

March 29, 2006

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular meeting in the Courthouse at 9:30 a.m. with all members present: Chairman Marianne B. Roose, Members Rita R. Windom and John C. Konzen, Executive Assistant Bill Bischoff, and Deputy Clerk Robin A. Cerny.

9:30 A.M.: CONFERENCE CALL WITH WR GRACE:

Present were:	Bill Patten	St. John's Lutheran Hospital
	Jeannie Gentry	St. John's Lutheran Hospital
Net	Karol Spas	Lincoln County Health Department/ARD
	Sandy Wagner	First National Insurance
Board	Brad Black	C.A.R.D. Director/Lincoln County Health
	Mike Gieseey	C.A.R.D.
	Kaiellen Bucher	LAMP Project Coordinator
	Kelly Toren	LAMP Coordinator
	LeRoy Thom	LAMP Program
	Brent Shrum	Western News
	Duane Williams	KLCB/KTNY Radio
Via Phone:	Jodie Peters	Senator Burns Office
	Denise Smith	Senator Burns Office
	Kirby Campbell	Senator Baucus Office
	Matt Jones	Senator Baucus Office

Bill Corcoran

Vice President for WR Grace

Commissioner Windom opened the meeting with introductions and thanked everyone for attending. Wagner said the group wants to coordinate with WR Grace a Health Care Program that treats the patient's needs as well as the disease. The goal is to have a Trust Fund Health Care Plan governed at a local level. Patten said from the hospital's perspective a need is for a long-term solution. The concern is how long the current plan will stay in place. Giesey confirmed the need for a long-term solution to meet the needs of this community governed locally. Spas said a need for state-of-the-art equipment and physicians to diagnose symptoms combined with the ability to help patients carry out daily living activities such as mowing lawns, vacuuming, and other needs that become difficult with a debilitating respiratory disease. Spas reminded everyone present that these people are our neighbors, friends and family. Dr. Black agreed that a Trust Fund with local management is necessary. Thom said the LAMP Program has paid for services that have been denied by Grace. The problem is it will eventually run out of funds and the community needs a Health Trust Plan that will continue to meet the needs in Libby. Chairman Roose said she supports all the comments that have been made and feels the request being made for a long term trust fund is worthy. Chairman Konzen said the asbestos bill has been struggling in the senate and asked if the Trust Plan would help pass this bill. Peters said that Senator Burns' interest is that Montana folks are taken care of and he does want to help repair the community. There is a lot of controversy with this bill and Senator Burns will continue to make efforts but feels the Trust Plan would not be a factor with the bill passing legislation. Jones said Senator Baucus' top priority is the situation in Libby and the health care issue, but a Trust Plan would not clear the way for the asbestos bill. Commissioner Konzen said the issue is more than complicated due to the bankruptcy of WR Grace and is it possible to create a Trust outside of bankruptcy. Corcoran said a Trust would have to be approved by the courts. Corcoran expressed appreciation for the tremendous concern from Libby. Commissioner Windom asked Corcoran if there is an opportunity for more discussion. Corcoran said yes, that Grace is prepared to continue discussion to move forward. Corcoran expressed frustration in having to continually defend the current Libby Medical Plan and said it would be easier to discuss if there was a more positive and emotional way. Commissioner Windom said she understands working under negative feedback, but the need is to push forward in the most positive way possible to find a solution. Patten expressed to Corcoran that discussion would be a new topic of finding a long-term permanent solution for Libby. Corcoran said he would entertain any good ideas to move forward. Commissioner Windom asked what the next step would be. Wagner suggested possibly putting together a work group of people from Libby and WR Grace. Corcoran said he will need to

take today's comments & ideas back to his leadership team. A tentative date to meet again with WR Grace is scheduled for April 12th. Corcoran said it would benefit him if he had a scale figure or financial data before the next meeting. Corcoran said WR Grace has given approximately 9 million since 2000 or about 1.5 million per year for the past 6 years. Corcoran said his expectations and projections are 1 to 2 million a year for 10 years and then declining at that time. Gentry said the information gathered for these projected figures is incomplete and not representative of total cost from a hospital standpoint. Gentry said what the Trust Plan covers still needs to be defined. Corcoran again said he would like to have a scale figure to bring to his people before the next meeting. Bucher said she would check on the cost of having an actuary study done and get back to Commissioner Windom with this information. Local medical people at today's meeting will meet on April 4th, 2:00 pm, at the hospital conference room to further discuss this issue.

