



PUBLIC MEETING

March 1, 2018

MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, March 1, 2018, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

Roll Call

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

Commissioner Jim McCormick was present. Commissioner Susan Good Geise was out of the office. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Pam Attardo, Roger Baltz, Peter Italiano, Charles Lane, Jennifer McBroom, Mary Roehr, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

- a. Public Meeting Minutes: April 25; August 8; September 28; November 21, 30, 2017; January 11, 18; February 6, 8, 13, and 15, 2018. (Nadine McCarty)

Roger Baltz reported on the consent action item 2 a and recommended approval.

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 United States Geological Survey, United States Department of the Interior. (Jennifer McBroom)

Jennifer McBroom, Water Quality Outreach and Watershed Coordinator presented the joint funding agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), United States Department of the Interior in the amount of \$14,035 for operation and maintenance of the streamflow-gaging station on Tenmile Creek near Rimini. The Water Quality Protection District (WQPD) pays \$7,655 with the USGS paying \$6,380. Donations for the WQPD come from the City of Helena Public Works, Lewis and Clark Conservation District and others. No county funds will be used and no match will be required. The contract began October 1, 2017 and goes through September 30, 2018. If the county continues the cooperative agreement for the upper Tenmile gauge the USGS will fully fund the operation of the Prickly Pear gauge, near Clancy and the Tenmile gauge on Williams Street.

An overview of what the gauge station produces was given to include the cubic feet per second and the gauge height. The gauges have a long record of data: gauge on Rimini over 100 years; gauge on Williams Street 51 years; gauge on Prickly Pear Creek 77 years. The sites are used for flood warning and also for the re-watering project as well as other projects. A chart and brief overview of a graph depicting the flood stage line was presented.

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 Award to Lewis and Clark County from Montana State Historic Preservation Office. (Pam Attardo)

Pam Attardo, Heritage Preservation Officer presented the grant award from the Montana State Historic Preservation Office in the amount of \$5,500 for an unrestricted use. A match paid by the county is for a portion of the Heritage Preservation Officer's salary. The grant period begins April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

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 Award to Lewis and Clark County from Montana Disaster and Emergency Services. (Roger Baltz)

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer noted a correction in the agenda, this is a grant application to the Montana Disaster and Emergency Services for the FFY 2018-19 Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$48,136 with a local match of \$48,136 for a total of \$96,272. The contract period is July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. The grant is annual and tied into the Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) operations.

Commissioner McCormick confirmed the grant pays part of the DES Coordinator's salary and has occurred for a long period of time.

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.

Renewed Franchise Agreement Between Lewis and Clark County and Charter Communications. (Roger Baltz)

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer presented the proposed renewed Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications. The current Franchise Agreement has been in place since 2004 and does not expire until February 28, 2019. The City of Helena also has a Franchise Agreement. The City and County have worked to negotiate an Agreement with Charter Communications to have similar provisions and terms to facilitate coordination.

The proposed Agreement will have a new fee of \$0.15 per subscriber per month to be used for Public, Education and Government (PEG) access capital equipment costs. The Franchise fee of 5% in place under the existing Agreement remains the same. The Agreement is for ten years with five year extension possible. The PEG channel remains in the proposed Agreement with an additional new PEG channel to be provided if certain programming requirements are met.

Commissioner McCormick referenced the \$0.15 and asked if it is for HCTV. Mr. Baltz referenced Section 13.4 of the proposed Agreement and confirmed that the initiative to upgrade to a digital platform would be included. The proposed Agreement does address the contemplation of converting to a high definition format if certain conditions are met.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Mary Roehr, Director of Government Affairs for Charter Communications thanked everyone for the consideration of the Franchise renewal and all the work, especially Mr. Baltz. This is a partnership that is valued. She welcomes any concerns or questions.

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 9:21 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Andy Hunthausen, Chair

Jim McCormick, Vice Chair



Susan Good Geise, Member

ATTEST:



Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board