

LINCOLN COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019 – 5:30PM
LINCOLN COUNTY COURTHOUSE – LIBBY | NORTH ANNEX VIDEO CONFERENCE

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 5:30PM**

2. **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Michael Hobbs, Chair

John Damon

Kenny Rayome, Jr

Ernie Anderson

Kate Arpin

Robert Haidle

Laura Garner

Scott Mattheis

Tracy McNew

STAFF: Kristin Smith, KMR Consulting

Growth Policy Consultants: Matthew Rohrbach and Dave DeGrandpre, Land Solutions

3. **AGENDA**

- **Kick-off meeting for County Growth Policy Update**

Kristin announced that Tracy McNew had been appointed to the Board that day and was notified of the meeting.

Chairman Hobbs introduced Mr. Haidle to the rest of the Board.

Kristin then introduced Dave and Matthew of Land Solutions who are working on the update to the 2009 Lincoln County Growth Policy and the 2013 CEDS documents for the County.

Dave started by providing a little background on what the Growth Policy is; what the law requires and what the County needs to do. In broad brush, the document will cover demographics, trends, infrastructure and identify tools to achieve stated goals over an identified timeline. He then asked the board for what their ideas were that needed to be addressed.

Below is a summary of the Board's general thoughts:

- Lack of quality affordable housing
- Costs of building materials doesn't match selling price
- Lack of building code/development permit
- Lack of vision – "who are we trying to attract"
- Covenants on subdivided land have no teeth
- Closed drainage in Eureka for water rights (Sinclair Creek - ?)
- Threatened and Endangered species impacts many natural resource projects and forest roads
- Too many regulations may be a disincentive
- Connect grizzly zones for migration to prioritize areas for development away from those areas which will facilitate more expedient delisting

- Areas that cannot be served by emergency services in any timely manner

Chairman Hobbs asked about Libby's water/sewer capacity to which Kenny replied there was still adequate room.

There was some discussion about the WUI and fire departments having insufficient funds to perform.

There was some discussion on the different economic engines of the community and the need for the Port Authority property to have infrastructure and be marketed to attract manufacturers with appropriate incentives.

There was some discussion about solid waste and the short horizon for capacity and the County's landfill. Chairman Hobbs suggested any new landfill sites be designed to capture methane for power generation.

There was some discussion on agricultural land and the growing demand for hemp products that may be a new market for the Eureka area where most of the ag land is located.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT
NONE

5. Next Meeting – March 19, 2019 @ 5:30pm

7:20 meeting adjourned.