

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

May 6, 2025

Present: Rebecca Wood, Chairman; Nathan Schutte, Commissioner; Tim Ridinger, Commissioner; Jennifer Hohnhorst, Clerk of the District Court

9:30am Chairman Wood called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Ridinger made a motion to amend the agenda to add Ambulance District Claims and a housing authority appointment as an action item. Commissioner Schutte seconded the motion with the addition of a Retail Alcoholic Beverage license approval as an action item as well. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Schutte made a correction to the April 28th minutes to notate a motion for tax cancellation.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the April 28, 2025, minutes as corrected. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the Lincoln County accounts payable claims for May 6, 2025, in the amount of \$38,125.19. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the Animal Shelter claims in the amount of \$3,249.00. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Discussion that this is a deposit for construction work. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Wood opened Ambulance District to approve claims at 9:41am.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the Ambulance District claims for May 6, 2025, in the amount of \$9,165.29. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Wood closed Ambulance District at 9:42am.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the Retail Alcoholic Beverage License for the Black Curtain in Richfield. This bar is taking over the Little Wood Saloon. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Wood discussed the Lincoln County Housing Authority's request to appoint Carolyn Aoi to the board.

Commissioner Schutte read Carolyn Aoi's letter of interest into the record in the way of a motion to approve the appointment. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

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Commissioner Ridinger made a motion to approve the Dietrich Law Enforcement agreement as presented. Commissioner Schutte seconded the motion. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Wood read the REDS commitment letter into the record.

Commissioner Schutte made a motion to approve the REDS commitment letter as presented. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Schutte updated the board on the transfer station grant of \$925,000.00. The current accepted proposal came in \$300,000.00 higher than the grant amount, so Southern Idaho Solid Waste is currently working to remove some tasks from the improvement plans to better fit the bid to the grant amount.

Discussion on the upcoming May Highway District Election. Also briefly discussed the upcoming Outlaw Days in Richfield and the Lincoln County Farmer's Market.

The Board discussed the recent Idaho Association of Counties County Officials Institute training that was attended by both Commissioners Schutte and Ridinger, as well as Clerk Hohnhorst and Assessor Anaya. There were many legislative updates as well as discussions on how to stabilize elected official pay scales to avoid drastic differences in salaries.

Discussion on domestic wells.

Kristen Geodeborg, the new director of the Shoshone City Library, read her letter requesting support from the county into the record. The library is requesting \$9,500.00 for Fiscal Year 2026.

The Board and Clerk Hohnhorst held a brief budget work session to discuss elected official salaries. Citing a recently adjudicated court case against Kootenai County, Clerk Hohnhorst believes Lincoln County needs to revamp salary scales and come up with a more consistent, stabilized method that prevents the appearance of merit increases and reflects a salary appropriate for the job of the official and respects the dignity of the position while also considering the job is funded by the local taxpayers and should come with a certain sense of civic responsibility. Clerk Hohnhorst is currently working with Patrick Galloway, Lincoln County Attorney, to propose a proper scale.

10:41am Commissioner Schutte made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b)-Personnel. Commissioner Ridinger seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Schutte: yes; Commissioner Ridinger: yes; Chairman Wood: yes. Vote unanimously in favor, motion carried and meeting is adjourned to Executive Session.

11:03am Meeting adjourned for lunch with no action taken.

1:10pm Chairman Wood reconvened the Regular meeting.

Karla Davis, Planning & Zoning Administrator, discussed the gravel material, processed and raw, may last until the end of the summer. Discussion on the map provided to the

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Commissioners. Discussion on the test holes dug in c. 1980. Discussion on a reclamation plan for the land at the gravel pit. Discussion on where to dig new test holes. Karla advised that the commissioners set up a meeting with the Highway Districts.

Karla Davis, P & Z Admin, gave an update on her department. Discussion on public meetings to discuss renewable energy. She would like to write a public information letter to educate the public. Discussion on an emergency RV moratorium to create time to get an ordinance in place. Discussion on what should be in the ordinance. Update on land divisions. She would like to explore implementing requirements for land divisions. She cited a current issue she's working through and that is an example of why we should have certain conditions with land divisions. To be continued after the Legislators update.

1:36pm Legislative Update with Senator Ron Taylor, Representative Jack Nelson, and Representative Mike Pohanka.

Sen. Taylor discussed the State Budget that passed and how it was disbursed. Discussion on ITD staying in the City of Shoshone. Discussion on the bills that passed this session during the 89 days. Discussion on the bills passed included bills passed regarding agriculture.

Rep. Mike Pohanka discussed the committees he sits on, and the bills passed which included some bills he supported.

Rep. Jack Nelson discussed bills regarding water on domestic wells, Public Defense bills, fires created by Public Utility entities, \$14 million allocated to childcare, and bills on medical.

Sen. Taylor discussed the Lava Ridge Project and how other states have entered into a lawsuit against how President Trump stopped the proceedings on wind energy on federal ground. Discussion on other projects coming down the pike.

2:30pm Elected Officials and Department Head Updates

Norma Anaya, Assessor, discussed the new license plates that are coming. She passed her certification test. Discussion on a kiosk coming for Titles and Registrations.

Karla Davis continued her update discussion. She has a training coming up, CAFO discussion to reach out to the agricultural community.

Toni Lee, Disaster Services Coordinator, updated on the grant funds have been released. She discussed the two items being purchased: a morgue cooler, and a system for the Sheriff's ability to recognize license plates in Lincoln County. Discussed the hazard mitigation plan needs updated. This will help with some grants for local government.

Ashley Lezamiz, Probation Director, says her office is very busy.

Jennifer Hohnhorst, Clerk, stated she is working on the budget for FY26 and updating agreements.

Patrick Galloway, County Attorney, discussed the cases that were carried over, reorganizing the office, working with probation, P & Z, and the Clerk's office.

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Clerk Hohnhorst also updated on the election to be held on May 20, 2025.

3:00pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting.

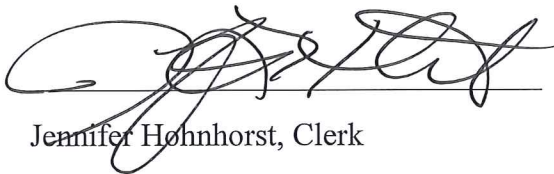
Respectfully,

Jennifer Hohnhorst, Clerk for Minutes



Rebecca Wood, Chairman

Attest:



Jennifer Hohnhorst, Clerk