

MARCH 15, 2006

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session at the Eureka Annex Building at 10:00 o'clock a.m. with two members present: Chairman Marianne B. Roose, Member John C. Konzen, and Clerk of the Board Coral M. Cummings.

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES:

The Board reviewed applicants for consultants for the Lincoln County Growth Policy Plan. Only one applicant had submitted a proposal. Applied Communications from Whitefish submitted the proposal. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to take the submittal under advisement and review before a decision is made. Second by Chairman Roose and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 727: A Resolution to amend Fund 2979, Air Quality Wood Stove Grant Program in the amount of \$985,200 (increase of revenue and expenditures) per receipt of a grant for the Phase 2 portion of the Woodstove Changeout Program, Grant No. XA-97831701-0, an EPA Grant. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to approve Resolution No. 727. Second by Chairman Roose and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

The Board reviewed and signed various letters.

TAX ABATEMENT: Parcel 54278, Tax Year 2005, for Al and Melissa Carrigan. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to approve. Second by Chairman Roose and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

Commissioner Konzen discussed the issue of getting sand for winter use, and said his source has been exhausted. The remaining source he has is a private owned location, and the owner is offering to sell the county 15 acres that includes the sand location for \$85,000. He pointed out that the county does not need this much land, but the owner will only sell the total parcel and the county does need the sand. The Board felt this was a necessary purchase for the county. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to proceed with giving the District Court Judge 3 names to appraise the property and move forward with the CMA that is required. Second by Commissioner Roose and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

REQUEST FOR COURT-ORDER SPLIT: Donald Burrell in estate of Evelyn Burrell, a 1.4 acre court order split to settle the estate.

MOTION by Commissioner Konzen to approve court order split. Second by Chairman Konzen and so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

REQUEST FOR ANNEXATION TO LINCOLN COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT:

The Board received a request from Chairman Dick Woods, Lincoln County Rural Fire Board, to annex property as listed below, with signed petitions from 100% of the landowners. Property is located in the SW1/4 SW1/4 Sec. 25, T31N, R31W and is adjacent to the Lincoln County Rural Fire District. The property owners were Tungsten Holdings, Spencers and Nixons.

MOTION by Commissioner Konzen to accept the request. Second by Chairman Roose and so ordered upon consensus of the Board. The Board requested the Clerk & Recorder to research the legal and petition information and set a date for a public hearing according to Montana Codes.

MIKE CUMMINS, FLATHEAD VALLEY CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY:

Also present were: Rick James, Eureka Office of Alcohol Center; Mark Clark, County-wide director.

Cummins told the Board it will be 3 years last July since the Board of Commissioners asked them to take over this program, and Chairman Roose serves on the Board, also. They submit reports to her to share with other members of the Board. He said the Alcohol Board is still comfortable with how the program is going, even though some funding cuts have come from the Bush administration. He submitted a monthly client number report to the Board for Fiscal year 2004, 05, and 06. He said they have five licensed counselors in Lincoln County. The Board of Commissioners commended the group for its efforts to curb underage drinking and feels the county attorney should be involved in this program.

Commissioner Konzen asked if the group has funding to deal with meth problems, and Cummins said that alcohol is still the biggest problem, not "meth". He said the adult contract for Lincoln County is \$139,000, but used that money up last year by May and had to rely on self-pays and Medicaid, which has to be billed, and they had \$38,000 last year in medicaid.

The group thanked the Board of Commissioners for its support in this program.

DR. DES GRAHAM: Re: Tax #106715:

Request for a refund in the amount of \$291.73 due to an over estimate of value of equipment in his office. The Dept. of Revenue had sent a notice of the assessment and he did not respond to them and identify the true value of his equipment. He requested a fair tax refund in the amount of \$291.73. Mr. Graham has paid the full amount of taxes due plus interest and penalty and is requesting a refund for the overpayment as the taxable valuation has been corrected and will be correct on next year's taxes. The Board will take this under review.

REP. RICK MAEDJE:

Re: request for a ballot issue on the Roadless issue on the Primary Ballot. Maedje said the Board of Commissioners in Flathead County voted today to put on the Primary ballot.

Commissioner Konzen told Maedje that Governor Scheitzer has talked about the roadless area and asked the Board's input, and has been specific in his request. Konzen said the debate has been "we don't need to debate the RA's, we need to look at marketable timber in our county, and we talked about this last fall". Konzen said the Board is concerned about the management areas and so is the Governor.

Maedje said the issue is, this is the last time we will have our foot in the door on these management plans, and we need something to require the management rules not be changed without input from the counties. Maedje said the Secretary of Agriculture said a management plan should be in play here, and asked the Board if it has called them.

Commissioner Konzen said he has not called them, but is working with the Governor, and doesn't feel a ballot issue will properly address this issue.

GLEN CAMERON: MONTANA DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION:

Re: Speed study in the Fortine Area. The Board had requested a study to be done on Highway 93 in the Fortine area, from the Mercantile north to Cemetery Road. Cameron said the only single vehicle accidents were animal related and there is no support for a reduction of speed in this area, and the 70 mile per hour speed is currently in effect. The study revealed no change is required.

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Cameron also spoke to the Board on the recommendation he had made on Highway 37, and said the state will stage a slow down of 70, 60, and then to 50 up to the 4-corner area on Highway 37 up to Highway 93. For Eureka North, he said the state did not recommend extending the 35 mile per hour zone farther north before increasing to 45.

Cameron had not heard from the Board of Commissioners on the two decisions, so the Board directed a letter be submitted by the Board immediately on these decisions. Chairman Roose did not concur with their Eureka North recommendation due to continuous growth in the area.

SUE GILLEN: EUREKA AMBULANCE:

Re: Title III monies. The Board explained to Gillen what constituted Title III reimbursement for services on Federal Lands, and simply crossing Federal Lands did not qualify. Gillen also asked the Board about a ballot issue to increase the mills for Ambulance for equipment. The Clerk & Recorder will get her the information for a ballot issue for the General Election and prepare some fact sheets for the Ambulance Board to use in promoting the ballot issue.

Signed Final Plat of Timber Glen Subdivision in the NW 1/4 NE1/4 and NE1/4 NW1/4 Sec. 26 T36N R26W.

Business was concluded and the Board adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

COMMISSIONERS

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF

Marianne B. Roose, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Coral M. Cummings, Clerk of the Board