



## **PUBLIC MEETING**

June 30, 2022

### **MINUTES**

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, June 30, 2022, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers, Room 330.

#### **Roll Call**

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

Commissioner Tom Rolfe and Commissioner Andy Hunthausen were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Nicho Hash, Connor Fitzpatrick, Nancy Everson, Misty Edwards, Robert Griffis, Sarah Sandau, Brandi Spangler Recording Secretary.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone recited the pledge.

#### **Consent Action Items**

There were no consent action items.

#### **Resolution 2022-47 Increasing the Solid Waste Disposal Fee as Recommended by the Lincoln Solid Waste District. (Misty Edwards)**

Misty Edwards, Finance Coordinator, presented the resolution to increase the Lincoln Solid Waste disposal fee from \$90 per taxable unit to \$100. On June 3rd, Resolution 2022-36 Intention to Increase the Lincoln Solid Waste assessment was passed. Legal ads appeared in the Blackfoot Valley Dispatch June 16th and in the Helena Independent Record June 19th and 26th with public comments due by June 29th. Costs to operate the site has increased significantly and the increase in fee is to maintain operation of the site and maintain adequate cash reserves. Project to add another bay is scheduled to start next week. Staff recommends approval.

No public comment was received.

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

#### **Grant Application to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Ann McCauley)**

Ann McCauley, Grants and Purchasing Director, presented a proposal for consideration for a grant application to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The request is to appoint County Grants and Purchasing Director, Ann McCauley, to be the authorized agent on behalf of Lewis and Clark County to submit the grant application for "Closing the Gap with Social Determinants of Health Accelerator Plans"

program. The request is for approximately \$60,000 with no match required. The grant would be funded for one year starting October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023. Staff recommends approval.

Sarah Sandau, Prevention Programs Supervisor, gave an overview of the Chronic Disease Prevention Coalition that look at physical activity opportunities, access to care and opportunities to health and nutrition on top of cancer screening and health classes. Aging Well Work Group focuses on seniors through fall prevention, health fair. The Physical Activity Work Group focuses on community opportunities to stay active even in the winter months, works with the schools to integrate physical activity into daily lives, has a partnership with St. Peter's hospital for food prescriptions to use food as medicine, and provides sunhats to newborns and parent education on sun exposure. Most of the funding that comes through for Public Health comes from federal funding and are now focusing more on prevention instead.

No public comment was received.

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

#### **Board Appointments. (Connor Fitzpatrick)**

Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented the board appointment on the Treasure State Acres Park District Board of Trustees. The election was canceled due to number of candidates who filed were less than the number of positions to be filled. There were no regular or declared write-in candidates for the position. Culver Vernado meets the eligibility requirements for membership. Staff recommends appointment of Culver Varnado to the open position.

No public comment was received.

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

#### **Board Appointments. (Connor Fitzpatrick)**

Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented the board appointment on the York Fire Service Area Board of Trustees. The election was canceled due to number of candidates who filed were less than the number of positions to be filled. There were no regular or declared write-in candidates for the position. Robert C. Martin meets the eligibility requirements for membership. Staff recommends appointment of Robert C. Martin to the open position.

No public comment was received.

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

#### **Board Appointments. (Connor Fitzpatrick)**

Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented the board appointment on the Lincoln Lewis and Clark Sewer District Board of Directors. The election was cancelled due to number of candidates who filed were less than the number of positions to be filled. There were no regular or declared write-in candidates for the position. Verna Foley meets the eligibility requirements for membership. Staff recommends appointment of Verna Foley to the open position.

No public comment was received.

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

**Board Appointments. (Connor Fitzpatrick)**

Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented the board appointment on the East Helena Valley Fire District Board of Trustees. The election was cancelled due to number of candidates who filed were less than the number of positions to be filled. There were no regular or declared write-in candidates for the positions. Wayne A. Noem and Vincent M. Williams meet the eligibility requirements for membership. Staff recommends appointment of Wayne A. Noem and Vincent M. Williams to the open positions.

