

September 22, 2021

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a regular session on September 22, 2021 in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Bennett, Commissioner Letcher, Commissioner Teske, and Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson.

Meeting allows for teleconferencing and VisionNet availability.

Commissioner Bennett opened the meeting with the **Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**.

Commissioner Bennett introduced and welcomed Jim Hammons as the new Lincoln County Administrator. Jim will start his position in a few weeks.

10:00 AM **Tim Orthmeyer-Pay request for Eureka Project:** Present were Tim Orthmeyer representing Morrison-Maierle, Finance Officer Wendy Drake, Jim Hammons, and Will Langhorne.

Tim submitted contractor pay request to Road Products Inc. and Morrison-Maierle invoice for the Eureka pavement maintenance project. Total payout is \$161,792.45.

Tim submitted the Noble Contract for the Eureka Runway Shoulder Rehabilitation Project for signature. Total cost of project is \$57,830.

Motion by Commissioner Letcher to pay Road Products, Inc. pay request and MM invoice as submitted. Second by Commissioner Teske, motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Letcher to accept the Noble Contract for the Runway Shoulder Rehabilitation Project at the Eureka Airport as submitted. Second by Commissioner Teske, motion carried unanimously.

10:15 AM **Ben Scott-Request for reduced speed on Upper Granite and Snowshoe Junction:** Present were Ben Scott, EMA Director Tom Lane, Brett McCully, Jim Hammons, and

Ben explained that he is developing property west of the golf course, and he is requesting permission to change the speed limit from 35 to 25. Location of the speed change is where Upper Granite Road Ts into Snowshoe Road, first quarter mile. Commissioner Teske will follow up with Road Supervisor Marc McCully and come back to the commissioners with a recommendation.

10:30 AM **Administrative Issues-Resolution for Special County Attorney Appointment:** Present were Derrick Perkins, Ray Stout, and Pamela Monroe.

- Tom submitted a Site Lease Agreement between IP Routing LLC and Lincoln County Emergency Management Agency as a new tenant to lease space on Pinkham Tower. IP Routing will pay \$250/mo. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to approve the Site Lease Agreement as submitted. Second by Commissioner Teske, motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Letcher submitted a Grant of Easement with Lincoln Electric Cooperative. The easement will extend along Airport Road, Eureka. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve Grant of Easement with Lincoln Electric Coop. Inc of Eureka Montana as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously. This is a change of location from the easement approved by the commissioner on August 25, 2021.
- The commissioners approved and signed a Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant for \$13,606,500. The project will convert approximately 46 miles of overhead power line to underground. The project will begin 27 miles southwest of the entrance to the Flathead Tunnel at Lincoln Electrics Substation located approximately 18 miles southwest of Trego, MT. The line conversion will continue seven miles through the tunnel and north past the exit for approximately 13 miles. There is no obligation from the county. Lincoln Electric Cooperative will provide cash match and BNSF may also provide cash match. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to approve the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant as submitted. Second by Commissioner Teske, motion carried unanimously. Brent suggested language outlining county responsibility with managing financial part of the grant.
- Jerry read Resolution 2021-34 in its entirety. The Lincoln County Attorney is requesting that the Commissioners appoint Cheryl Copperstone, Deputy Sanders County Attorney to occasionally assist in prosecuting criminal offenses on a pro bono basis. **Motion** by Commissioner Letcher to approve Resolution 2021-34 as submitted. Second by Commissioner Teske, motion carried unanimously.
- Robin submitted the minutes for September 15, 2021 regular meeting for approval. **Motion** by Commissioner Teske to approve minutes as submitted. Second by Commissioner Letcher, motion carried unanimously.

10:45 AM **Public Comment Time:** Present were Derrick Perkins, Ray Stout and Jim Hammons.

There were no public comments.

11:15 AM **Kootenai River Development Council (KRDC) Board:** Present were Kristin Smith, Brett McCully, Jim Hammons and Derrick Perkins.

Kristin is here asking about Tina Oliphant's position as Executive Director of KRDC.

Commissioner Bennett explained that Tina extended her position until October 6th. There have been no applications received to date and Commissioner Bennett has asked Tina to pare down the job description to help get the position filled.

12:00 PM **Meeting Adjourned.**

LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jerry Bennett, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Robin A. Benson, Clerk of the Board