

## SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

The Board of County Commissioners met for a regular session in the Lincoln County Courthouse at 10:00 a.m. with all members present: Chairman John Konzen, Marianne B. Roose and Anthony Berget, Executive Assistant Bill Bischoff, and Deputy Clerk & Recorder Robin A. Benson.

10:00 A.M. Chairman John Konzen opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

10:01 A.M. **H1N1 Flu Update:** Present were Lincoln County Emergency Services Director Vic White, Lincoln County Public Health & Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Amy Smart, Brent Shrum, Rita Windom, Peggy Williams, and Brad Fuqua.

Amy Smart explained the H1N1 vaccine is currently being produced and may be available as soon as mid October. The vaccine will be administered to groups by importance. Rita said the administration of the vaccine is a Government funded program and there are concerned citizens about the vaccine's cost as well as availability to people age 65 and over. She would like the County Health Board to take a closer look at this. Amy agreed that Lincoln County does have a special population with a larger percentage of Senior Citizens with lung disease. Amy said the vaccine will be administered through county health departments and should be free of charge, and will follow through with the County Board of Health to clarify and address these concerns.

The H1N1 flu has been confirmed in the state, but there have been no confirmed cases in Lincoln County. Amy has sent information from the CDC to schools and businesses to educate the public and help prevent the spread of any flu. Information from CDC is stating the H1N1 flu is not more severe than typical seasonal flu's, although the H1N1 flu is affecting the younger age groups.

Vic felt the Board of Commissioners should have a county plan in case Lincoln County Departments experience high absenteeism. Suggestions include the following to Department Supervisors:

- Increased cross training in all departments
- Prioritize basic tasks to take care of the public's essential services so to help accommodate if departments are short handed.
- Employees may be able to work at home, but not ready to return to work.
- Employees should remain home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications.

Vic asked the Board of Commissioners for permission to move forward in his application for a **Disaster Mitigation Grant**. Vic told the Board that he needs a current Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan in place before he can apply for the actual grant necessary for the Lake Creek Area. **MOTION** by Marianne B. Roose to give permission to apply for a Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan and it carried.

Vic commented the **Mass Fatality Exercise** in conjunction with St. John's Lutheran Hospital went very well. There will be a **Mass Casualty Exercise** in Eureka this Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

11:00 A.M. **Montana Clean Indoor Air Act** Present were Barbara Guthneck and Cookie Haidle representing Libby Community InterAgency, and Peggy Williams.

Barbara Guthneck handed out the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act to the Board of Commissioners. A brief discussion took place about the changes in the law, enforcement, complaint procedures, and penalties.

11:30 A.M. **Bull Lake Rural Fire Service Area Annexation**

No person from the public was in attendance, and no person expressed opposition to the annexation. Therefore, a **MOTION** was made by Marianne B. Roose to approve the new boundaries as described in the Bull Lake Rural Fire Service Area Annexation, and it carried.

11:35 A.M. The board members of the **Trego, Fortine, Stryker, Fire Service Area** submitted a request to have rates assessed on properties raised 100%. The TFS Fire Service Board would like the new rates to be reflected in the FY 2009/2010 budget. They had a public informational meeting and felt the proposed increase was well received. The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will hold a public meeting on this as part of the FY 2009/2010 budgeting process.

12:00 P.M. The Board of Commissioner's toured the new Kootenai Pets for Life Facility during an Open House.

1:30 P.M. **Subdivision Review**

Present were Lincoln County Planning Department Director Kristin Smith, Byron Sanderson, Lee Kessler, and Craig Johnson.

### 1. Kessler-Hodgson / 2 Lot Residential / 39.98 acres

Kristin presented new information related to the subdivision proposal. One item was a letter from the Eureka Volunteer Fire Department clarifying their earlier letter, and the other item was a variance request received from the applicant. However, Byron Sanderson of Kootenai Surveyor's, Inc. and Lee Kessler, the applicant, announced the variance request previously submitted by Byron Sanderson could be withdrawn upon finding the road width meets road standards.

A brief discussion took place regarding the letter received from the Eureka Volunteer Fire Department expressing a concern of the lack of a good turnaround at an existing residence. The fire department also stated in the letter that it would like to have assurances that any future building done in association with the subdivision has adequate turnarounds for its apparatus. Kristin feels the fire departments recommendations are valid. The letter from the Eureka Volunteer Fire Department did state it did not see any fire related reason for not allowing the subdivision to go forward. A question was raised about modifying condition #5 of the Lincoln County Planning Department Staff Report. A **MOTION** was made by Marianne B. Roose to approve the preliminary plat of Kessler-Hodgson subject to planning staff recommendations, and amend condition #5 by striking the first sentence, based on the Eureka Fire Departments recommendation, and so ordered.

### 2. Preliminary Plat Extension to the Kootenai Industrial Park

Kristin Smith said the preliminary plat approval period has expired. A **MOTION** was made by Tony Berget to approve extending the preliminary plat process of the Kootenai Industrial Park for 1 year from the date of its expiration, and so ordered. The Lincoln County Planning Department will send a notice to the Kootenai Industrial Park notifying them of the motion and dates of the extension.

2:30 P.M. **Lincoln County School Budget Reports** Present was Lincoln County Superintendent of Schools, Ron Higgins. Higgins explained the FY 2009-2010 mill levies for each school district and the budget reports for each school. Mr. Higgins showed the Commission comparison figures from the FY 2008-2009 budget reports, and explained the increases and decreases

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to the Commission. A **MOTION** was made by Tony Berget to adopt the Lincoln County School District Levies as presented, and so ordered.

3:00 P.M. **State Funding** Present were KaiEllen Bucher and Kelly Toren of New West Insurance. KaiEllen Bucher requests approval from the Commission for two items:

1. The configuration of the benefits detailed by the consortium. The complete project of fully configuring the benefits in the system is estimated to take up to four months. The estimated cost of configuration per month is \$14,400.
2. Written correspondence with the State of Montana DPHHS” for direction on the reimbursement timeline. Specifically, the ability to submit invoices and subsequent reporting once or twice a week. The DPHHS will not proceed without the Commission’s consent as the contract owner. KaiEllen will draft a letter of approval on behalf of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners for the DPHHS.

3:30 P.M. A letter was received from the **Lincoln County Libraries Board of Trustees** recommending that Beverly Pezzelle be appointed to the Board of Trustees. A **MOTION** was made by Tony Berget to approve the board appointment of Beverly Pezzelle to the Lincoln County Library Board of Trustees for a 5 year term, and it carried

Meeting adjourned.

**LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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John Konzen, Chairman

**Attest:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Robin A. Benson, Deputy Clerk of the Board