



PUBLIC MEETING

March 26, 2019
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2019, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

Roll Call

Chairman Jim McCormick called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Commissioner Susan Good Geise and Commissioner Andy Hunthausen were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Pam Attardo, Roger Baltz, Nicho Hash, Peter Italiano, Charles Lane, Reese Martin, Christal Ness, Kathy Smidauskey, Brian Coplin, Kevin Wright, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

- a. Public Meeting Minutes for January 15, 24; March 12 and 14, 2019. (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 Good Geise and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Acknowledgment Letter Related to the Updated Emergency Operations Plan. (Reese Martin)

Reese Martin, Disaster & Emergency Services Coordinator, presented the acknowledgment letter recognizing the changes made to the Emergency Operations Plan for Lewis and Clark County, City of Helena, and City of East Helena. The changes include: addition of the Elkhorn Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) as the coordinating agency for all of the volunteer organizations within the county to coordinate resources; the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff and Coroner positions have merged to be identified as Sheriff/Coroner; the addition to the Flood Information Management Protocol in order to facilitate a method of delivering information to the public during a flood event; and change to the Flood Annex noting that Lewis and Clark County will no longer provide sand and sandbags to the public, denoting resources used by the County will be to protect public and critical infrastructure only per the State of Montana and FEMA.

Mr. Martin noted that the County will serve the COAD in an advisory role as well as providing training, mitigation information, and warnings to the public. Mr. Martin gave an extensive overview of the structure and goals of the COAD and some of the agencies that are participating in the

COAD. The COAD has expanded and are now part of a tri-county group with Broadwater and Jefferson Counties.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunthausen to acknowledge the letter updating the Emergency Operations Plan and was seconded by Commissioner Good Geise.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Brian Coplin, 1805 Joslyn Street, asked if the COAD is the same as the other organization VOAD.

Commissioner Good Geise stated the VOAD was a prototype and the COAD is a full fledged organization that includes all organizations, volunteer and private sector all working together.

Commissioner McCormick stated there is a motion on the table. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Grant Award to Lewis and Clark County from the 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. This has been received every year since 1989. The grant period is April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020. The Certified Local Government (CLG) program funds can be used for unlimited uses.

No public comment was received.

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

Resolution 2019-25 to Remove the Land Use Restriction from a Parcel of Land Deeded to the City of Helena. (Christal Ness)

Christal Ness, Development Services Supervisor, presented the resolution to remove deed restrictions placed on the common area of the Belt View Planned Unit Development (P.U.D.), deeded to the City of Helena in 1995. The land was created as common area for the Belt View P.U.D. addition to the City of Helena in 1972. Ms. Ness noted the area was not dedicated as park land on the plat. Ms. Ness provided slides depicting the oddly shaped common area and noted the largest part has no development nor encroachments and has been landscaped with sprinkler systems placed by the property owners. This is one of the reasons for the City's request with the hope they can do boundary line relocations, make their lots bigger, allow them to own their improvements and increase the tax base relative to the taxes collected off of the particular properties. The City has noted the difficulty of enforcement due to access issues and the shape of the common area.

When the P.U.D. was approved the amount of park land or common area that was dedicated exceeded the park land requirements by city ordinance. The common area was deeded to the Belt View Home Owners Association and based on non-payment of property taxes by the Association, the County took tax deed. The County tried to sell the property at a public auction to no avail and then deeded the property to the City of Helena as open space with restrictions. Staff recommends approval of the resolution agreeing to remove the land use restrictions and for the Commissioners to issue an unrestricted Quit Claim Deed to the City of Helena for the common area of the Belt View P.U.D.

Commissioner Good Geise asked if the property owners that have made improvements been made aware of the possible transaction and Ms. Ness stated according to information received from the city the improvements have been put in over the last 20 years and there has been no enforcement action done by the City. Ms. Ness noted she is unaware of what the increased property value would be seen from the taxes on the boundary line relocations.

Ms. Ness was unable to locate any records listing the reason that the County placed the deed restrictions.

Ms. Ness explained the extensive process that will have to occur by the City prior to the transfer of the property to the property owners. Property owners will not have their property taxed unwillingly due to the necessary deeds.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Kathy Smidauskey, one of the property owners, stated she and her surrounding neighbors would like to see this move forward.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Commissioner Good Geise. 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.

Brian Coplin, 1805 Joslyn St., #129, stated over the last 32 years he has been running a mobile crisis response unit and would like to discuss more collaborations with community partners to fill the gaps that occur in the community.


Commissioner McCormick encouraged Mr. Coplin to contact Mr. Wooten at the Salvation Army for connecting with COAD.

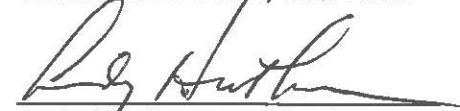
Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.

**LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**


Jim McCormick, Chair


Susan Good Geise, Vice Chair


Andy Hunthausen, Member

ATTEST:



Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board