



PUBLIC MEETING

July 20, 2021
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, July 20, 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, Nancy Everson, Nicho Hash, Alexa Noruk, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

There were no consent action items.

Resolution 2021-60 Terminating Resolution 2020-12 Declaring a Lewis and Clark County Public Health Emergency. (Alexa Noruk)

Alexa Noruk, Disaster & Emergency Services Coordinator, read the resolution that terminates Resolution 2021-12, approved on March 13, 2020, declaring a Public Health Emergency to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Noruk explained the types of processes that occur when there is an emergency at the state and local level. In some cases, an emergency declaration is necessary to inform the public of the emergency; to access certain funds a resolution is necessary.

Nicho Hash, Deputy County Attorney, added when an emergency is enacted it also triggers the County response team and what plan needs to be followed.

Ms. Noruk noted emergency operations are no longer necessary as the process has been institutionalized and has been integrated into day-to-day operations of various departments. The process could quickly be reactivated if COVID resurged or if something else was to arise. A big thing to come out of this is the start of the after action process where made decisions and resource limitations can be examined. She is working with Public Health to integrate the after action process into the normal emergency operations plan.

Commissioner Hunthausen reminded everyone, even though this resolution terminates the resolution that declared a public health emergency, to be cautious as COVID-19 still exists and read from the current Independent Record the numbers that are still occurring.

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.

Resolution 2021-61 Adopting the Final Operating Budget and Setting Appropriation Authority for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2021 and Ending June 30, 2022. (Nancy Everson)

Nancy Everson, Chief Financial Officer, presented the resolution to adopt the final operating budget and set appropriation authority for Lewis and Clark County Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. As required, the Commission held a public hearing on July 15, 2021 where residents were allowed to express their concerns related to the proposed budget. Attachment A of the resolution shows the entire County budget listing the estimated July 1, 2021 beginning cash balances, the estimated revenues, the authorized appropriations by category, and the estimated June 30, 2022 ending cash balance. The appropriations establish the legal spending limits of the County at the fund level. State statute lays out several ways the budget can be amended throughout the year. Some of those changes are to the debt service funds, if bonds are issued, if unanticipated federal, state, or private grants are received, special assessments, proceeds from the sale of land, gifts or donations. The resolution and state statute gives the authority to the Commission to amend the budget related to the changes. It also delegates the authority to the Chief Administrative Officer to amend the budget after notifying the Commissioners in a working session. The same goes for changes to volume related appropriations excluding personnel and capital appropriations funded by fees. It authorizes the Commission to delegate to department directors and elected officials the authority to spend within their operating line items. She explained the previous year appropriations for capital declared authorized appropriations, appropriation carry-overs, appropriated reserves, unexpended reserves carried forward to meet future needs, and property tax adjustments. The appropriated expenditures over revenues is much larger with a big part of it being due to the CARES funding and the first allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds received. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

The final budget is due to the Department of Administration by October 1 and usually posted on the County website the end of September.

Discussion occurred regarding any increase in property taxes and state statute limiting an increase to the inflationary factor, and other factors that go into property taxes.

Commissioner Hunthausen noted the hearing remains open from July 15, 2021 and asked if any public testimony has been received since then.

No public testimony was received.

Commissioner Hunthausen stated the public hearing is now closed.

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, discussed the budget process, the good financial shape the County is in, the priorities the Commission has put into place, and acknowledged the entire team that worked on the budget.

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

Board Appointment. (Roger Baltz)

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, presented the board appointment for the City-County Board of Health and recommended the appointment of Lisa Kaufman, to the City-County Board of Health as a professional with experience in the field of environmental, biological, chemical or engineering sciences to a term that expires June 30, 2024.

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.

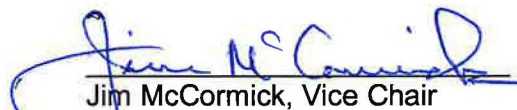
Public comment on any public matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not on the agenda above.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:44 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Andy Hunthausen, Chair


Jim McCormick, Vice Chair


Tom Rolfe, Member

ATTEST:


Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board