



## **PUBLIC MEETING**

September 8, 2020

### **MINUTES**

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

#### **Roll Call**

Chair Susan Good Geise called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen and Commissioner Jim McCormick were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Nicho Hash, Jess Hegstrom, Reese Martin, Greg McNally, Angie Sparks, John Herrin, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone recited the pledge.

#### **2020 National Suicide Prevention Week.**

Jess Hegstrom, Public Health Suicide Prevention Coordinator and Health Educator, read the proclamation on proclaiming the week of September 6-12, 2020 as National Suicide Prevention Week and September 2020 as National Recovery month. Ms. Hegstrom gave an overview of the help available to those struggling, the class that educates the public on how to recognize and respond to someone that is struggling. She added the suicide hotline is available 24/7 for help.

Ms. Hegstrom reviewed the events related to suicide prevention that will occur during the month of September. Commissioner Good Geise read the agencies involved in the activities.

#### **Consent Action Items**

There were no consent action items.

#### **Contract Between Lewis and Clark County and Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. (Administration)**

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, presented the contract with Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. The Commission had requested the establishment of security services at the Lewis and Clark County Courthouse. Following that request, a courthouse security team was formed. The team conducted a Request for Proposals for armed security services and received one response, from Securitas Security Services USA, Inc. The team reviewed the proposal and deemed it a responsible response and moved forward with contract negotiations; this contract is a result of those efforts. The contract is in the amount of \$236,290 annually and provides for 3 screening officers to be placed in the Courthouse Monday

through Friday. Services to be provided include screening and inspecting individuals entering the Courthouse; providing focused surveillance on incoming traffic, operating a County provided walk through metal detector; and, providing additional security to scheduled events. The contract will begin upon approval by the Commission and expire October 1, 2022.

The team held an initial meeting with the courthouse occupants with strong recommendations to screen for weapons. As a result, all entrances will be closed except for one primary entrance, which will be the east entrance. The county has purchased a walk-through metal detector which will be placed at that entrance. There will be an alternative access for those requiring ADA access. Staff recommends approval of the contract with Securitas Security Services USA, Inc.

Angie Sparks, Clerk of the Court, stated she has been there for 20 years and has wanted this for quite sometime. She supports the contract.

No public comment was received.

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

**Resolution 2020-74 to create the Montana City Fire District No. 2. (Lewis and Clark County Division) (Planner: Greg McNally)**

Greg McNally, Planner III, presented the resolution to create a Rural Fire District to be known as the Montana City Fire District No. 2 (Lewis and Clark County Division). The County received a petition from four adjoining property owners within the Lewis and Clark Fire Service Area requesting the creation of a rural fire district. The Commission is authorized to create rural fire districts as provided by Section 7-33-2101. The petition meets the requirements as all the property within the proposed district is unincorporated territory and the petition contains signatures of owners of 100 percent of the real property in the proposed district. The creation of the fire district is supported by the Fire Chiefs of the Montana City Volunteer Fire Department and the Lewis and Clark County Fire Service Area.

The Commission can choose to appoint Trustees for the District or choose to contract "with a city, town, private fire company, or other public entity to furnish all fire protection services". Staff is recommending the County enter into a contract with Montana City Volunteer Fire Department to furnish all fire protection services. The Fire Chief is agreeable to entering into a contract after the District is created as the four properties in the proposed District are more readily served by his District. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

No public comment was received.

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

John Herrin, 2855 Sundown Road, stated he is here to request the County prepare detailed assessments regarding the five points in the zoning regulations prior to the September 22, 2020. The assessment needs to address the five points that have been used to justify the 10-acre minimum restrictions. Those five points are: fire, flooding, water quality, water quantity and public roads. To date, Mr. Herrin has not seen any technical evidence to support these items and gave several examples of how those items are not justified. He would also like James Swierc to clarify the water issues made at the Planning Board meeting. Mr. Herrin stressed that he believes these 5 points do not justify the 10-acre minimum.

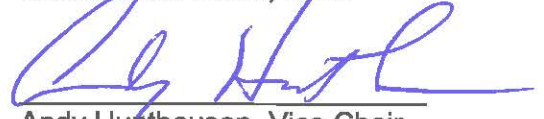
**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:01 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Susan Good Geise, Chair



Andy Hurthausen, Vice Chair



Jim McCormick, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board