

Lincoln County Port Authority
Meeting Minutes
March 17th, 2025 @ 3:30 PM
LCPA Conference Room

The Lincoln County Port Authority board met on March 17, 2024, in the conference room at the Lincoln County Port Authority, Libby, MT.

Present were Jerry, Bennett, Brent Teske, Kevin Peck, Chris Bache, Tony Petrusha, Troy Douthit, Kate Stephens, Adam Noble, Jim Germany, Pat Ingrahm, Noel Durham, Rocky Schauer, Levi Thompson, Brett Duvall, and Ray Stout.

1. **Approval of Minutes: February 10, 2025:** The board reviewed the minutes of the February 10, 2025 meeting. **Motion** by Tony to accept the minutes as submitted for the February 10, 2025 meeting. Second by Brent. No comments. Motion carried.
2. **Approval of Financials:** The financials were presented, and the financial report was discussed. **Motion** by Tony to approve financial report. Second by Troy. Motion carried.
3. **Guest Presentation**
 - a. **Adam Noble:** The Park District Manager, Adam Noble presented suggestions for improvements to the Fishpond/Swim Pond area. The board will review, and this item will be carried forward to the April meeting.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **TCI/Libby Creek Easement:** An official easement has been drawn up and present by TCI, including legal description. Kate will send the easement to our attorney for review, and this item will be carried forward to the April meeting.
 - b. **MOU with Park District:** Tony stated that the MOU between the Park District and the County has been completed, and they are almost done with a draft of the MOU for LCPA. This item will carry forward to the next meeting.
 - c. **Foundation:** **Motion** by Kevin to move \$500,000 into an investment account with D.A. Davidson for the purpose of fulfilling our agreement to the Park District and NRDP. The money will remain in the Port Authority's name and the Port Authority will have complete control of the funds, while still being able to access them if needed. Brent seconded. Motion carried.
 - d. **ABDW Logistics Railcar Storage Agreement:** Jerry has a call into them to finalize the agreement and is continuing to work on it at this time. This item will carry forward to the next meeting.
 - e. **Office Space/New Building:** Kate informed the board that we will be moving into our new space at 216 W 9th St around April 15th.
 - f. **Vehicle Pool:** Jerry stated that he is still looking for vehicles for the team and working on transferring the county forester vehicle over to LCPA.

5. **Updates**

a. **Shared Stewardship**

- i. **New Positions:** Kate stated that we are fully staffed. Giovanni Cano started as the Wildfire Mitigation Specialist last week, and Devon Yarid starts this Wednesday as the new Forester.
- ii. **Project Updates:** Kate informed the board that two grant proposals have already been submitted for funding. The first is for work on private land in the DNRC and USFS Snowshoe Granite 1000 project. The second is for a shaded line of defense on Stimson and Noble land in the USFS Normal McCedar project. Other work is underway for funding on the Trojan Defense project in Troy.

b. **Executive Director**

- i. **Health Insurance for Family Members: Motion** made by Kevin that we offer health insurance to family members of our employees but contribute \$0 to the benefit making it a tax free 100% contribution from the employee. Chris seconded. Motion carried.
- ii. **Updated Contact Information:** Kate informed the board that each employee now has their own email address and work cell phone number. She will send out the contact list to the board.

6. **New Business**

- a. **DC: March 31 – April 3:** Jerry informed the board that he, Mark Peck, Bruce Vincent, and Kate would be heading to Washington D.C. for a meeting with the new Chief of the Forest Service, hopefully the week of March 31st.
- b. **Industry Way:** Kate presented a construction plan for the reconstruction of industry way for the board to comment on. The board reviewed the plan and had no recommendations.

7. **Open for Public Comment:** Noel Durham made a request to the board that these meetings take place at the Commissioner's Chambers, and that the board have representation from other areas of the county besides just the greater Libby area.

8. **Adjourn:** 5:00pm

Next Meeting: April 21, 2024

LINCOLN COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD


Jerry Bennett, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Kate Stephens