

RESOLUTION 2015 - 162

RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDING OF THE SOUTH HILLS HABITAT AND OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION PROJECT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 2008-97, in November 2008, voters in Lewis and Clark County, Montana, approved the Land, Water and Wildlife bond measure, a \$10 million general obligation bond measure for protecting drinking water sources and ground water quality; protecting water quality in and along rivers and streams; conserving working farm, ranch and forest lands; protecting wildlife areas; preserving open lands and natural areas; providing for recreation; and managing growth and development; and

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of the Open Lands Program is to conserve resources on private lands in Lewis and Clark County that fulfill the objectives of the bond measure; and

WHEREAS, funds generated by sales of these bonds are distributed through the County's Open Lands Program; and

WHEREAS, the County's Open Lands Program has received and processed an application for Open Lands funding from the Prickly Pear Land Trust, on behalf of landowner, Wilamac, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in this project, referred to as the South Hills Habitat and Open Space Acquisition, Prickly Pear Land Trust proposes to convey two lots totaling approximately 108.82 acres in size to the City of Helena for inclusion in the adjacent Mt. Ascension Natural Park; and

WHEREAS, the Citizen's Advisory Committee on Open Lands (CAC) held a public meeting on this proposal on November 3, 2015, and voted affirmatively to recommend that the Board of County Commissioners (Commission) approve funding in the amount of \$273,303.72. and

WHEREAS, the Commission held a public meeting on the proposal on November 10, 2015, at which a 30-day public comment period was opened;

WHEREAS, the Commission considered the recommendation of the CAC at a regularly scheduled public hearing on December 10, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Commission determined that this project meets multiple purposes of the bond, substantially complies with the legal requirements, and may not be achieved without the involvement of the County; and

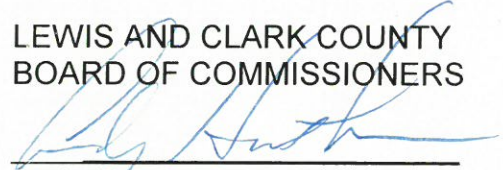
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners

- Accept the recommendation of the Citizens Advisory Committee on Open Lands; and
- Approve funding the South Hills Habitat and Open Space Acquisition Project in the amount of \$273,303.72.



DATED this 10th day of December, 2015.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Andy Hunthausen, Chairman




Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board