

**Lincoln County Port Authority**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 2, 2026 @ 3:30 PM**  
**LCPA Conference Room**  
216 West 9th Street, Libby, MT

The Lincoln County Port Authority Board met on April 2nd, 2026, in the LCPA Conference Room, Libby, MT.

1. **Roll Call:** Present were Board Members Chris Bache, Tony Petrusha, Brent Teske, Rob Delmas, Kevin Peck, and Jerry Bennett, and Director Jennifer Brown. Member of the public present was Ray Stout.
2. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** No comments were made.
3. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** No comments were made.
4. **Old Business:**
  - a) **LCPA Office Building Lease:** The Board discussed the expiration of the current office lease on April 30 and plans to relocate the office to Port property. Jerry explained that, under an existing agreement with Noble, LCPA would not incur costs for water or sewer to the new location, as those services are provided in lieu of rent from prior arrangements. Kevin noted that locating the office at the Port property had been the original intent.

The Board considered requesting a short-term, month-to-month lease with Noble to allow time to complete necessary utility improvements and delivery of the mobile to the new site. Cost comparisons from Mobile Modular, Wilscot, and the current leased building were reviewed as part of the discussion.

A motion was made by Kevin and seconded by Brent to proceed with a month-to-month lease with Noble during the transition period. Without further comment, the motion passed unanimously. A second motion was made by Kevin and seconded by Brent to move forward with Mobile Modular for the new office, which also passed unanimously with no further comment.

Chris recommended obtaining cost information for electrical service through Flathead Electric. **Jennifer will contact Flathead Electric regarding service setup, and Jerry confirmed that the electrician will handle the required permitting.** The Board agreed

on a location at the corner of Industry Way across from Nomad for placement of the mobile office. **A one- to two-acre area will be surveyed to accommodate the office and parking, with Jerry coordinating with Byron on the survey. Jennifer will also coordinate with Noah to obtain an address for the new location.**

- b) **Kootenai Business Park Flood Repair Permitting:** The Board reviewed a letter from Evenson Engineering outlining the scope of work and associated fees for permitting and design related to repairs of the diversion channel and slope failures at the Kootenai Business Park. Jennifer noted that the project does not qualify for state emergency funding. Jerry added that the west slope failure is an ongoing issue and attributed it to prior EPA repair work.

A motion was initially made by Tony and seconded by Brent to move forward with permitting and repair design. Following discussion, the motion was revised to approve Task A, diversion channel permitting and design, in the amount of \$4,400, and to request additional clarification and a detailed cost breakdown from Evenson Engineering for Task B. The revised motion was made by Tony, seconded by Brent, and passed unanimously with no further comment.

- c) **DNRC Ownership Update :** The Board received an update that legal counsel has approved the application for the water right split, which is consistent with prior agreements made during the sale of the property to Noble.

A motion was made by Tony and seconded by Brent to approve the application for the water right split. With no further comment, the motion passed with all in favor, with Chris abstaining.

- d) **Land Use Designation:** Tony inquired whether the turtle ponds have been formally mapped out of the FHW sale area. **Jennifer will follow up with legal counsel to determine whether the boundaries have been clearly defined.** Tony noted that the perimeter of the turtle ponds needs to be established in order to move forward with the recreation plan.

It was also stated that the museum will utilize a portion of the property for the train exhibit, which is located on an area that was previously used as a landfill. **Tony will coordinate with Devon to develop an updated map to help define recreational land use areas.**

## 5. **New Business:**

- a) **State Emergency Funding Ineligibility:** It was noted that LCPA is not eligible for state reimbursement but may qualify under a federal disaster declaration. Jennifer attended a County Commission meeting and requested that the County apply on

LCPA's behalf for repairs to the diversion channel. The County agreed to submit the application on behalf of LCPA.

ER Assist has completed an assessment of the damages and provided estimated repair costs. A motion was made by Kevin and seconded by Brent to approve the County serving as the applicant for the funding request. The motion passed unanimously with no further discussion.

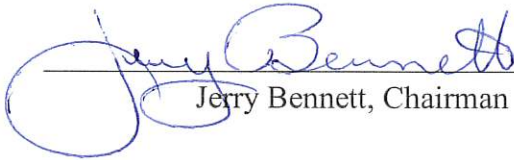
**Unscheduled Matters:**


- a) Kevin asked whether there is any recourse related to the EPA's prior work on the levee, which he suggested may have been substandard. Jerry responded that there would be no recourse available without pursuing legal action.

Adjourn: 4:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 20, 2026

LINCOLN COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Bennett, Chairman

ATTEST:   
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Jennifer Brown