



PUBLIC MEETING

October 13, 2020
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

Roll Call

Vice Chair Andy Hunthausen called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Commissioner Jim McCormick was present. Commissioner Good Geise was out of the office. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Nicho Hash, Jacqueline Isaly, Peter Italiano, Ann McCauley, Eric Merchant, Lindsay Morgan, Devin Vander Schaaf (via phone), Kevin Wright, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

There were no consent action items.

Amended Task Order and Grant Award to Lewis and Clark Public Health from Department of Public Health and Human Services. (Eric Merchant)

Eric Merchant, Disease Control and Prevention Division Administrator, presented the task order amendment No. 2 to the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and the associated grant award. The amendment provides funding for Lewis and Clark Public Health to hire a COVID-19 Epidemiologist in support of the ongoing local response to the pandemic. Mr. Merchant gave an extensive overview of the responsibilities of the position including local coordination of COVID surveillance reporting and investigation activities. The term of the position is two years. The amendment also extends the term of the Master PHEP task order and associated annual PHEP grant award from an ending date of June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2024 and provides an additional \$386,237.68. Staff recommends approval of task order amendment No. 2 and associated grant award with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services.

Commissioner McCormick suggested the opportunity of cost sharing with some of the smaller jurisdictions and Mr. Merchant noted in the long term when the COVID-19 pandemic ends that would be ideal. Currently, DPHHS has 20 epidemiologists on staff that they share with the whole state.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Contract Agreement Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and St. Peters Health. (Jacqueline Isaly)

Jacqueline Isaly, Community Health Promotion Division Administrator, presented the contract with St. Peter's Health in an amount not to exceed \$125,000 for further development of the Mobile Crisis Response Unit (MCU). Ms. Isaly gave an overview of the MCU. The purpose of the funding is to enhance the mobile crisis response unit to include support for the administrative costs associated with the program. The funding requires a one-to-one match which will be provided by St. Peter's Health. The contract begins September 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Staff recommends approval of the contract with St. Peter's Health.

Ms. Isaly explained Lewis and Clark Public Health is contracted with Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) Addictive and Mental Health Disorders Division for these services. In turn, Lewis and Clark County then subcontracts out the services to St. Peter's Health because Public Health does not have the staffing or mechanisms in place to provide these behavioral health services. Ms. Isaly noted the mobile crisis response model has been discussed for some time as an additional piece in the continuum of care.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Contract Agreement Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and Center for Mental Health. (Jacqueline Isaly)

Jacqueline Isaly, Community Health Promotion Division Administrator, presented the contract with the Center for Mental Health in an amount not to exceed \$108,810 for behavioral health direct services to uninsured and under-insured individuals impacted by COVID-19 in Lewis and Clark County. The contract begins September 1, 2020 through July 30, 2021. Staff recommends approval of the contract with Center for Mental Health.

Ms. Isaly again noted that Lewis and Clark Public Health contracted with Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) Addictive and Mental Health Disorders Division for these services. In turn, Lewis and Clark County is subcontracting out the services to Center for Mental Health.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Contract Between Lewis and Clark County and Great West Engineering. (Planner: Lindsay A. Morgan)

Lindsay Morgan, Planner III, presented the contract with Great West Engineering for assistance with subdivision reviews on an as needed basis. The contract amount is not to exceed \$9,500, begins upon approval, and expires September 15, 2021.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Grant Application to the Department of Commerce. (Ann McCauley)

Ann McCauley, Grants Administrator, presented the grant application to the Department of Commerce's CDBG Planning grant program on behalf Accessible Space, Inc (ASI). ASI is a nationwide nonprofit housing and service provider for very-low and low income adults with disabilities, seniors, and veterans based in St. Paul, Minnesota. ASI owns and manages two housing complexes in Helena: Queen City Estates for adults with disabilities and Aspen Village Apartments for seniors. The proposed CDBG Planning project is to conduct a preliminary architectural report (PAR) for each of these facilities. Known upgrades needed for both facilities include roof replacements, new parking lot overlays, and improved security and safety measures. A complete PAR is required to apply for a CDBG Public and Community Facilities grant for project implementation. The requested amount in the grant application to conduct the two PAR's is \$50,000. Ms. McCauley noted that ASI was selected as a project to sponsor through the Community Needs Assessment that is conducted jointly between the City and the County.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Devin Vander Schaaf, ASI Public Relations and Marketing Manager, gave an overview of ASI and how they operate. There are roughly 65 units owned and operated by ASI in Helena, all units are subsidized by HUD. Mr. stated these units are an integral part of the community and that support for this grant is valuable.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Public comment on any public matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not on the agenda above.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Susan Good Geise, Chair



Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair



Jim McCormick, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board