



PUBLIC MEETING

March 17, 2020
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 17, 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, Misty Edwards, Nicho Hash, Peter Italiano, Kellie McBride, Audra Zacherl, Leo Dutton, Alan Hughes, Angie Sparks, Jillian DeAmicis-Danesi, Sean Logan, Samantha Pierson-Hartung, Benjamin D. McGaugh, Kevin Wright, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Proclamation Declaring March 17, 2020 as Irish Heritage Day.

Commissioner McCormick gave a brief history of General Thomas Francis Meagher, the Hibernians and read the proclamation declaring March 17, 2020 as Irish Heritage Day.

Consent Action Items

- a. Public Meeting Minutes for December 10, 17, 31, 2019; February 13, 20, and March 3, 2020.
(Nadine McCarty)

Roger Baltz reported on the consent action items 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.

Change Orders No. 1 and No. 2 to the Contract Between Lewis and Clark County and Sletten Construction Company. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented Change Order No. 1 and No. 2 with Sletten Construction Company to the General Contractor/Construction Manager contract for the Detention Center Renovation. Change Order No. 1 provides for ADA parking improvements to include three ADA parking spaces between the Detention Center and the Courthouse buildings. Cost of construction for the change order is \$52,921.49 with construction beginning this spring. Funding for the parking will be shared by the County's ADA improvements fund and the Detention Center operations fund. Change

Order No. 2 provides for the replacement of the uninterruptible power supply (UPS) that mainly services the state radio room located in the attic of the Detention Center. Cost of the UPS replacement is \$110,192.70 with funding from the public safety levy capital fund. Staff recommends approval of Change Order No. 1 and No. 2 with Sletten Construction Company.

Ms. Zacherl explained the ADA parking was not part of the bond and the existing ADA parking was found to not be in compliance. She added money has been allocated annually toward ADA improvements countywide and the ADA parking was earmarked last fiscal year as a project.

Ms. Zacherl stated there were problems when changing power over to the new electrical panel and were related to the UPS that has met its useful life. The decision was made to replace the UPS in order to not interrupt Detention Center operations later on.

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 Between Lewis and Clark County and Robert Peccia & Associates, Inc. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented the contract with Robert Peccia & Associates, Inc. for engineering services on the Western Federal Lands Highway Division, Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP), Sun Canyon Surface Preservation Project. Western Federal Lands granted Lewis and Clark County funding to surface 4.9 miles of the upper Sun Canyon Road out of Augusta with six inches of crushed aggregate surface course and a dust palliative. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$987,207 with a match of 13.42% or \$132,483 with budget authority in the FY20 Road Mill Levy budget. Construction is anticipated for the 2021 construction season.

The contract, for time and materials not to exceed \$87,007 will provide preliminary design, environmental compliance, bidding assistance and construction engineering and contract management for the project extending through December 31, 2021. The reimbursable agreement allows for \$88,838 in engineering expenses for these activities. Staff recommends approval of the contract with Robert Peccia & Associates, Inc.

Discussion was had on the timelines and success of past FLAP projects. Ms. Zacherl noted the projects have always been under the budget that the federal government has given and the funds can only be used on roads accepted through the program.

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.

Grant Award to Lewis and Clark County from Institute for Intergovernmental Research. (Kellie McBride)

Kellie McBride, Criminal Justice Services Director, presented the grant award from the Institute for Intergovernmental Research for Building Bridges between Jails and Community-Based Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder Project in the amount of \$93,750 with no local match required. The funds will help with funding the peer support specialist position. The grant period is March 1, 2020 through February 28, 2021. Staff recommends acceptance of the grant award from the Institute for Intergovernmental Research.

Ms. McBride gave an overview of the selection process for learning about implementing Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) programs in detention centers that bridge between the center and a variety of local providers and the County team that was formed. She explained the importance of this program and noted it would help reduce the number of individuals in the detention center and recidivism.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Dr. Courtney Crowell, Detention Center Physician, explained addictions, what occurs in the brain, and how MAT works for addicts. She added addictions are being thought of as a chronic disease with the idea to treat. Some will no longer need the MAT and others may need it the remaining of their life. She explained the MAT medications, their risks, but not the risk of overdose and death. The MAT program has been successful elsewhere.

Samantha Pierson-Hardwick, Detention Center Nurse Manager, stated she was part of the committee. She explained the necessity of having dopamine in the brain and what occurs when using opioids, etc. She explained the current system in the jail with addicted inmates and what occurs when the inmate is released still having drug cravings. She added there is no real benchmark on recovery as it is so individualized.

Commissioner Hunthausen noted this follows in with the original goals and discussed the staff that is and will be in the detention center. He added it has been heard in some communities those on the MAT program have a 70% success rate.

Dr. Crowell addressed the question of why people are helped when they continue to use drugs, noting they suffer from a chronic disease and they do not have the ability to make good decisions freely as they are driven by other needs.

Leo Dutton, Sheriff, stated Montana did not get to this overcrowding position overnight and he applauded the Commission for the courage to try something different. When the bond and levy was received, the promise was to find something that would not fill the remodeled facility. The paradigm is changing and this will help to keep the community safe. An immediate decrease will not be seen, but eventually will see it stop and possibly turn around with the quality of lives of the people that are affected by these decisions.

Ben McGaugh, PureView Health Center, stated he was part of the planning initiative and noted it is imperative to ensure those with addictions are released appropriately in the communities and that they receive the necessary treatments. PureView Health Center and Helena Indian Alliance provide services with the MAT program. He gave an overview of some successes. Mr. McGaugh noted PureView has a peer support specialist and expressed the value of having that position available.

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

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

Peter Italiano, Community Development and Planning Director, presented the grant award from the Montana State Historic Preservation Office for the CLG grant in the amount of \$6,000. The funds are a little higher than received in the past and are vital to fostering and advancing the Historic Preservation Program for both the City of Helena and Lewis and Clark County. The grant period is April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021. Staff recommends approval of the grant award from the Montana State Historic Preservation Office.

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 Between Lewis and Clark County and D-C Construction. (Misty Edwards)

Misty Edwards, Finance Coordinator, presented the contract with D-C Construction got construction services needed for the Clerk of District Court Office renovations in an amount not to exceed \$74,600. Work will include mechanical and electrical work; removing, relocating and reinstalling counters;

removing flooring and installing new floor underlayment and owner provided floor covering; installing owner provided arched windows; and installing new ADA accessible desk areas. Work begins upon approval of the contract, to be completed by May 22, 2020. Staff recommends approval of the contract with D-C Construction.

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.

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 10:16 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Susan Good Geise, Chair

Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair

Jim McCormick, Member

ATTEST:



Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board