



PUBLIC MEETING

March 19, 2020
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, March 19, 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 was present and Commissioner Jim McCormick was present via telephone. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Marni Bentley, Nancy Everson, Charles Lane, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending March 20, 2020. (Marni Bentley)

Roger Baltz reported on consent action item 2 a 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.

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

Commissioner Good Geise stated the grant award from the Department of Public Health and Human Services was to be presented by Eric Merchant, the Disease Prevention and Control Division Administrator for Public Health. Due to COVID-19 Mr. Merchant's duties are keeping him focused elsewhere. This item is very important and will be the subject of much discussion and would like to hear at a future date.

No public comment was received.

A motion was made by Commissioner McCormick to table the item to a later date and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Contract Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and Halliday and Associates, LLC. (Eric Merchant)

Commissioner Good Geise stated the contract with Halliday and Associates, LLC was going to be presented by Eric Merchant, Disease Control and Prevention Division Administrator, but due to Mr. Merchant's duties keeping him focused elsewhere he is unable to attend.

No public comment was received.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunthausen to table the item to a future date and seconded by Commissioner McCormick. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Engagement Letter with DA Davidson. (Nancy Everson)

Nancy Everson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the engagement letter with D.A. Davidson for underwriting services to refinance the 2010 open space bonds. In 2010 the issuance of the first \$3 million open space bonds of the \$10 million authority approved by the voters occurred. She was informed two weeks ago that the conditions are favorable to look at refinancing the bond and if refinanced the savings would be estimated around \$180,000. With the volatile market there is the possibility the bonds would not be issued, in that case nothing would be owed to D.A. Davidson. If approved, they will move forward with preparation of the preliminary offering statement, getting a bond rating and actually selling the bonds. Staff recommends approval of the engagement letter with D.A. Davidson.

Commissioner McCormick asked about the \$6,000 fee and Ms. Everson noted there is a 1% fee on the outstanding bonds with the \$6,000 covering administrative costs, included in the savings calculation.

No public comment was received.

Discussion was had on the open space bonds and the projects that these funds have helped that include ranches, Falls Creek, participation with the City of Helena in some of their open space projects.

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.

Commissioner Good Geise ensured the public that the Commissioners are listening to their concerns during this time of uncertainty with COVID-19 and are following the Public Health recommendations.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:16 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