



PUBLIC MEETING

September 13, 2022
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 13, 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, Charles Lane, Kellie McBride, Jillian Danesi, Greg McNally, Audra Zacherl, Sierra Anderson, Rocky Infanger, Betsy Kirkeby, Ann McCauley, and Brandi Spangler, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

- a. Resolution 2022-95 Declaring County Property Surplus Property. (Amy Reeves)

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, reported on the consent action item 2a and recommended 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.

Fire Conditions Report. (Rocky Infanger)

Rocky Infanger, Wolf Creek/Craig Fire Chief, gave a fire conditions report. There were four significant fires in August. Current fires being tracked are the Ursus Fire (Lewis and Clark County) that started late August, now at 4,174 acres and the No Grass Creek Fire (Powell County) at 650 acres. Above moisture level for the next few days with a weather system moving in that should be bringing moisture. Fire fuels are climbing and generally do this time of year. They look at 1-hour fuels (grasses), 10-hour fuels (longer grasses), 100-hour fuels, and 1,000-hour fuels (big logs). Wildfire projection for the next two months is minimal. Resources are currently adequate. Air quality alert through 10:00 am and will re-evaluate at that time.

Mr. Infanger explained that all agencies respond to a fire and proceed from there. There are issues that make major differences. Drones flying in the area causes planes to be grounded when they need to be

spreading retardant, people coming close to the fire to watch are in the way of resources being brought in, and evacuees that leave late cause issues for fire traffic and resources.

Sierra Anderson, Disaster Emergency Services Coordinator, stated that coordination with several partners is critical in fire season. From working with the public to working fire responders, she has resources in place that need to work well together. For instance, having boarding places for animals and shelter for people who need shelter. Relationships are important for coordinating disasters.

No public comment was received.

Amendment No. 3 to Subaward Agreement Between Lewis and Clark County and the Institute for Intergovernmental Research. (Kellie McBride)

Kellie McBride, Criminal Justice Services Director, presented an amendment to the agreement with the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) in the Building Bridges Between Jails and Community-Based Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder Demonstration Project. The amendment would extend the agreement for an additional two months to February 28, 2023, with additional funding of \$31,400.

The IIR is one of two grants that supports the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Bridges Program in the detention center. It provides services to incarcerated individuals with opioid use disorders. This sub award funds contracts with the Helena Indian Alliance and PurView Health Center. The amendment will fund telehealth services to incarcerated individuals that will benefit from the MAT program. Telehealth intervention supports county staff in the detention center to identify, diagnose, and manage medications for those with opioid use disorders. Staff recommends approval.

The goal of the program is to engage opioid addicted people with resources to help them get on a better track. Peer support specialists physically takes them to their appointments directly from the detention center, to ensure they are engaging with the resources. A number of individuals come in to the detention center that are addicted to opioids. Using telehealth is a quick way to build a relationship with a provider so when they are released, their treatment has already begun. Criminal Justice Services on the Lewis and Clark County website has a video on MAT, and she encourages people go view it. The program has been operating for 2 years and recognizes the need to look for further funding. Lewis and Clark County is the smallest county of 15 counties selected nationally to participate in the program. Federal funding is provided because of the success of the program. Nationally the program is very successful.

Commissioner Rolfe wants the public to have access to information that proves the success of the program.

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.

Resolution 2022-92 Levying an Assessment Upon Customers of the Scratchgravel Solid Waste Management District Owning Mobile Homes as Personal Property in the District and Owing a Pay-As-You-Throw Program Charge after August 31, 2022. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented a resolution levying an assessment for Scratchgravel Solid Waste District for people owning mobile homes as personal property that owe Pay-As-You-Throw charges after August 31, 2022. Statements were sent to all accounts owing \$6 or more. Once the resolution is approved, the outstanding balances will be added to the property owners tax bill. 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.

Resolution 2022-93 Levying an Assessment Upon Customers of the Scratchgravel Solid Waste Management District Owning Real Property in the District and Owing a Pay-As-You-Throw Program Charge after August 31, 2022. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented a resolution levying an assessment for Scratchgravel Solid Waste District for people owning real property that owe Pay-As-You-Throw charges after August 31, 2022. Statements were sent to all accounts owing \$6 or more. Once the resolution is approved, the outstanding balances will be added to the property owners tax bill. Staff recommends approval.

Ms. Zacherl explained that the transfer station is managed by the City of Helena, and they do not allow people to use their facility if they have gone over the 3,000 lb. limit. The charges seen on this list was the last trip they made on their permit so the total unpaid is under \$5,000. Before the City started managing it, the total unpaid reached up to \$25,000.

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.

Grant Award to Lewis and Clark County from the Montana Department of Commerce Coal Endowment Program. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented a grant award from the Montana Department of Commerce's Montana Coal Endowment Program (MCEP) in the amount of \$15,000 to perform an update of the bridge inventory and have a preliminary engineering report prepared for the MCEP construction grant application. The contract expires on May 31, 2023. Match requirement is \$15,000 and was budgeted in the 2023 Bridge Capital fund. The bridge inventory rates around 30 bridges that need improvement. They take the highest-ranking bridge and submit that project for completion from the MCEP grant. There are several considerations and load limit is only one consideration. The inventory was last completed in 2018.

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 Award to Lewis and Clark County from Montana Disaster and Emergency Services. (Sierra Anderson)

Sierra Anderson, Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Coordinator, presented a grant award from Montana DES for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) in the amount of \$71,614 from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. County's match is \$71,614 for the total project cost of \$143,228. On March 24, 2022, the Commission agreed to the match and the funds were budgeted in the DES budget for fiscal year 2023. 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.

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 10:11 am.

Meeting minutes approved on October 20, 2022

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Jim McCormick, Chair



Tom Rolfe, Vice Chair



Andy Hunthausen, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board