11:00 A.M.: ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES:

MOTION by Commissioner Windom to prioritize bridges with Pipe Creek 121 Structure #L27340000+06001 to be first and Kootenai River 070 Structure #L27411000+01001 to be completed 2nd. Second by Commissioner Konzen, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

MOTION by Commissioner Konzen to waive all county fees associated with the Business Park located at the old airport. Second by Commissioner Windom, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

MOTION by Commissioner Windom to approve Contract/Amendment #06-7-5-21-013-0 for the Provisions of WIC Services. Second by Commissioner Konzen, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

MOTION by Commissioner Windom to allow Commissioner Konzen to move forward with a proposal to purchase property. Property consist of 15.7 acres and is located near Troy. Second by Chairman Roose, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

MOTION by Commissioner Konzen to approve Highway Traffic Safety Office Contract #2006-13-01-11 for Lincoln County Equipment. Second by Commissioner Windom, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

Executive Assistant Bill Bischoff will send out an employee memo pertaining to **processing outgoing county mail.**

1:30 PM: COUNTY PLANNER KEN PETERSON & ASSISTANT PLANNER MARY KLINKAM: Present were Larry Sverdrup and Ken E. Davis.

MOTION by Commissioner Konzen to approve court order division submitted by Bill Douglas for JR Ranch. Second by Commissioner Windom, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

MOTION to approve court order division submitted by Larry Sverdrup for James M. Dale. Second by Commissioner Windom, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

PLANNING BOARD DISCUSSION:

Assistant Planner Mary Klinkam submitted names of members on the Planning Board with terms as follows:

Carl Leggins, Pres. 1-Year Term	2-Year Term	Lloyd Bridges
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Chris Fox, V. Pres. 1-Year Term	2-Year Term	Tom Jones
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David Johnson 1-Year Term	2-Year Term	Joe Kelly
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Mike Marvel 1-Year Term	2-Year Term	Hank LaSala
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Paul Tisher	2-Year Term	
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A brief discussion took place about hiring a consultant during the beginning stages to assist the Planning Board with Resource Assessment Data.

MOTION by Commissioner Konzen to hire Kathleen McMahon, AICP, Applied Communications out of Whitefish, MT as the consultant to do Phase I (Resource Assessment) for the Growth Plan (consultant for Planning Board) in the amount of \$11,480 to be paid from Metal Mines Fund 2896. Second by Commissioner Windom, so ordered upon consensus of the Board. The Board discussed a webpage or email address for the Planning Board.

No Subdivisions were presented or preliminary plat approvals on this date.

2:30 PM: YAAK SCHOOL APPLICATION FOR ISOLATION STATUS:

Present were Superintendent of Schools Ron Higgins, Nancy Trotter Sutton, and Peggy Williams.

Isolation Classification can be applied by schools when enrollment goes below 10 students for 2 years in a row. Currently Yaak School has 8 students this year and projected to have 7 students during the school year in 2007. **MOTION** by Commissioner Konzen to approve isolation status and recommend it to the State Office of Public Instruction. Second by Commissioner Windom, so ordered upon consensus of the Board.

BOARD APPROVED CERTIFICATES OF SURVEY & PLATS FOR RECORDING:

#3511 C. of S. in Sec. 29, T31N, R31W for John Landon.

#3512 C. of S. in Sec. 8, T26N, R28W for Plum Creek Timberlands L.P.

#6694 Amended Plat Lot 2 of Crowell Creek Subdivision in Sec. 17, T29N, R33W for Dan Lyle & Mary Lillian Derby.

#6695 Plat of Iron Creek Subdivision in Sec. 18, T31N, R33W for Cecil McDougal.

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

OF COMMISSIONERS

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD

Chairman

Marianne B. Roose,

ATTEST: _____

Robin A. Cerny, Deputy Clerk