

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
September 13, 2005

Chairman Ed Tinsley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioners Varone and Murray are present. Others attending all or portion of the meeting included Ron Alles, Marni Bentley, Special Guest Louis Archembaux , Special Guest Judith Hart, Director of the Lewis and Clark County Library, and Maria Penna.

Pledge of Allegiance. Everyone recited the pledge.

Good Morning and welcome to the regularly scheduled Tuesday morning meeting. I'm Commissioner Tinsley, to my left is Commissioner Varone, to her left is Maria Penna, our Executive Assistant, to my right is Commissioner Murray, and to his right is Ron Alles, our Chief Administrative Officer. We have a sign in sheet at the front so if you wouldn't mind signing in we'd really appreciate it.

We have a special guest with us this morning, and I'd like to introduce him. I didn't get a chance to meet him beforehand but he is a artist who has painted some paintings that are hanging in our Chambers here. They are going to be here for a couple of months. He's done an amazing bit of work here and we would like to introduce him and have him come up and introduce himself to us and maybe talk a little bit about his works. Mr. Louis Archembaux. Welcome and thanks for coming this morning.

Mr. Archembaux: Yes, I was asked yesterday by Commissioner Varone and Commissioner Murray to talk about how this show came to be, and it does go back 10 years. I started producing one painting a year on the Lewis and Clark Expedition in 1995 up in Great Falls. It was my first painting called The Experiment and I got bitten by the bug. I met Stephen Ambrose up there at the 7th Annual Lewis and Clark Festival that they hold every year. And with his encouragement and my excitement about combining my interest in doing people and landscapes, it seemed like a real natural. So I started traveling to each of the respective sites, when I say respective sites I should say that reading Undaunted Courage, by Steven Ambrose, gave me the visual inspiration and picture I wanted for each of the paintings. And then I vowed to travel and visit the site that very week of the year that it would have occurred. And consequently, or happenstance has it, that I started exactly 10 years ago, and I decided it would be a series and there would be 10 paintings in the series. That completion took place this last spring, this past spring, and the show, in its course of being development was always on display at Mary Montana Gallery in Canyon Ferry, she has a little gallery out there. And then we had offers to purchase individual pieces but Mary said no, let's keep it together as a collection and make it available for sell. That became possible when I completed my 10th one this spring and it was called a Wonderfully Savage Land, which is up on the wall with the grizzly bear and it sold in it's entirety to a local person who would like to remain anonymous. And so that was a very exciting thing for an artist, to have all of that work pay off in a very handsome way, both financially, but also as far as my career goes. So, that's how that show came to be, and I wanted people to realize that. OK, and so the purchaser and I talked about what we're going to do with the show now that it's purchased. His first idea was to put it over at the Historical Society. He doesn't have the physical space for such a large show in his home, but they only accept donations. He wanted to put it on loan for a 10-year period, about the time his children would be approaching college, and maybe it would be like an investment for him. And so, we then approached the Lewis and Clark Center up in Great Falls and had a very great conversation with their director and curator and they indicated that would be willing to take it on loan but not at this time, because of all of the traveling shows that are going through there, so we logic how great it would be to have it at the Lewis and Clark City/County Building because of the namesake and thanks to Mike Murray who heard about this interest of ours, he put it

together, with Mr. Carpenter and here it is today.

Chairman Tinsley: Wonderful. Well, it's fascinating and we've all had a chance to go up and look at it and I know the camera has been panning around as you were talking. It was pretty interesting to watch it as you were talking. We have a monitor here, but we appreciate what you've done. Steven Ambrose was a friend of mine and his son is a very good friend of mine and he recently has survived the hurricane in New Orleans and he is moving back to Helena, and probably will be back here in a week or two. But we do appreciate what you've done and I would like to see if any of the Commissioners have any questions or comments they would like to make.

Commissioner Murray: Commissioners, Louis. I'm really pleased with the opportunity to display this for a couple of months and the people of Helena and Lewis and Clark County, that attend our meetings, have the opportunity to see your work on display. I'm very fond of Newfoundland dogs and I love the detail and the clear representation and accuracy of your painting reflecting Newfoundland's. Seaman, as you are aware was a Newfoundland on the expedition, but the capture and detail of the dog itself is unique and, it probably isn't fair to pick out one aspect of your paintings but I was struck how accurate that is.

Mr. Archembaux: You folks are going to get a kick out of the fact that the model for that dog is Bob, you know one of your maintenance guys. He owns a Newfoundland, correct?

