the Board

Marianne B. Roose,

ATTEST: _____

Coral M. Cummings, Clerk of the Board