



## **PUBLIC MEETING**

May 17, 2018  
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, May 17, 2018, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

### **Roll Call**

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

Commissioner Jim McCormick and Commissioner Susan Good Geise were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Marni Bentley, Jason Danielson, Laura Erikson, Peter Italiano, Tracie Kiesel, Kellie McBride, Greg McNally, Jay Nelson, John Wilkinson, Aaron Helfert, Jaymie Sheldall, Rebecca Hargis, Christina Eblen, Kati Bono, Jess Hegstrom, Ashley Perin-Larsen, William Harrington, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone recited the pledge.

### **May 2018 Mental Health Month.**

Commissioner Hunthausen read the proclamation declaring May as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Resiliency and Mental Health Awareness month.

John Wilkinson, Mental Health Local Advisory Council, thanked the Commission for the adoption of the proclamation. Mr. Wilkinson noted the issue of mental illness and that there is no easy solution to the problem. He added that it is important for everyone to work together to create a mental health community with tools to address issues and help people more effectively.

Jaymie Sheldall, Rocky Mountain Development Council, stated that she has seen many successes and a few tragedies with ACEs and that it is important for everyone to work together. She is encouraged by this proclamation.

### **Consent Action Items**

- a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending May 18, 2018. (Marni Bentley)

Roger Baltz reported on consent action item 3a and recommended approval.

No public comment was received.

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

**The Lewis and Clark County DUI Task Force Steering Committee Annual Plan and Budget. (Jay Nelson)**

Jay Nelson, Sargeant of Montana Highway Patrol and Chair of the Lewis and Clark County DUI Task Force, and Tracie Kiesel, Coordinator for the Lewis and Clark County DUI Task Force, presented the Lewis and Clark County DUI Task Force Steering Committee Annual Plan and Budget for Fiscal Year 2019. Mr. Nelson referenced the member list and noted the goal is to maintain a diverse membership on the task force.

Mr. Nelson presented the proposed budget. There is an estimated \$20,000 cash on hand balance that will carryover from the fiscal year 2018. The task force has raised \$17,000 through various fundraisers, such as an annual concert.

Commissioner Good Geise asked how long it takes an officer to process a DUI, which takes them away from other duties. Mr. Nelson stated that it can take up 8 hours to do a thorough investigation for a DUI.

Mr. Nelson pointed out statistics from the report including that 1,184 people died in crashed involving a drunk driver in Montana from 2005-2014. Montana has one of the highest fatality rates in the nation for the number of deaths caused by alcohol impaired drivers per vehicle mile traveled.

**PUBLIC COMMENT -**

William Harrington, Interim Chief of East Helena Police, stated that the DUI Task Force is a great asset to the county and is happy to serve on the board.

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

**Resolution 2018-26 Naming Danas Ridge Road. (Jason Danielson)**

Jason Danielson, City-County Address Coordinator presented the resolution to name a road located east of Lake Helena Drive and travels east from Danas Point Drive approximately 2,600 feet. An existing 60' public access easement is filed and recorded in Lewis and Clark County. The addressing office received signed petition forms from Mr. Frank Bordewick and Mr. John Bordewick to name the road Danas Ridge Road. This is a public road. Staff recommends approval of the road naming request.

Mr. Danielson added that this request was approved by the local emergency services provider, which in this case is Tri-Lakes Fire Department.

No public comment was received.

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

**Resolution 2018-27 Naming Danas Vista Drive. (Jason Danielson)**

Jason Danielson, City-County Address Coordinator presented the request to name a road located east of Lake Helena Drive and travels southeast from Danas Point Drive approximately 3,400 feet. The addressing office received signed petition forms to name the road 'Danas Vista Drive. An

existing 60-foot public access and utility easement has been filed in Lewis and Clark County. This is a public road. Staff recommends approving the road naming request.

Peter Italiano, Community Development and Planning Director, noted he has written addressing manuals and does not believe the similar road names will cause any issues, as all the roads are located near each other.

No public comment was received.

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

**Request for Extension of Preliminary Plat Approval for Wheat Ridge Estates, Phase II and III. (Queen City Home Builders) (Planner: Greg McNally)**

Greg McNally, Planner II presented the request to extend the preliminary plat approval of Wheat Ridge Estates, Phase II and III Subdivision. Aaron Helfert, applicant, has requested an extension of the previously approved preliminary plat of Wheat Ridge Estates, Phase II & III Subdivision. Mr. Helfert indicates that phase III will be complete in one year. The property is located south of and adjacent to Spokane Ranch Road and west of the 3-D Ranchettes Major Subdivision.

On May 11, 2006, the Commission granted a 3 year preliminary plat approval of H&H Land Development Company for Wheat Ridge Estates, Phase II & III with 19 conditions of approval for both phases. Preliminary approval is for 80 lots each for one single family dwelling to be filled in two phases with 40 lots in each phase. The Commission gave final plat approval on June 11, 2007.

Mr. Helfert has received three extensions of the three year preliminary plat approval; one for 1 year, one for 2 years, and one for six years for a total of 9 years. The last extension was granted in May, 2018. The economic recession was cited by Mr. Helfert as a primary reason for the continued delay in completing the subdivision.

Several conditions of approval have been met for both phases, including: DEQ approval, installation of a fire protection system and the improvement of an off-site road (Spokane Ranch Road). Remaining improvements to install or complete include: storm water drainage facilities, weed management, soil and erosion control, requirements for approach permits, address plaques, installation of traffic and street identification signs, and internal road construction.

Additional requirements will include: the completion of a plat document meeting all conditions and dedications, which includes an extension of a bicycle/pedestrian easement along Spokane Ranch Road; preparation of restrictive covenants; review and approval of all plans for improvements; and the establishment of a Rural Improvement District for Phase II and III road maintenance.

Mr. Helfert would now like to proceed with completing the conditions of approval and has been in regular contact with the Planning Office as well as contractors for the project.

Mr. McNally indicated that staff is uncomfortable with continued and long-term preliminary plat approval extensions. Over time, regulatory updates may occur which are fundamentally contrary to approvals issued in the past. However, in this particular instance, when evaluating all the attendant issues, staff believes no public harm would result from this extension.

Mr. McNally explained the water sources for fire protection nearby. For both Phase II and III the fire protection requirements have already been met.

Commissioner Hunthausen noted all the conditions of approval still exist prior to final approval.

**PUBLIC COMMENT -**

Aaron Helfert, applicant, stated the work so far has been meeting with the County, engineering and several contractors to get the project done. He has agreements in place to get the work done this summer and anticipates applying for final plat in July.

Commissioner Hunthausen noted many smaller lot subdivisions have utility easements around every lot and the County has seen several encroachment agreements come before them for approval. He urged Mr. Helfert to notify prospective buyers of the easements and issues.

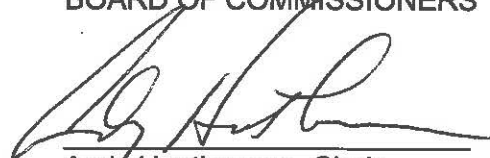
A motion was made by Commissioner McCormick to approve request for an extension for a three year period. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Good Geise. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

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

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.


LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Andy Hunthausen, Chair




Jim McCormick, Vice Chair



Susan Good Geise, Member

ATTEST:



Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board