

**February 25, 2015**

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on February 25, 2015, in the Lincoln County Courthouse. Present were Commissioner Mike Cole, Commissioner Greg Larson, Commissioner Mark Peck, Executive Assistant Bill Bischoff and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson.

Commissioner Cole **opened the meeting** with the Pledge of Allegiance.

9:00 AM **Court Ordered Record of Findings/Glen Lake Dock Permit, PM 1706:** Commissioner Cole and former Commissioner Ron Downey met in the Lincoln County Courtroom to articulate their findings based upon their recollection of their consideration regarding Glen Lake Dock Permit 2013-11-25-RC. There was no public comment since there was no decision to be made at this time.

10:00 AM **Nancy Higgins, Treasurer's Report:** Nancy submitted reports on the cash reconciliation for January 2015 for all funds. Reports showing Lincoln County Investments through the Raymond James Account, Smiley Trust, and First Interstate Bank were discussed. Nancy provided a report reflecting current advances/loans with a balance of \$251,732.02 outstanding. There was a brief discussion about monies uninsured and uncollateralized deposits. The county is in compliance with MCA 7-6-207 Deposit Security. Nancy is in contact with the county auditor and Glacier Bank gathering information on investing money not necessary for immediate use by the county in eligible securities.

10:30 AM **Libby Rod and Gun Club:** Dan Ackerman, Robert Hamlyn, Ken Mancuso, Jeff Robertson, Rich Hjort, Mike Soppe, Jerry W. Rust, Ken Farmer, Don Clark, Roy Hyde, Mike Cirian, Marry Anderson, Jay Sheffield, Jeremy Rank, Gary Huntsberger, Bob Henline and Chris Nelson.

Members of the Libby Rod & Gun Club met with the commission to talk about the potential expansion at the Libby Rifle Range on Farm To Market road. The group presented a video of the Shooting Gallery hosted by Michael Bane which aired on the Outdoor Channel in January, 2015. The show had about a 3 minute clip of the Libby Rifle Range. Dan Ackerman gave an overview and presented a map explaining a plan to develop a shooting complex expanding from the current 30 acres to 340 acres. The purpose is to create a multi-use shooting sports complex designed for all shooting disciplines. The plans include areas for silent sports such as airsoft and paintball, designated shot gun area, pistol bays, trap and skeet, 5-stand, sporting clays as well as additional parking, and an overnight camping area. The long term plan includes a two story building for archery and adult and student small bore leagues. Dan said that although Libby has had a decline in its local economy, the shooting sports are growing and so is the need for a bigger venue. The people attending shooting events at the Libby Rifle Range are coming from other states bringing much needed revenue into our community. Mike Cirian expressed the positive impact the shooting sports have on our youth in our community and how local kids are competing at a very high state level in the state trap and skeet competitions.

Dan gave a brief explanation of the design plan to transfer noise currently being generated in a different direction. The pistol bays design is to direct sound waves up to mitigate noise respectfully to acknowledge citizens who live in the surrounding area. Robert Hamlyn said he lives adjacent to the rifle range and expressed his concerns about how the noise will decrease his property value. Robert also shared concerns about people who are shooting into the mountains where hiking and horse riding is in the same area. It was clarified this was being done with public use and not during Libby Rod & Gun Club activities. Commissioner Peck said from a county standpoint, this issue does need to be dealt with. Commissioner Peck believes there is a need for improved oversight of the rifle range and the expansion proposal could help with a more professional management and safer environment. Commissioner Larson asked how the county could help. Dan said the goal is to transfer property from the USFS to Lincoln County. There would need to be legislative action to achieve this. Dan said there is a need to influence collectively to Senator Daines and Senator Tester to amend appropriate legislation for the transfer to take place.

Commissioner Cole thanked the Rod & Gun Club members for their presentation and asked the group to keep them informed of the expansion plan and its progress.

11:00 AM **SAMSHA, Unite for Youth Coalition:** Present are Maggie Anderson, Roby Bowe, Chris Nelson, Robert Mast and Mike Cirian.

