



PUBLIC MEETING

June 11, 2020
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, June 11, 2020, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

Roll Call

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

Commissioner Jim McCormick was present. Commissioner Susan Good Geise was out of the office. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Marni Bentley, Nancy Everson, Peter Italiano, Charles Lane, Jessica Makus, Audra Zacherl, Reese Martin, Kevin Wright, Brian Coplin, Aaron Helfert, Don Preston, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

- a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending June 12, 2020. (Marni Bentley)
- b. Public Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2020. (Nadine McCarty)

Roger Baltz reported on the consent action items 2 a-b and recommended approval.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Detention Center Renovation Update. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, gave an update on the Detention Center renovation and noted in the past month Sletten has completed about 90% of the painting on the main and lower levels, installed the ceiling grids, filled in the exterior opening, started the epoxy flooring and sealing concrete floors. Currently they are installing lights, fire alarm devices and cameras; tying in the ductwork and registers; installing outlets, call lights, intercoms and devices for security electronics and getting the cable tied into the security racks and operational. Soon they will have final inspections above the ceiling and will test the fire alarms and security systems. The Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) was installed on May 8th, but there were challenges. During testing a sensor caused an alarm and replacement parts were received May 12th and installed on the 13th, with the same alarm. Another sensor was ordered and replaced, again with the same alarm. A battery rack section was ordered on May 18th. The building is still on generator power until they can get new parts installed. The ADA improvements to the parking

area started on May 11 and were scheduled to take two weeks. When Helena Sand excavated the area, it was discovered the retaining wall did not extend down to a sufficient depth. A fix had to be engineered and the additional work has added about two weeks, with completion scheduled for Friday the 5th. Construction is anticipated to continue into September. The COVID-19 virus affected work from subcontractors not having enough workers to materials not being manufactured to keep up with demand and have delayed the transition about two weeks. Inmates will be transitioned from the upper floor down to the newly renovated space the end of June. The transition will be done in two phases to enable the upper floor to undergo minor renovations that include: splitting the exercise area in two; turning the laundry into a program room; turning the kitchen and medical areas into interview rooms; turning the visitation area, booking floor and detention offices into a 16-person dorm, public visitation area, staff restroom and storage; making minor changes to Pod H to provide code required egress route; plumbing upgrades that include replacing valves for the sinks and lavatories in all cells, a new shower and ADA toilet/sink in Pod H; and security upgrades that include CAT 5 cabling, new cameras, tie existing locks, lighting and TV power into new controls, new security graphic plans and controls, and add duress alarms to all control stations.

Renovations will transform all three floors of the Law Enforcement Center into detention space with a minimum of 156 beds. Funding for the Detention Center Renovation is from the voter approved \$6.5 million general obligation bond. There is additional funding being provided for capital savings, bond premium and bond interest for a current total project budget of \$8.6 million. Expenditures to date total \$6,386,459 with architecture at \$615,538; owner's rep at \$395,329; Sletten Construction at \$5,052,632; and miscellaneous at \$222,960 that includes testing, builder's risk, electric reroute, bond-related expenses. Ms. Zacherl presented photos of the progress.

Ms. Zacherl stated the transition of inmates is scheduled to begin on June 18th. The first couple of weeks will be training for the detention officers on operation of the new facility. The intent is the project will be completed September 11, 2020, however, the project is complex with many little pieces to complete. There is always a possibility of a necessary extension.

No public comment was received.

Resolution 2020-27. Intention to Amend Ten Mile Creek Rural Improvement District. (Jessica Makus)

Jessica Makus, Special Districts Program Coordinator, presented the resolution of intention to amend the Ten Mile Creek Estates Rural Improvement District (RID). A petition to amend the RID was received for the purpose of increasing the annual assessment rate from \$215.40 per benefiting property per year to \$455.40 per benefiting property per year. One additional benefiting property has been identified and the RID boundary will also be revised as part of the amendment. The process to amend an RID mirrors that of creation, which is to adopt a resolution of intention followed by a public comment/protest period, and then a subsequent public hearings will be held to consider the resolution to amend district and adopt a new levied special assessment. The petition was signed by 62% of property owners within the RID, satisfying Lewis and Clark County's policy to consider RID petitions signed by at least 60% of property owners.

