

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

April 15, 2019

Present: Rebecca Wood, Chairman; Roy Hubert, Commissioner; Rick Ellis, Commissioner; Cindi Sievers, Clerk for Minutes.

9:35am Chairman Wood open the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes & Claims

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to pay the April 15, 2019 accounts payable for \$62,767.93. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Discussion on Sheriff's vehicles and maintenance. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to accept the minutes for April 8, 2019 with typo correction. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to accept the minutes for April 1, 2019 as presented. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Correspondence

Chairman Wood reported on SIRCOM and their budget.

Commissioner Hubert reported on the BLM land transfer with the transfer station.

Old business discussion.

10:16am City of Shoshone P&Z for City of Shoshone – E. Scott Paul

E. Scott took an offer from the City of Shoshone Planning & Zoning to work 3hrs a month for \$300. Discussion on the terms of his service for the City's P&Z.

10:18am Sticks & Stones gravel

Discussion on terms in the past with Commissioners McConnell's offering for gravel for Sticks & Stones. A motion was made April 1, 2019 to allow access to the County gravel pit. Calls were made to the Commissioners in response to the decision. Chairman Wood had a change of opinion. There are concerns about the lawsuit and that this should be considered as part of the decision to give Sticks & Stones gravel. Discussion on reversing the decision to give Sticks & Stones the gravel needed for the road/firebreak and other possible options for Sticks & Stones' gravel needed. Discussion on public opinion against the issue. E. Scott Paul said it is setting precedence and the decision should be revoked.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to negate the vote that was made on Sticks & Stones' gravel request. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Discussion; if the conditions were met for

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sticks & Stones operation of business in the county this would have a different outcome. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

10:30am Lincoln County Motel – Barb Patterson

Barb Patterson is here representing two possible investors for a motel in Lincoln County. Payson Reese, representing the Chamber of Commerce, is here to present his recommendation for the need for a motel in the County. Arts in the park and Lost N Lava are two organizations that are affected by not having a place to stay for participants if they want to take part. Discussion on other organizations who would benefit from having a closer place to stay. Local entities could bring conferences and trainings to the County. Discussion on the schools and the number of people who stay in other cities to attend local reunions. Chairman Wood presented to Barb the reasons ITD is looking to move from Lincoln County; their need is 1475 rooms per year for business. Barb asked if there would be a tax break if investors want to come to the county. Discussion if there could be something to offer investors for a motel. Chairman Wood will discuss with the Assessor and Planning & Zoning for land available. Chairman Wood discussed numbers of rooms that could be used per year by local businesses and events. Lincoln County has a 5-year plan for tax breaks to help new businesses come to the County who spend \$500,000 in new or expansion of business.

11:11am Employee Handbook review.

Clerk Farnworth read into the meeting the handbook for review. Discussion in the social media section, all the items regarding posting of comments will be removed, all comments are blocked because no one can monitor the site.

11:30am Financial Review

Clerk Farnworth presented the half year position of the County expenses. Each department was reviewed and exceptions discussed. All funds are within reason at this time and over all for current expenses is 47.22% of budget. All funds are at 45.82%. Revenues were reviewed and are at 38.08% of budget received with PILT yet to come in June. Have received 58.76% of property tax revenue. County is in good shape.

12:12pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting for lunch.

1:02pm Chairman Wood reconvened the meeting.

Commissioner Ellis made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(d) Indigent Exempt records. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote Commissioner Hubert, aye; Commissioner Ellis, aye; Chairman Wood, aye. Vote unanimous in favor, meeting adjourned to Executive Session.

1:10pm Chairman Wood adjourned Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Wood made a motion to deny case #2019032 for lack of interview. Commissioner Hubert seconded. This is an additional request. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Discussion on the decision date for the 3 String LLC P&Z petition.

Old Business discussion

Republican Central Committee process for Sheriff's position discussion.

Commissioner Hubert discussed the Commissioners process for the Sheriff's position.

Discussion included E. Scott Paul.

Chairman Wood discussed talking to Peace Officer Standards Training (POST) for records in helping make a decision to select a Sheriff. All nominees would need to sign a waiver. Clerk Farnworth will type one.

1:30pm Lincoln County Courthouse Committee

Cindi Sievers and Carol Boudreau from the Courthouse Advisory Committee present.

Cindi presented the survey findings with the combination of paper and online surveys; 550 returned. Chairman Wood read into the minutes the percentages of the survey. Discussion on the results. Chairman Wood was pleased with the turnout. Note: there were people who did not complete a survey because they did not want to disclose their name. The survey opinions supported the findings of the Courthouse Advisory Committee to renovate the courthouse and build an annex; majority said they would support a bond. (Survey results attached)

Chairman Wood asked the Commissioners what should the next step be. Discussion if they should put it out to Architects for a bid for the project. Discussion on plans to get to the Architects for bid. Commissioner Hubert discussed the process before it can be taken to the public for bond.

Discussion on what the Commissioners will need to make a final decision on what the County will move forward with for the project. Discussion on meeting with architects, builder, and engineers one more time. Once a decision is made, we can investigate further to get other opinions on moving forward.

Chairman Wood tabled the discussion until 3:00.

2:15pm Chairman Wood took them out of the Board of Commissioners and into Planning & Zoning Public Hearing.

2:48pm Chairman Wood reconvened the regular meeting.

Undersheriff Phillips is here to discuss the vehicles for the Sheriff's office. Discussion on businesses he has contacted for wiring on new vehicles.

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Hubert asked Undersheriff Phillips regarding the 8 units that were in for oil changes and maintenance. Commissioners asked if he is still using the old vehicles. Undersheriff Phillips said no, and can send the vehicles off for surplus. Discussion on process to go to a County public auction or send to an Auto Auction. There are 7 vehicles to surplus. Discussion on the condition of the vehicles. Discussion on the 2 new vehicles that need the wiring.

Undersheriff Phillips asked about the vehicles being used and taken at home or out of county and if there is a set mileage cap for the County. Now it is 15 to 20 minute response time to the County. Discussion on the issue; it can be a decision between the Commissioners and the Sheriff. E. Scott added to the discussion that officers are technically not off duty when at home or on the road. Taking a vehicle to local business for personal use was discussed.

3:10pm

Reopening discussion on the courthouse decision. Discussion if Commissioners should invite outside sources to help decide the direction for the next step. The public opinion should heavily weigh on their decision. Using the architects' recommendations should also take part of the decision. Discussion on moving forward with a bond and what questions could be asked and what they should be prepared to answer. Discussion on the committee's findings. Further discussion on what the individual Commissioner's feel should be done to make a good decision for the County.

Discussion to invite AHJ Engineer to a meeting and what will be a charge to have a question and answer session. Chairman Wood will make the call for the meeting. Discussion if architects should be part of the discussion with the engineer. April 29th there will be a Commissioners meeting with engineers for an informational discussion so an informed decision can be made.

The Commissioners will make the final decision May 6, 2019.

Discussion on the trailer from Richfield. Moving the trailer can be done, but not in two sections. Discussion what needs to be done to move the trailer and placing it in the new location. The bid to move is \$7,500.

3:51pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully,

Cindi Sievers, Clerk for Minutes



Rebecca Wood, Chairman

Attest:

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Cindi Sievers, Deputy Clerk