

August 16, 2016

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met for a special work session on August 16, 2016, in the Lincoln County Courthouse, Libby, Montana. Present were Commissioner Cole, Commissioner Peck, Commissioner Larson, and Clerk & Recorder Robin Benson.

9:00 AM IT Department/Ric Kesling: Also present was HR Director, Vic White. Ric expressed that his position as IT Director and the Computer Technician position wages are low in comparison to the median for the State of Montana. Ric is requesting the Computer Technician position be approved from a Grade 9 to Grade 11 and the new hire would begin at a Grade 9. Commissioner Peck said he prefers to hire at a Grade 11 to attain a more qualified employee. Ric said he is willing to adjust his budget to reflect a new hire at a Grade 11 by reducing training costs. Ric is requesting the current Computer Technician position be reclassified as a Senior Technology Specialist at a Grade 11 retro as of July 1, 2016. **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to retro to July 1, 2016 Computer Technician to Senior Technology Specialist at a Grade 11. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously.

Clerk and Recorder Robin Benson presented all district budgets to the commission. Robin noted that Lincoln County Fair and Eureka Cemetery were the only districts that went over budget in FY 15/16. Commissioner Peck said a letter needs to be sent to those district boards about the commission's expectation of districts to live within their budget and to provide the statutes that mandate budgets to not be over spent. Commissioner Peck said the county would cover those overages this year, but the letter would state that budgets will be reduced if there is consistent overspending.

Robin presented a current Requirement Schedule to the Commission showing the county is still 8.93 mills over what is allowed. Robin said she did reduce Clerk of Court, Treasurer, EMA, and Coroner budgets per Commissioner Peck. Robin commented she reduced the Clerk and Recorder's budget by reducing travel and OT. Robin said she will be making final adjustments after the Permissive Levy and the Cost Allocation Plan comes in from the county auditor.

- The commission unanimously agreed to reduce the Commissioners budget by decreasing travel costs from \$6,000 to \$2,000; a budget reduction of \$4,000.
- The commission unanimously agreed to request the Public Safety Department to reduce their budget by 2 mills. Commissioner Peck will notify Roby Bowe.
- **Motion** by Commissioner Larson to approve hiring a deputy county attorney at a rate of \$70,000. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried unanimously.