



PUBLIC MEETING

March 10, 2020
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 10, 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, Nicho Hash, Jacqueline Isaly, Drenda Niemann, Audra Zacherl, Theresa Ortega, Marvin Colman, Edwin K. Sherman, Archie Harper, Norm Rostocki, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

There were no consent action items.

Contract Between Lewis and Clark County and Great West Engineering. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented the contract with Great West Engineering for engineering services on the Western Federal Lands Highway Division, Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP), Collins/Ferry/Snowdrift Surface Preservation Project.

Western Federal Lands granted Lewis and Clark County funding for the following improvements: One and a half miles of Collins Drive will be resurfaced to include applying six inches of gravel over the width of the road and a dust palliative application beginning just north of where Collins Drive crosses the Helena Valley Canal and extending north to the intersection with Snowdrift. Crushed culverts will be replaced and new intersection culverts will ensure positive drainage; one and a half miles of Ferry Drive will be resurfaced to include applying six inches of gravel over the width of the road and a dust palliative application beginning just north of where Ferry Drive crosses the Helena Valley Canal and extending north to the intersection with Snowdrift. The road surface from the intersection with Fantasy Road and south roughly one-quarter mile will be reconditioned to resolve road drainage problems; one mile of Snowdrift Road to be resurfaced to include six inches of gravel over the width of the road and a dust palliative application beginning at the intersection of Collins Drive and ending at Ferry Drive. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$698,502 with a match of 13/42% or \$93,740 with budget authority in the FY20 Road Mill Levy budget. Construction is anticipated for the fall of this year.

The contract is for \$75,000 and will provide preliminary design, environmental compliance, final design, bidding assistance and construction contract management for the project extending through December 31, 2022. The reimbursable agreement allows for \$78,196 in engineering expenses for these activities. Staff recommends approval of the contract with Great West Engineering.

A brief discussion occurred on the FLAP process and Ms. Zacherl noted the application was submitted calendar year 2018.

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.

Memorandum of Agreement Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and National Association of Chronic Disease Directors. (Jacqueline Isaly)

Jacqueline Isaly, Community Health Promotion Division Administrator, presented the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors in the amount of \$4,150 to implement activities associated with the Disability Inclusive Healthy Communities summit training. She added the purpose of the project is to reduce chronic disease by increasing access to physical activity and nutrition for individuals of all abilities. The contract will allow Public Health to share their local successes with others in the training, and teach other national and state programs about the policy system and environmental changes they have been able to make in this community. This includes the creation of the active living wayfinding system, inclusive work group at Public Health, the inclusive policy at Public Health, the partnership with Montana Independent Living Project (MILP), the wheelchair charging stations at the City-County Building and the Capitol Building, and the two inclusive walk audit trainings held the past couple of years. Public Health staff serve as the community coaches. The MOA is effective February 1, 2020 through May 20, 2020. Staff recommends approval of the MOA with the National Association of Chronic Disease Director.

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.

Contract Agreement Between Lewis and Clark County and Good Samaritan Ministries. (Drenda Niemann)

Drenda Niemann, Public Health Officer, presented the contract with Good Samaritan Ministries to operate Our Place Drop in Center. The purpose of the Drop in Center is to offer peer-run consumer driven programs for individuals experiencing mental health and substance abuse challenges, where they can seek peer support and reach other services in the community, such as food and housing assistance, job searches, medical and dental care, behavioral health therapy, and filling out any necessary applications. The contract amount is not to exceed \$48,300 and is a combination of Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services grant to support drop in centers and the County Public Safety Initiative Levy dollars. The contract begins March 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. It will be reviewed and updated for FY21 and every year thereafter. Staff recommends approval of the contract with Good Samaritan Ministries.

Theresa Ortega, Good Samaritan Ministries Executive Director, stated it has been going well at Our Place and the two entities are meshing very well with the common needs in the community. She noted gaps have been found in the services.

Marvin Colman, Our Place Manager, reported last month they served 1,055 people; found 80 people jobs, and so far 4 people this month; helped 6 people to find housing, with 4 so far this month. They have

also been providing peer support rides to appointments, job searches and housing. They serve about 45 to 50 people per day with about 10 to 11 that stay throughout the day. Also provided is respite service for adult foster care and it looks like the number will be around 400 people for the month.

Mr. Colman added it is a challenge with only two staff members and one part-time staff member. Other agencies, such as Veteran's Housing Assistance, Helena Housing, PureView, and Family Promise have recognized the need to go to Our Place when services are needed.

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.

Board Appointment. (Roger Baltz)

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, presented the board appointment and recommended the appointment of Lois Steinbeck to the City-County Consolidated Planning Board to a term that expires September 1, 2022.

Mr. Baltz explained the board appointment process when a vacancy occurs that includes advertising for at least 30 days, noting this position has been advertised since September, 2019.

Nadine McCarty, Administrative Assistant, stated two other applications were received, but both resided within the Helena City limits and could not be considered for the position. The presented application is the only one that was qualified.

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.

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

Norm Rostocki, 5210 Kerr, stated he is here to discuss the gravel pit application and the citizens requesting Part 1 Zoning. Several people have reached out to the Commission regarding the amount of time it is taking for the next step to be taken to establish the zoning and the same answer is received that the planning department is short staffed. It is felt they have been brushed aside from the Commission for this issue, while it seems Part 2 Zoning has taken precedence. Mr. Rostocki reported his observations from the Part 2 Zoning community meetings he attended where one person supported the zoning in a show of hands at the West Valley Fire Hall meeting; and one person, not living in the area, supported the mining gravel in a residential area at the Helena Middle School meeting. To his knowledge there were no commissioners at either meeting. He added citizens elect others to represent them and allocate available resources to accomplish what the citizens want done. A disconnect seems to exist with what the citizens want and what the Commission wants. Every day that more resources are allocated to Part 2 Zoning favors one large landowner at the expense of hundreds of smaller landowners. They represent a substantial tax base that should not be ignored. They are frustrated and have hired legal counsel. It has been made clear by allocations of scarce resources that this is not a priority.

Commissioner Good Geise asked Mr. Baltz to have someone from Planning come upstairs to meet with Mr. Rostocki and explain the timeline for the process. She added the citizens have been heard.

Commissioner Hunthausen stated the Commission and staff have tried to address this as quickly as possible and noted the many other current projects the staff is working on. He added a new staff member was just hired with possibly another.

Archie Harper, 901 Lynn Road, spoke of the letter he submitted about one week ago and noted according to their attorney getting Zone 51 established is the preferred route. He asked about the vacant floodplain coordinator position being vacant since October and if there are any candidates.

Commissioner Good Geise noted since the position became vacant repeated recruitment has occurred and added qualified flood plain coordinators are few and far between. Commissioner Hunthausen added he was told there is a possible candidate for the position.

Mr. Harper asked if additional hours are occurring to fulfill the shortcomings and noted it would be helpful.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:59 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

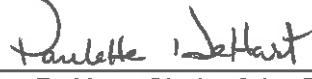


Susant Good Geise, Chair

Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair

Jim McCormick, Member

ATTEST:



Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board