No public comment was received.

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

**Board Appointments. (Connor Fitzpatrick)**

Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented the board appointment on the Upper Blackfoot Valley Community Council. The election was cancelled due to number of candidates who filed were less than the number of positions to be filled. There were no regular or declared write-in candidates for the positions. Richard J. Foreman, Karyn K. Good, Kevin R. Grantier, and Roger Dey meet the eligibility requirements for membership. Staff recommends appointment of Richard J. Foreman; Karyn K. Good, Kevin R. Grantier and Roger Dey to the open positions.

No public comment was received.

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

**Resolution 2022-48 Increasing the Solid Waste Disposal Fee as Recommended by the Augusta Solid Waste District. (Nancy Everson)**

Nancy Everson, Chief Financial Officer, presented Resolution 2022-48 recommending the increase to the Augusta Solid Waste Disposal fee from \$100 per taxable unit to one hundred thirty (130) dollars for up to 1.5 tons per household. There has been no public comment to date. Because of growth in the Augusta area there has been an increase in waste. There has not been an increase in fees since the early 2000s. This rate increase has been in motion for the last two years. Staff recommends approval.

No public comment was received.

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

**Presentation of the FY23 Preliminary Budget. (Nancy Everson)**

Nancy Everson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the preliminary budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 noting a public hearing will be held July 12, 2022 with final adoption on July 21, 2022. She gave an overview of the budget process that begins in March of each year.

The fiscal year budget expenditures are almost \$121 million. This an 11% increase over the prior year. Revenue is around \$94 million which is a 16% increase over the FY22 budget. This is mostly from

grants that have been awarded to the County; revenue from tax increases is relatively small. The general fund has \$16 million in expenditures. The general fund's net decrease in reserves is over \$3 million.

Ms. Everson noted the revenue reserves analysis. There is a 3% increase due to new growth, and a 1.77% inflationary increase. The year-end operating, and capital reserves include a county-wide reserves of 31% of budgeted expenditures; all purpose fund reserves of 26% of budgeted expenditures; and capital reserves of \$9,663,370.

Ms. Everson explained the different types of funds that make up the budget included the all-purpose (general) fund, enterprise funds, public safety fund, capital improvement funds, internal service funds and Rural Improvement District funds. The County currently has almost \$2 million in debt, which is a debt ratio of 2%, including open space bonds, the Search and Rescue Building, the Detention Center rebuild and nine funds in Rural Improvement Districts. This fund is a savings fund for departments to save for large purchases.

The FY23 budget includes a 3.0% cost of living increase as well as three new personnel positions including part time Disaster and Emergency position, full time Maintenance Technician and a full time Maintenance Laborer. This budget also retains the current services and programs.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Rolfe and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. 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.**

Robert Griffis spoke of development at Craig that has been there for 30 years. There are some covenants that have not been enforced in over 25 years and is now being enforced. Mr. Griffis moved here a year a half ago and was told to stop construction because he is not going according to developer's plan. It is true that the the development and plan were already in place. However, the package Mr. Griffis was provided when he purchased the land did not include this. Is there a law in Montana regarding developers to enforce covenants that have not been enforced for 25 year prior?

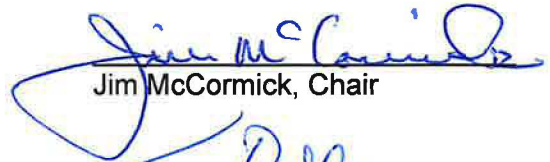
Commissioner Jim McCormick directed the question and concerns to Deputy County Attorney Nicho Hash. The County does not get involved in those county covenants. Since this is a private covenant, Mr. Griffis needs to reach out to a private attorney as Nicho Hash cannot give legal advice since he represents the County.

Andy Hunthausen pointed out that if the county did have public record regarding this development and subdivision, Mr. Griffis can view any documents the county has and that a county employee could help them find any documents.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:11 a.m.


LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Jim McCormick, Chair



Tom Rolfe, Vice Chair



Andy Hunthausen, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board