

March 13, 2018

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a special session on March 13, 2018 in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Peck, Commissioner Cole, County Administrator Darren Coldwell, Wendy Drake, and Deputy Clerk and Recorder Chris Nelson.

10:00 AM Finance

- Darren said airport costs have increased but the budget has decreased slightly. The airport board paid off their fuel bill but insurance costs have gone up. Darren and Wendy have looked at options and discussed a \$3,000 increase. The airport board did increase hangar rent from 5 cents a square foot to 7 ½ cents. There was also a discussion of revenue going towards funding budgets and not in addition to their budget. The commissioners all agreed that any revenue goes towards their budget and not in addition to.
- Darren discussed the economic development fund established in 2014 and asked how the commissioners would like the fund operated and dispersed. The commissioners directed the finance department to put in \$50,000 for group projects and then do the original disbursements as was done in the past.
- The commissioners discussed a letter received from the EPA that turned down the county's request for additional work on Port Authority property. The EPA had done work on the bank of Libby Creek on the Port's property in 2009 including rip-rap which has since eroded. Darren suggested letting the county attorney's office look at it and see what the county's options are. Commissioner Peck said he would also look at Environmental Justice and let them know that substandard work was done and it needs to be fixed by the offending agency.
- There was an additional gas tax that was passed in congress and the county will get \$78,000 and will have to contribute \$1 cash, not in kind, for every \$20 spent. The money must be spent on road projects. Commissioner Cole asked if it can be a city-county project but Darren said the city will get its own money. Darren believed that they need to pick one project and apply for it as they have to prove that they have the money available for the match portion. It will be more money next year but this year it has only been collected for three months. Darren asked each of the road foremen if they had ideas for projects. The money can be banked each year for up to five years, although the match must also be put in an account each year. Each foreman will come up with a list of projects as detailed as possible then submit to the commissioners for review. Commissioner Peck said they can look at several criteria including safety and whether the project would save money in the future. Darren said if they could have them back by next Tuesday and then the board can contact each road foreman with any questions or comments
- Darren wants to put Schedule A roads on the calendar to begin discussing how the county will handle them. Commissioner Bennett said they are not looking at discontinuing plowing on all Schedule A roads but the board needs to discuss all options. Another type of road that needs be looked at is public roads vs county roads. Commissioner Bennett said that there needs to be an inventory of all the roads and what type they are.

Meeting adjourned at 12 PM

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mike Cole, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Chris Nelson, Deputy Clerk of the Board