The resolution of intention will be advertised in the Helena Independent Record the next two Sundays, a notice will be mailed to all benefiting property owners and public comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at the Lewis and Clark County Clerk and Recorder's Office with the public hearing scheduled for July 21, 2020. Staff recommends approval of the resolution of intention to amend the Ten Mile Creek Estates RID and open the 30-day comment/protest period.

Ms. Makus explained the increase, noting it was citizen initiated and they would like to increase the maintenance for the District. The maintenance would include asphalt overlay on the roads and other things to maintain the road integrity.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Bid Award. 2020 Skyview Subdivision Drainage Improvements Project. (Jessica Makus)

Jessica Makus, Special Districts Program Coordinator, presented the bid award for the Skyview Subdivision drainage improvement project. On June 4, 2020 one bid was received and opened for the project. The project generally consists of installing concrete valley gutters in four intersections, three drainage infiltration structures, one storm drainage inlet structure, and associated appurtenances. Staff recommends awarding the contract to the only bidder, Mockel Precast & Excavation of East Helena, Montana for a total bid price of \$90,461.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Resolution 2020-26 Amending Previously Imposed Covid-19 Workflow Procedures Pursuant to Resolution 2020-16. (Peter Italiano)

Peter Italiano, Community Development and Planning Director, presented the resolution. On April 14, 2020, in accordance with the Governor's directives, the County adopted Resolution 2020-16 and implemented new workflow procedures. Now that the County is implementing the Governor's Phase 2 protocols, approval of this resolution would modify the previously imposed COVID-19 related procedures for the Community Development and Planning Department (CDP), allowing the CDP to reopen, begin accepting applications. The CDP is not fully staffed with some employees balancing work and home with schools closing. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Contract Between Lewis and Clark County and Rocky Mountain Development Council. (Tabled 6-2-20) (Nancy Everson)

Nancy Everson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the contract with Rocky Mountain Development Council (RMDC) to manage the funds to provide shelter to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in a manner that achieves social distancing guidelines. The amount is not to exceed \$50,000, authorized by the City and County Commissions with each providing \$25,000. The contract begins upon approval by both parties and will run to the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds are not being used at this point as RMDC is still using their funding. Staff recommends approval of the contract with Rocky Mountain Development Council, Inc.

Commissioner McCormick and Ms. Everson discussed the non-congregate living contracts, the logistics going through the Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD) with RMDC taking the lead on the funding. The County mirrored the RMDC grant funding requirements in the contract.

Reese Martin, Disaster & Emergency Services Coordinator, stated this pandemic has shown that the nation and communities were not ready for an event such as COVID-19. Through the process there have been several growing pains on coordination of resources through the volunteer organizations as well as dealing with consequence management in dealing with orders from the Health Department in regards to non-congregate sheltering or congregate living situations. Mistakes have been made, but

there has been a lot of improvement. It has been realized that continuity planning is a must for a process to continue operations. Since being in Phase 2 families at Camp Child have moved back to town many securing permanent housing. God's Love shelter no longer has a large open bay sleeping area, but cubicles set up for each bed. A lot of the non-congregate facilities are not occupied at this time. Mr. Martin explained the Personal Protective Equipment process and the time it takes.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Brian Coplin, 1610 Hudson Street, #2, asked what the scope of the money goes to and how is being distributed and will some of the funds go to providing beds for homeless.

Commissioner Hunthausen stated the money is solely identified for COVID-19 related issues such as reducing the closeness of people in congregate living settings and gave examples. It is not funding for others that may be in need of housing.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

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

Brian Coplin, 1610 Hudson St., #2, stated he works closely with the disabled community and tried to get a couple individuals to PureView for testing, but was unable to get them in due to a lot of traffic. He spoke with Jill Steeley to make arrangements so people working within the community can get access to COVID-19 testing. He would like to speak with a Commissioner after the meeting regarding finding a way to get the isolated, most vulnerable population tested.


Commissioner Hunthausen informed Mr. Coplin the testing is through PureView, not the County and Jill Steely is the person to speak with.

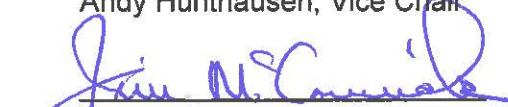
Adjourn

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

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Susan Good Geise, Chair


Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair


Jim McCormick, Member

ATTEST:


Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board