



PUBLIC MEETING

October 18, 2022
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, October 18, 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, Nicho Hash, Laurel Riek, Kevin Horne, Dan Karlin, Carrie Lutkehus, Jenny Chambers, and Brandi Spangler, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

Health Services Agreement Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and Trinity School District No. 4. (Laurel Riek)

Laurel Riek, Disease Control and Prevention Administrator, presented a contract with Trinity School District #4 to provide nursing services for the 2022-2023 school year. Cost for services is \$2,898. Scope of service includes vision screenings, Scoliosis screening, audiometric screening, referral to community resources, and dental prevention education with screening. Access to these services helps build health equity in this small community. Staff recommends approval of the contract.

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.

Contract Amendment No. 1 Between Lewis and Clark County and Dustbusters Enterprises, Inc. (Kevin Horne)

Kevin Horne, Roads and Bridges Supervisor, presented contract amendment with Dustbusters Enterprises, Inc. to provide an additional 350 tons of magnesium chloride to the Road Division's bulk tank facility and extending the contract through October 31, 2022. The amendment is for \$50,000 to bring the total contract amount to \$140,000.

The county was unable to procure a contractor to provide and spray magnesium chloride on county roads typically contracted out. Increasing the bulk supply will ensure road crews have the amount they need to apply it themselves. Staff recommends approval of the contract amendment.

Mr. Horne anticipates using 1,100 tons before the spring when they will likely need to open bids for more magnesium chloride. Current cost has increased from \$123/ton to \$140/ton. There is a difference between winter magnesium chloride, called winter brine, and that used in the spring.

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.

Helena Valley Flood Mitigation Update Presentation. (Dan Karlin)

Dan Karlin, County Engineer, presented the Helena Valley Flood Mitigation: past, present, and future. The presentation included past impacts of flooding in the county, hydrological and hydraulic study results, budget amendments, and the plan for flood mitigation in the future.

An acre foot of water is one acre with a foot of water on it. The Canyon Ferry dam was built in 1949 which feeds the Helena Valley Reservoir. The Helena Valley needed a way to irrigate. There were eight major floods since 1906. Studies started in 1982 and was necessitated by the 1981 flood. The master plan for flood mitigation was drafted in 2013 after the 2011 flood. This year, the completed master plan was drafted. Tenmile Creek flooded the north Helena Valley and West Helena Valley. The 2014 flood happened while there was still snow on the ground with frozen ground where water could not charge the aquifer or settle back into the ground. The flood mitigation pond was created to slow flood impacts and was done without a good design, therefore was not very effective but did create good guidance on future plans.

Tenmile and Silver Creek are the problem areas and led to the Trap Club Flood Mitigation Project. Two new culverts were installed. An easement was purchased from the gun club for the Flood Mitigation project and the 2017 Hydrologic and Hydraulic Study was completed. One critical element was proving downstream impacts would not be a concern. The project was anticipated for the 25 year flood and did cause a few problems. Mitigation with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is to provide benefits to homes, businesses and infrastructure. The proposed mitigation would not actually mitigate what needed to be mitigated. A lot of sediment was moving out and creating an alluvial fan. The consultant came up with a plan to grade, widen the ditch and install , which increases the cost of the project. The D2 drain is in the low point of the valley and flows right to Lake Helena. There are 10-year, 25-year, 50-year, and 100-year floods. Floods will come but these mitigations are to lessen the impact of flooding, not to stop flooding. It is mitigation and not elimination.

The scope change for the larger project is around \$500,000. A flood mitigation Rural Improvement District(RID) was created with around 1,550 parcels of land that contribute to the RID. The funds from the RID will be used to provide a match for funding the project. There was an approval for more funds, and there were change orders in the project that saved money.

Mr. Karlin went through the work that was completed in 2020. Square culverts were installed on North Montana Avenue and Forestvale Road, North Montana and Sierra Road, in front of the concrete spillway on Sierra Road, and past Rossiter School.

Next projects that need to be completed is to open the throat of the "funnel" so the water doesn't spill over. The mitigation will prevent poor performance by mitigating the D2 drain. There are a lot of spillover from Silver Creek. Design for the Arrowhead Project is in process and is 100% funded by the RID. The total for the project is \$1,932,610 and the desire is to get it all done in one season.

The Tenmile overflow needs three different projects. Tenmile overflow for the Forestvale baseline has several different options with costs ranging from \$3,210,606 to \$4,996, 611. Tenmile overflow for the Sierra Routing Alternate has several different options with costs ranging from \$1,793,183 to \$4,620,573.

Mr. Karlin pointed out where the Robinette easement is located. The route is on McHugh Lane from Sierra Road north to almost Sorenson Road. It is anticipated at some point that a letter of map revision (LOMAR) process will need to be completed and will be added to the model.

When anything is added to a floodplain it will have an impact on flooding which is where the hydraulic study comes in. With development occurring in the valley, there is a process to comply with the flood ordinance. More flooding started to be documented in the 1960's and was likely caused by the first developments in the valley.

Historic data is important in observing conditions before flooding. There is an automatic system on Rimini Road in Tenmile Creek before the point where Sevenmile empties into it. Mr. Karlin would love to see an observation for waterflow at the point where Sevenmile connects but the system is very costly to install and maintain. The RID is paying for half of the maintenance of the existing system in partnership with United States Geological Study (USGS).

No public comment was received.

No action was required.

Request for American Rescue Plan Act Minimum Allocation Grant Funds. (Carrie Lutkehus)

Carrie Lutkehus, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Program Specialist, presented a grant application to the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation for the D2 Flood Mitigation project in the amount of \$987,826. Match will be provided with ARPA direct allocation funds and Valley Flood Mitigation Rural Improvement District (RID) funds.

Upgrading ten crossings between North Montana Avenue and Lake Helena Drive is recommended to accommodate design flows. Upgrading the undersized crossings will resolve overbank flooding in the vicinity of the ditch and reduce backwater upstream of the ditch that will improve conveyance through the rest of the valley. This is the first sequence of four mitigation projects identified in the 2022 plan update.

The Valley Flood Mitigation RID was established to provide matching funds to implement the plan's recommendations. The funds from the RID will provide \$237,826 as match for the \$987,826 ARPA minimum allocation along with \$750,000 in ARPA direct allocation funds for a total cost of \$1,975,652. The period of performance is February 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025. Minimum allocation funds were set aside through a house bill for water and sewer infrastructure and need to be applied for through the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) and needs a one to one match. Staff recommends approval of the minimum allocation funds.

Ms. Lutkehus explained the process of receiving minimum allocation ARPA funds.

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.

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

Adjourn

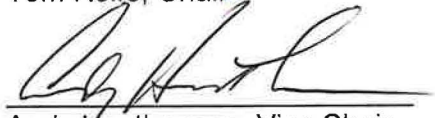
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Meeting minutes approved on Jan 03, 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