

Lincoln County Port Authority
Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2026 @ 3:30 PM
LCPA Conference Room
216 West 9th Street, Libby, MT

The Lincoln County Port Authority Board met on March 16, 2026, in the LCPA Conference Room, Libby, MT.

1. **Roll Call:** Present were Board Members Chris Bache, Tony Petrusha, Brent Teske, Rob Delmas (arrived 3:45), and Director Jennifer Brown. Members of the public were Scott Shindledecker, Noel Duram, Jeff Koskela, Rocky Schauer, Chris Noble, and Tina Oliphant.

The agenda was taken out of order to allow time for a quorum to be established for items requiring action.

2. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Rocky Schauer raised concerns about the parking and pedestrian safety near the 5th St. walking trails. He recommended expanding parking, creating a walking path between the site and town, and noted that a corner of county-owned property could be used for additional parking.

Noel Duram stated that LCPA is a valuable asset to the community and raised several questions regarding the property sale that included land used to store ARP material: whether the Port contacted ARP/DEQ prior to the sale; whether the sale contract addressed ARP/DEQ property; whether the Port Board considered costs associated with moving ARP/DEQ property; whether the Port considered retaining the area used by ARP/DEQ for storage; whether ARP/DEQ met with the Port, County Commissioners, or Noble after the sale; what recourse ARP/DEQ may have regarding the sale of the property where their materials were located; and whether there was a verbal or written contract with ARP/DEQ for storage. Noel said he wants the Port to succeed but believes board members involved in the sale should resign immediately.

3. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** No comments were made.

4. **Approval of February 9, 2026 Minutes:** The minutes of February 9th were approved on a motion by Tony, seconded by Chris. There were no further comments or corrections; all were in favor, and the motion passed.
5. **Approval of February 23, 2026 Minutes:** The minutes of February 23rd were approved on a motion by Rob and seconded by Tony. There were no further comments or corrections; all were in favor, and the motion passed.
6. **Approval of January Financials:** The January financials were approved on a motion by Tony, seconded by Chris. There was no further comment, all were in favor, and the motion passed.
7. **Approval of February Financials:** The February financials were approved on a motion by Tony, seconded by Rob. There was no further comment; all were in favor, and the motion passed.
8. **Old Business:**
 - a) **Family Health and Wellness:** No new updates.
 - b) **LCPA Property Land Use Designation:** Tony presented a map showing areas previously designated as recreation property. The board noted that the map is outdated and that some properties have since been sold. **Jennifer will obtain an updated map and present it at a future meeting.**
 - c) **Amended License Agreement Request for Schrieber Lake Holdings:** Discussion on this matter was held last month. Mr. Williams has requested an amended easement to include the entire length of the upper road for emergency access only. Tony asks about access control; Brent stated that access information will be included in the agreement. A motion to move forward with the license agreement to include the amended easement is made by Chris, seconded by Rob. There were no further comments; all were in favor, and the motion passed.
9. **New Business:**
 - a) **Flood Damage Claim:** Jennifer reported that a formal claim was submitted to LCPA regarding damage to private property. The insurance investigator has been in contact and will view the property to determine coverage. Chris asked whether the EPA has any responsibility for the levee failure, as the levee was originally constructed by the agency. Brent responded that it is unlikely and that the EPA has placed responsibility on DEQ.
 - b) **Excavation Services by Noble Investment Properties for LCPA Future Building Site:** There is an agreement between Noble and LCPA for Noble to install sewer and utilities for a future building site; however, LCPA is not yet prepared to occupy a new

site. The board discussed whether the utilities should be stubbed in while Noble is completing utility work on Industry Way. Brent noted that the site has never been surveyed for boundary lines and it is unclear where the utilities would be placed. The matter of updating the lease for the building LCPA currently occupies, or placing a trailer on Port property, will be addressed on a future agenda.

- c) **LCPA Water Rights Split:** The application has been submitted to Gage for legal review; however, no response has been received to date. The proposed split of water rights is based on the percentage of property ownership. This item will be placed on the next agenda.
- d) **Verified Motion to Amend Water Right Claim:** It was noted that when changing ownership of water rights, the allocation was inadvertently changed from 11 million gallons per day to 11 million gallons per year. A motion to approve the Verified Motion to correct and approve the water rights allocation was made by Tony, seconded by Rob. There were no further comments, all were in favor, and the motion passed.
- e) **Add New Director to Glacier Bank Account:** Chris motioned to add Jennifer Brown to the LCPA Glacier Bank Account and remove Kate Stephens, seconded by Rob. There were no further comments; all were in favor, and the motion passed.

10. Director Updates:

- a) **Rotary Disaster Relief Grant:** Jennifer reported that Libby Rotary is exploring the Rotary Disaster Relief Grant and would like to help restore the fishing pond.
- b) **Coalitions and Collaboratives Grant:** Jennifer reported that LCPA has secured a grant that will provide a cost-share program to homeowners who are interested in fire mitigation for their property. The grant will pay 50% of mitigation costs.
- c) **DEQ Levee Repair:** DEQ will begin to repair damage to the levee on Port property caused by the recent flood event. As a result, a portion of the Haul Road and the 5th Street parking area will be closed from approximately the first week of April through mid-May.

Unscheduled **Matters:** None.

Adjourn: 4:08 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 20, 2026

LINCOLN COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD



Brent Teske, Chairman (Acting)

ATTEST: 
Jennifer Brown