



PUBLIC MEETING

September 23, 2021
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, September 23, 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 Tom Rolfe was present. Commissioner Jim McCormick was out of the office. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Misty Edwards, Eric Griffin, Charles Lane, Kevin Horne, Jessica Makus, Keeley Hunthausen, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

There were no consent action items.

Applications for Historic Right of Way Easements for Access Roads Upon State Trust Lands. (Eric Griffin)

Eric Griffin, Public Works Director, presented the applications for the Historic Right of Way Easements for Access Road Upon State Trust Lands. The applications are from Lewis and County to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and concern County roads that run through Montana State Trust Land property. Per Section 77-1-130, MCA, applications for permanent, non-exclusive easements for access roads located on state trust lands prior to 1997 will be accepted by DNRC until October 1, 2021.

The application submittal is the first step in acquiring the right of way for County roads located within state trust lands. By submitting the applications by the October 1 deadline, the County will have the ability to use aerial imagery prior to 1997 to show the location of the historic road. Missing the deadline would result in the requirement to conduct additional surveying of the historic road segments and solicit a current land value appraisal of the easement locations, of which the County would incur a significant cost. After submission, the County will have ten years to complete the process if the commission chooses. There are 31 individual roads identified with an application for each at the cost of \$50 per application for a total cost of \$1,500. Each application includes an aerial photograph taken before 1997 that clearly shows the location of the road and a copy of the most recent USGS Quadrangle map showing the road location. Many of the roads go through multiple state sections and aerials and maps have been prepared for each of the sections, though only one application is required per road. Staff recommends approval of the applications.

Mr. Griffin stated he understands the state trust lands generate revenue that goes to the schools. Through the Montana Constitution, the roads located within the state trust lands are to produce some type of revenue. The revenue would be the right of way that goes across the trust lands. In the legislative process, the deadline was extended maybe three times with no discussion of another extension. They have a list that shows about 30 counties of the 56 have already submitted their applications. Should the decision be to purchase the easements, having the applications submitted will alleviate the expense of surveys and appraisals. Montana Association of Counties recommends counties submit their applications.

No public comment was received.

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

Resolution 2021-86 Levying an Assessment Upon Customers of the Lincoln Solid Waste Management District Who Own Real Estate Property in the District and Owe an Unpaid Overage Charge for Fiscal Year 2021. (Misty Edwards)

Misty Edwards, Finance Coordinator, presented the resolution to place unpaid solid waste charges on the tax bills of customers in the Lincoln Solid Waste District who own real property in the district. Customers that exceeded their assessed cubic yard limit were mailed statements on July 22, 2021 that showed the breakdown of the charges and the amount due. They were advised that if their accounts had not been paid by August 27, the charges would be added to their tax bill. Staff recommends approval of the resolution

Ms. Edwards stated that many years customers prefer to pay the charges on their tax bill. There is no interest or penalty on the charges.

No public comment was received.

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

Resolution 2021-87 Levying an Assessment Upon Customers of the Lincoln Solid Waste Management District Who Own Personal Property in the District and Owe an Unpaid Overage Charge for Fiscal Year 2021. (Misty Edwards)

Misty Edwards, Finance Coordinator, presented the resolution to place unpaid solid waste charges on the tax bills of customers in the Lincoln Solid Waste District who own personal property, mobile homes in the district. Customers that exceeded their assessed cubic yard limit were mailed statements on July 22, 2021 that showed the breakdown of the charges and the amount due. They were advised that if their accounts had not been paid by August 27, the charges would be added to their tax bill. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

No public comment was received.

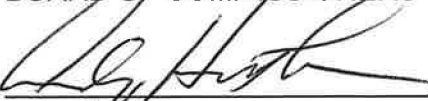
A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Rolfe and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

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

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 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