Chairman Tinsley: He does. (Laughter)

Mr. Archembaux: And he brings it to work. Well I saw that dog and got to know Bob because of that and he's actually purchased one of the reproductions that shows his dog in one of the paintings. I might add that of the 10 paintings, 7 are in Montana and 3 are in the Lewis and Clark County, so that's a real coupe for the Lewis and Clark County as well. Of course I live here and was influenced that way. But I did travel to every, like I mentioned, at every site of that same week, of course it makes it a lot easier to do that here at Lewis and Clark County.

Chairman Tinsley: Commissioner Varone.

Commissioner Varone: Mr. Chair, Commissioner Murray, and Louis. You've done a wonderful selection of artwork. My undergraduate degree is in art, I have an extend art major. I was director of the art center here for a few years, while not a successful artist, I understand and appreciate good art when I see it, and I'm honored to have your work hang in these Chambers. And even though it's going to be for a couple of months, you've done a wonderful job in the depictions that you've based on Steven Ambrose's work, it's just astounding, and I'm honored to have it here. Thank you very much.

Mr. Archembaux: You're welcome.

Chairman Tinsley: Probably most importantly that you've pointed out to us that we didn't know, at least Commissioner Varone, and I, is that our fellow Commissioner, Commissioner Murray is such a renaissance man. We didn't have a clue until you pointed that out this morning. (Laughter) Thank you very much.

Mr. Archembaux: Please enjoy it.

Commissioner Varone: Commissioner Murray might want you to know that he was responsible for Bob getting the dog that you used.

Mr. Archembaux: Oh, all right. Things come around in circles don't they.

Chairman Tinsley: Very quickly we also have another special guest here this morning. I was actually prodded, because I didn't know, I've never met her. She's our new Library Director, Lewis and Clark Library, and her name is Judith Hart. Miss Hart, would you like to come up and say hello. I don't know, I guess you didn't know this was coming?

Judith Hart: No, I didn't but I just thought I'd take this opportunity. I've been here since September 6th, so I'm trying to get out and meet everyone as quickly as I can. You can call me Judy. I am so pleased to be here in Helena and I look forward to our relationship with the County. I am so thrilled to be able to be coming in to a library system such as this. This is an outstanding system. It is so well supported by the Community. I've just been watching over the past several days, and we have an excellent outstanding Staff. I'm so impressed with the services that they offer and I'm looking forward to the future. Plenty of growth. And I do want to sing the praises of Becky Foster who has been the interim Director for 18 months, and I will probably be her shadow for the first several months of my stay here. Thrilled to be in Helena. I love the area. I'm ready to be back in the mountains and in the snow. So I appreciate you letting me pop in today, and I look forward to talking with you all individually.

Chairman Tinsley: Thank you very much and welcome to Lewis and Clark County in Helena.

Judith Hart: Thank you very much.

Chairman Tinsley: Questions or comments? Thank you.

Judith Hart: Thank you.

Chairman Tinsley: All right. Well we only have one item on the agenda this morning. We have nothing on the Consent Action Item Agenda.

Consent Items. There are no consent items.

On the agenda is a resolution establishing the effective date of the increase of the York Fire Service Area rates. Marni Bentley is the Staff person. Miss Bentley.

Resolution Establishing The Effective Date Of The Increase Of The York Fire Service Area Rates.

Marni Bentley: Good Morning Commissioners. On July 12th of this year, you passed the resolution 2005-86 which increased the fees of the York Fire Service Area. The statute requires we wait 60 days for the protest period to pass before this action becomes available, or effective. The protest period ended yesterday. I did check this morning and no other letters of protest were submitted. We did have 2 landowners protest and that protest constituted 0.371% of the landowners. That's not sufficient protest to bar proceedings so Staff does recommend approval of the resolution establishing the effective date of the fee increase for the York Fire Service Area.

Chairman Tinsley: Questions for Staff? Comments? Is there a motion?

Commissioner Murray: Mr. Chair a move a resolution establishing the effective date of the increase of the York Fire Service Area Rates and authorize the Chair to sign.

Commissioner Varone: Second.

Chairman Tinsley: We have a motion and a second. Further discussion? All in favor of the motion signify by saying Aye. Aye. Motion passes 3-0.

The next item on the agenda is public comments on matters not mentioned above. Does anybody have any public comment they like to share with us? Seeing none, we stand adjourned. Thank you for coming this morning.

Public comments on matters not mentioned above. None

Adjourn. 9:15 a.m.