



## **PUBLIC MEETING**

December 8, 2022  
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, December 8, 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 was present. Commissioner Andy Hunthausen was out of the office. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Jenny Chambers, Misty Edwards, Nicho Hash Carrie Lutkehus, Ann McCauley, Ron Whitmoyer, Paul Witham, Brian Kessler, Jacob Kuntz, Robert Beach, Rick Wock, Brian Coplin, Wes Feist, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone recited the pledge.

### **Consent Action Items**

- a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending December 9, 2022. (Marni Bentley)
- b. FY23 Memorandum of Understanding Between Lewis and Clark County and Montana Stockgrowers Association. (Misty Edwards)
- c. FY23 Memorandum of Understanding Between Lewis and Clark County and Montana Wool Growers Association. (Misty Edwards)

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, reported on consent action items 2a-c and recommended approval.

No public comment was received.

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

### **Resolution 2022-109 Intention to Establish the Lewis and Clark County Augusta Solid Waste District Rates Beginning January 1, 2023. (Jenny Chambers)**

Jenny Chambers, Public Works Director, presented the resolution of intent to establish the Augusta Solid Waste District rates beginning January 1, 2023. On November 10, 2022, the Augusta Solid Waste District Board voted to approve an increase in the Augusta Transfer Site rate from \$12.50 to \$15 per cubic yard for the construction, demolition, or excess waste charged by volume. The resolution of intent

will be advertised in the Helena Independent Record the next two Sundays with public comment accepted until 3:00 pm on December 21, 2022. If this resolution is approved the public hearing will be held on December 22, 2022. Staff recommends approval of the resolution of intent.

Ms. Chambers explained the timeline. It needs to be approved by January 1, 2023. Permit rollout is January 1. She also gave an overview about community engagement and participation.

No public comment was received.

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

### **Request for American Rescue Plan Act Direct Allocation Grant Funds. (Carrie Lutkehus)**

Carrie Lutkehus, ARPA Program Specialist, presented the request from the East Helena Valley Rodeo Association for an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Direct Allocation grant in the amount of the \$500,000 to complete rodeo ground relocation project. Total relocation and development is estimated at \$2 million. There are housing and economic redevelopment plans for the location of the current grounds. Staff recommends approval of the direct allocation funds for relocation of the East Helena Valley Rodeo grounds.

Commissioner McCormick confirmed the rodeo grounds have been dislocated and the issue comes from the treatment of the polluted area and the Environmental Trust Group took possession of the land that the grounds are on.

Ms. Lutkehus explained there are several layers and levels of redevelopment plans. Habitat for Humanity has plans for development.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT -**

Ron Whitmoyer, thanked the Commission for the kind consideration of the request. The East Helena Rodeo Association is in a precarious position and have few avenues to look to. The cost of moving the grounds is astounding. The move is important for business and for the Habitat for Humanity. Currently they are only allowed to use the grounds for one week during the year

Paul Witham, East Helena Rodeo Association, stated after looking at the current facilities that have been there for over 50 years, the old wooden bleachers, chutes, and other equipment would not be possible to move

Brian Kessler, Principal at East Helena High School, read a letter from the East Helena Schools Superintendent. The letter read he is in support of this request and values the partnership that has a positive impact on youth with agriculture association and the rodeo club for youth.

Wes Feist, East Helena City Council Member, thanked the Commission for current collaboration with the County and noted this type of funding will benefit the community as a whole.

Jacob Kuntz, Helena Area Habitat for Humanity, stated this has become a truly collaborative goal. He gave a list of partners that are working toward the project and gave an overview of the development plans and the positive outcomes we will see.

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

Jacob Kuntz, Helena Area Habitat for Humanity, gave an overview of the Habitat projects.

**Adjourn**

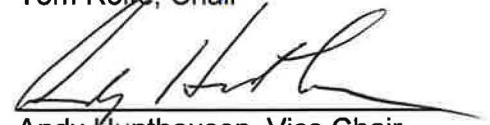
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

Meeting minutes approved on January 24, 2023

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Tom Rolfe, Chair



Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair



Candace Payne, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board