



## **PUBLIC MEETING**

April 15, 2021  
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers, Room 330.

### **Roll Call**

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

Commissioner Jim McCormick and Commissioner Tom Rolfe were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Marni Bentley, Alan Hughes, Kevin Horne, Charles Lane, Audra Zacherl, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone recited the pledge.

### **Consent Action Items**

a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending April 16, 2021. (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 Rolfe and seconded by Commissioner McCormick. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

### **Bid Award. Mill Road Bridge Replacement - Prestressed Beams & Concrete Grade Beam Supply. (Audra Zacherl)**

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented the bid award for Mill Road Bridge Project - Prestressed Beams & Concrete Grade Beam Supply. On April 8, 2021, one bid was opened for the project. The bid consists of supplying precast, prestressed concrete trideck beams complete with precast end diaphragms, small curbs, and bearings pads on a precast concrete grade beam foundation to replace an existing timber bridge north of Helena on Mill Road over the Helena Valley Canal. County bridge crews will do the construction with construction time estimated to begin the end of October through November. Funding for the project is from the FY21 and FY22 Bridge Infrastructure Fund with the estimated total cost at \$200,000. Staff recommends awarding the bid to the only bidder, Forterra Pipe & Precast of Helena, Montana for a total bid price of \$113,157.29.

Discussion occurred on what defines a bridge.

Kevin Horne, Public Works Operations Manager, stated the bridge that will be replaced is wooden and must be replaced due to cracks in the beams. Some beams may be salvageable for future projects. Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has restricted the bridge to 11 tons. Trying to put Mill road on the fast track as it is one of the main arterial routes. MDT conducts all bridge inspections. There is a huge increase in inspections due to Federal Highways dictating to do so, as a result an increase in maintenance and restrictions across the county. MDT classifies things as structures that transport the waterways. Mr. Horne anticipates about a three to four week road closure to complete the bridge replacement.

No public comment was received.

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

#### **Bid Award. 2021 Asphalt. (Audra Zacherl)**

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented the bid award for the 2021 asphalt project. On April 8, 2021, a bid opening was held for the project. The project consists of constructing asphalt overlays, paving approaches, providing Type C asphalt to be picked up by the County at hot plant, and placement of temporary reflective tabs. Work was to be performed throughout the season on various county roads and within Rural Improvement Districts. Ms. Zacherl noted there are several factors contributing to the cost increase. The bid went out differently than in the past and part of that factor resulted in a higher than budgeted bid. There were four different items on the bid, the reason being, that there would be a higher quantity of asphalt. Normally that would push the asphalt price down. After some research Public Works was not convinced that, there was enough of an oil price increase to result in such a high bid. They are currently evaluating the options that range from doing nothing to considering rebidding one or two of the different items on this bid with a change of quantity.

Staff recommends that the County Commission reject the only bid that was received due to budget constraints. The bid was about \$100,000 more than budgeted, including contingency.

No public comment was received.

A motion was made by Commissioner McCormick to approve the 2021 asphalt bid award as presented and seconded by Commissioner Rolfe. The motion Failed 0-3.

#### **Cooperative Law Enforcement Operating Plan Agreement Between Lewis and Clark County and the USDA, Forest Service, Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest. (Alan Hughes)**

In the absence of Alan Hughes, Sheriff's Office Patrol Captain, Commissioner Hunthausen stated this is a cooperative agreement that the Commission hears annually. It is with the USDA Forest Service for law enforcement services on certain areas around the County such as Forest Service roads and campgrounds. It describes how the County will partner with them and the amount of money the Forest Service will pay the Sheriff's Office for those services.

Commissioner Rolfe noted being his first time to hear this, he received a good explanation from the Sheriff and it looks like a good partnership.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Rolfe 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**

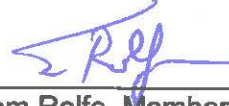
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:26 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Andy Hunthausen, Chair

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Jim McCormick, Vice Chair



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Tom Rolfe, Member

ATTEST:



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Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board