

June 11, 2008

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on June 11, 2008, in the Lincoln County Courthouse. Present were Commissioner Windom, Commissioner Konzen, Commissioner Roose, Bill Bischoff and Clerk and Recorder Tammy D. Lauer.

9:30 AM: Commissioner Windom called the meeting to order with the pledge of Allegiance.

9:31 AM: **Marc McGill:** The Commissioners requested that Marc take over as Safety Committee Chairman for the County. This position has been vacant since December of 2007. Marc said that the Safety program is a 20 hours per week job. Commissioner Roose said that we do not have the funding for a major program. Commissioner Windom asked Marc to get the book from MACO and look through it. Commissioner Konzen explained that they are aware of what other counties are doing with their safety programs and they do not have full time programs.

10:00 AM: **EPA:** Ted Linnert, Paul Peronard, Mike Cirian, Catherine LeCours, Peggy Williams, Dr. David Williamson, Ted Larson, Doug, Brent Shrum, Jeremie Vella, Kathi Hooper, Barnes Johnson, Dan, On the phone: Montana DEQ, DPHHS, Tony Berget, Kirby from Sen. Baucus' office, Region 8 representatives, Dr. Frumpton, and Virginia from Tester's office. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry has sent Dr. David Williamson and the EPA has sent Barnes Johnson to announce the ATSDR Libby Amphibole Heath Risk initiative. This will provide 8 million dollars over the next 5 years for health research in Libby. Not much is known about the asbestos in Libby and so some important questions need to be answered. They expect many universities to apply to carry out the research. They want existing research to continue and new ideas to be used as well. They hope to address long standing concerns in the Libby area. Barnes said that EPA cleanup will continue and this has no bearing on it and is separate from that. Dr. Williamson said that his office is available for questions. Commissioner Windom asked what kind of infrastructure will be needed. Dr Williamson said he didn't know yet. Commissioner Konzen asked how many colleges are currently involved in asbestos research. Dr. Williamson can name at least 6 that are very engaged including the University of Cincinnati, Harvard, University of Michigan, Washington State University and Mount Sinai University. Commissioner Roose asked how this will interact with the CARD Clinic. He said that they see this as a partnership with CARD and he has a meeting with Dr Black in a couple of hours. CARD can do clinicals but not research. Commissioner Konzen commended them for putting this together. This community has wanted this for years. Commissioner Windom also thanked them for bringing this news and wondered if the money would go through MASA. Dr. Williamson said that the university that does the research will decide that based on what is best for everyone. They will set up the field station after the selection process is over in early 2009. This initiative carries on the current projects but also has flexibilities and will also address auto-immune diseases. Commissioner Konzen wondered if findings are very negative is there a chance that the area will be declared superfund again. Barnes said that if findings show they underestimated the risk they will evaluate the additional risk. Paul pointed out that in Colorado they had a program where they did some blood sampling. They have found more problems and dealt with that. Monitoring will only indicate if the clean up is working. There was a question about declaring a Public Health Emergency. Public Health Emergency means that the government will step in and provide medical care. This study will very likely not result in that. The government doesn't have the money available. Commissioner Windom asked about the rumor that Paul Peronard is leaving the Libby project. Paul said that he will be replaced by the end of the year. Commissioner Konzen and Commissioner Windom both said that they were very upset to hear that because they felt that the project will be compromised. Commissioner Windom asked what type of overseer Libby would have after Paul leaves our area. Paul said that he doesn't know what EPA is looking for in a replacement. He imagines that the person will be here at least as much as he is. Barnes thanked them for expressing concern about the change and will take it back to the main office. Commissioner Konzen said that there is a history with Paul that cannot be duplicated. He feels that it is a critical loss. Tony Berget asked if it is possible to have the County Commissioners meet the candidates for the position and have some input. Commissioner Konzen said they have done that with the Forest Supervisors in the past. Paul reported that cleanup is not going well right now. This year is different from past years because one of the clean up companies did not follow the proper procedures and had to be turned down for the jobs. Catherine reported on Troy. Troy started last week on investigations. They have identified 3 or 4 sites for quick response. Commissioner Konzen asked about the red flags on Callahan creek. They identify asbestos areas. DEQ and WR Grace entered into an agreement which is the same as EPA's with WR Grace. She said the money will be managed by the State. The majority of the assessments with be done in Troy by August. Full scale clean up will be planned after the assessments.

11:25 AM: **Noel Williams called about Plum Creek issues.** The Commissioners read a letter from him and discussed it. The Commissioners agreed to send a letter to Tester and Rehberg voicing their concerns.

11: 42 AM: The Commissioners discussed the **ad in the paper about mining.** The Hard Rock mining board was very impressed with the article as well as other County Commissioners that had seen it.

1:30 PM: **Debbie Blystone** met with the Commissioners to discuss the resolution establishing a policy for the standardization of property addresses and road naming for Lincoln County that Ken Peterson had brought before the Commissioners in the past weeks. Commissioner Konzen moved to adopt **Resolution 804.** Commissioner Roose seconded and it was so moved.

1:45 PM: **John Damon** from Kootenai Surveyors stopped by to talk to the Commissioners about a proposed project in the Fortine area. Hunter Ridge is the proposed name for an 11 lot subdivision. They may be asking for a variance because the road is slightly longer than 1000 feet. He has been assured by Fire Services that they would be able to get their equipment in and out of the subdivision. The road will be 28 feet wide with two cul-de-sacs. The Commissioners agreed that he is on the right track with the wider road and the cul-de-sacs and it should be fine.

2:01 PM: **Warland Subdivision:** Marquardt is requesting an extension. The Commissioners will look at it next week.

2:02 PM: The Commissioners read a letter requesting that Ron Downey be reappointed to the **Troy Rural Fire Board.** Commissioner Konzen moved to approve the reappointment. Commissioner Roose seconded and it was so moved.

2:15 PM: The Commissioners met in executive session for **personnel issues.**

2:35 PM: **Karol Spas, County Health Nurse,** came to discuss the Family Planning funds. The MCH grant was \$21,352.00. Last year Family Planning received \$13,000 and the county health nurse about \$7,500. Carol wants to know if the Commissioners want to give them the same as before. Commissioner Roose moved to give the Family Planning \$13,223 and the County Health Nurse keep the rest. Commissioner Konzen seconded and it was so moved.

2:59 PM: The Commissioners read the **minutes of the June 4, 2008 meeting.** Commissioner Roose moved to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Konzen seconded and it was so moved.

3:01 PM: An employee has resigned in the **Department of Motor Vehicles** and Nancy will need to replace her.

3:05 PM: The Commissioners agreed to offer the current juries break room on the main floor of the annex to the new **EDD Director**. This office will be provided as Lincoln County's in kind contribution to the four County EDD without administrative support. The new jury break room will be the old switchboard room.

3:06 PM: The meeting was **adjourned**.

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Rita R. Windom, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Tammy D. Lauer, Clerk of the Board