



## **PUBLIC MEETING**

November 5, 2020  
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, November 5, 2020, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

### **Roll Call**

Chair Susan Good Geise called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen and Commissioner Jim McCormick were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Leo Dutton, Peter Italiano, Dan Karlin, Charles Lane, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone recited the pledge.

### **Consent Action Items**

- a. Public Meeting Minutes for August 20, 25, 27; September 10; October 20, 2020. (Nadine McCarty)
- b. Resolution 2020-94 Declaring County Property Surplus Property. (Amy Reeves)

Roger Baltz reported on the consent action items 2 a-b and recommended approval.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Commissioner McCormick. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

### **Bid Award. Elk Creek Bridge Replacement Project. (Dan Karlin)**

Dan Karlin, County Engineer, presented the bid award for the Elk Creek Road Bridge (EK5) Replacement Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) project. On October 29, 2020 a bid opening was held and four bids were received. The project generally consists of installing a 54-foot span by 24-foot useable width single-span prefabricated steel modular bridge on a driven pile foundation. Construction will consist of removing and disposal of the existing bridge structure, excavation, structural backfill, supply and installation of riprap, supply and placement of grout into the riprap, supply and installation of steel piles, installation of a concrete pile cap, and finally installing the bridge. The project may be funded in part with grant funding from TSEP and budget authority is in the FY21 Bridge Infrastructure Replacement budget. The difference between the low and high of the four bids received was \$86,036. After a review of the bids by the selection committee, it was determined the low bid was responsive and met all specifications. Staff recommends awarding the contract to the low bidder, Battle Ridge Builders, LLC from Belgrade, Montana for the total bid amount of \$143,013.

Mr. Karlin stated the County has not had any contracts with Battle Ridge Builders; however, staff and the consultant have no issues with awarding the bid to them.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Grant Application to the Montana Board of Crime Control. (Leo Dutton)**

Leo Dutton, Sheriff/Coroner, presented the grant application to the Montana Board of Crime Control for Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental funding in the amount of \$20,933. The funds are for equipment to reduce the spread of COVID-19 among inmates and staff. The equipment includes a cordless electrostatic backpack sprayer, two HP computers, a live scan fingerprint machine, flu test kits, free-standing temperature check kiosk, COVID Veritor rapid detect test kit, reader, and analyzer, desktop temperature check-in, and Decdeal non-contact forehead temperature scanner. The Detention Center did have a small outbreak of COVID-19 however, at this time it is COVID free. The equipment will help keep the Detention Center COVID free. The project period is for 12 months from the date of the application. Staff recommends approval of the grant application to the Montana Board of Crime Control.

Sheriff Dutton thanked Public Health for assisting with COVID protocols and testing.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Approval for Detention Center Policy Update and Training Software Implementation. (Leo Dutton)**

Leo Dutton, Sheriff/Coroner, presented the reimbursement request in the amount of \$21,000 through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for Detention Center Policy and Training Software Implementation through Lexipol. Due to Covid-19 and the required mitigation efforts in local detention facilities and the obligation we have for the custody, welfare and care of inmates, implementing Lexipol would improve both inmate and detention officer safety and reduce virus spread in the facility. Deploying Lexipol Detention Module in Montana's local jails will ensure appropriate policies and training are in place, in a dynamic online format, to plan, prepare and respond to the pandemic. The total fee to implement Lexipol is \$147,000. That total will be divided by 7 counties that have been identified as lead counties for the implementation; therefore, each county is requesting \$21,000. Lewis and Clark County will have 5 counties under it for implementation. Those counties include Powell, Silver Bow, Anaconda-Deer Lodge, Broadwater and Jefferson. The system must be in place by December 30, 2020 in order to be reimbursed from CARES funds.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Commissioner McCormick. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

**Approval Deferral of the Helena Valley Planning Area Working Group (Blue Ribbon Panel). (Peter Italiano)**

Peter Italiano, Community Development and Planning Director, presented the deferral of approval of a working group regarding the Helena Valley Planning Area. On October 6, 2020 the Commission asked staff to return with a recommendation to create a group to assist with certain next steps regarding the zoning. The Board's intent was to hear this item on November 19, 2020 after they consider a resolution to create the zoning regulations and map. However, due to some discussion on October 6th about the

30-day period following their approval of the resolution of intent to zone, it became apparent that some confusion as the time frame for the project might exist. To address any potential confusion relative to public expectation or this item, it has been placed on the agenda this November 5th meeting, within the said 30-day period after October 6th with a request to defer action until November 19th. Staff recommends deferring approval of the Helena Valley Planning Area Working Group.

Commissioners had discussion regarding the process to form the panel, the composition of the panel, and what their function will be. The Commission would like to see a broad representation of several groups within the Helena Valley including conservation or environmental groups, Helena realtors, Helena building association members, agricultural groups, forest fuels managers, etc. In general, the group will look at alternatives for the rural growth area, the transitional growth areas, the growth policy, and the 10-acre minimums. The Commission will look at setting aside resources for the group to help them succeed and meet the goals set by the Commission. Those resources may include funds for a moderator or facilitator.

Roger Baltz stated that county staff will be prepared on November 19 with a draft proposal and structure for the size of the group, roles of the group and the goals of the group. From that proposal, members could be appointed.

No public comment was received.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunthausen to table the item to November 19, 2020 and seconded by Commissioner McCormick. The motion Passed on a 3-0 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 10:09 a.m.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andy Hunthausen, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim McCormick, Vice Chair

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Tom Rolfe, Member

ATTEST:

  
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Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board