Maggie provided an informational packet to the commission explaining the Lincoln County Unite for Youth Program. The goal is to build broad based support and increase awareness within the community. Maggie expressed that her prevention work began in 2008 and there is now a shift at how we all look at the drug/alcohol culture in Lincoln County. She is now experiencing a broader scale of community wide support as the public awareness has increased on how big and deeply rooted this problem is. Mike Cirian stated his appreciation of the program and offered his expertise in trap shooting as a possible way to award children, with the possibility of starting a shooting club. Maggie said the youth coalition is moving towards offering alternative activity by pairing skilled craftsman with children, giving them experience in the trades. The idea is to give children who are not college bound opportunity and hope for a good life. Maggie said Unite for Youth has a two day event with some smaller sessions with navy seals. About 120 kids will be attending from the county which demonstrates the overwhelming community support. Maggie said she is trying to come up with \$1300 for t-shirts and water bottles. Commissioner Peck said that he would love to spend time with a group of kids and talk about the power of right choices. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to contribute \$1300 to help buy t-shirts for the upcoming event. The contribution will come out of economic development funds from each district equally. Second by Commissioner Peck, so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.

12:00 PM **Flower Creek Dam Tour:** The Commission toured the Flower Creek Dam during their lunch break.

1:30 PM **Planning Department:** Present are Lisa Oedewaldt, Deb Blystone, Byron Sanderson, John Damen, and Chris Nelson.

**Knight Family Transfer:** Lisa updated the commission of the Knight Family Transfer. The transfer was approved October 29, 2014. The transfer is in probate due to the unfortunate passing of Ray Knight Sr. No action needs to be taken by the Commission. The property is still going to the person it was intended.

**Porter Family Transfer: Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve the Porter Family Transfer upon Planning Department recommendations. Second by Commissioner Peck, and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.

**It's a View II Subdivision:** The Planning Department has received a request from owner, Tony Johnson to extend their preliminary approval period. Owner cannot sell a lot until the road condition is met. The only thing missing is one foot on each side of the existing road. Commissioner Peck suggested a one year extension and a petition the commission for a variance on the road condition. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to grant a one year extension which would expire March 28, 2016. Second by Commissioner Larson, and so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.

**Indian Springs RV Park South Subdivision::** Lisa removed the subdivision from approval saying 5 lots have not been completed and asked the Commission for clarity on what is required for RV pads. Commissioner Peck said we have to go by what is currently lined out in the county subdivision regulations. The Commission agreed the pit run to be completed according to what is currently stated in the county subdivision regulations.

#### 2:30 PM **Administrative Issues:**

- The Commissioners read the minutes for the regular meeting February 18, 2015. The Commission asked for clarity of the motion in the road restriction portion, specifically the duration of the 2 am to noon requirement. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve the minutes subject to clarification on the road issue. Second by Commissioner Peck, so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
  - The Commissioners read the minutes for the special meeting with pharmaceutical companies on February 19, 2015. **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to approve the minutes, Second by Commissioner Cole, so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
  - Robin Benson discussed the **Libby airport property** to the Commission. The property is owned by Lincoln County and the City of Libby, therefore, grants and other airport documents need to be acknowledged and signed by both parties which is a requirement of the FAA. Bill Bischoff will visit with the City and bring suggestions to the Commission for discussion on the best way for the City and the County to proceed.
  - **Upper Yaak FSA Amending By-Laws:** The Commission read Resolution 2015-001 submitted by the Upper Yaak FSA requesting approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve Resolution 2015-001. Second by Commissioner Peck, so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
  - Commissioner Larson shared letters from the Troy Public Schools with the Commission. Commissioner Larson is giving the Troy Public School \$14,000 of Troy Park funds to purchase equipment to improve the park area around W.F. Morrison Elementary School. Troy Public School also received 3 tents and 10 backpacks from Lincoln County. The letters were acknowledging receipt of the equipment and commitment of Troy Park funds.
  - **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to sign a letter to Patrick F. Flaherty denying medical claims and allegations regarding Kevin Kirkwood. Second by Commissioner Peck, so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board.
  - **Motion** by Commissioner Peck to sign the Lincoln County/KNF Schedule A Agreement. Second by Commissioner Larson, so ordered upon unanimous consent of the board. The agreement outlines annual routine road maintenance.
  - **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to send letters to Mr. Thomas Tidwell, Chief – U.S. Forest Service and Robert Bonnie, U.S. Department of Agriculture in support of the Montanore Mine Project. Second by Commissioner Peck, so ordered upon unanimous consent of the Board.
  - Commissioner Peck shared an email he received from Don and Sherry Hearn regarding a refund on property taxes overpaid in Lincoln County. The Hearn's owned property in Trego but sold their property and moved in 2013. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Cole said he would draft a letter to Don and Sherry Hearn. The Commission agreed there would be no tax refund in this matter.
- 4:00 PM **The meeting was adjourned.**

#### **LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Mike Cole, Chairman

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