



PUBLIC MEETING

June 28, 2018
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, June 28, 2018, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers Room 330.

Roll Call

Chairman Andy Hunthausen called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Commissioner Susan Good Geise was present. Commissioner Jim McCormick was out of the office. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Nicho Hash, Peter Italiano, Charles Lane, Kathy Moore, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

- a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending June 29, 2018. (Marni Bentley)
- b. Public Meeting Minutes for May 10, 15, and 17, 2018. (Nadine McCarty)

Roger Baltz reported on the consent action items 2 a-b and recommended approval.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Good Geise and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Redesignation of East Helena Sulfur Dioxide Nonattainment Area Letter of Support (Kathy Moore)

Kathy Moore, County Public Health Environmental Division Administrator presented the proposed letter supporting the Montana Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) proposal to redesignate the East Helena Area as being in attainment of United States Environmental Protection Agency National Ambient Air Quality Standards for sulfur dioxide air pollution.

Ms. Moore stated the state of Montana has an implementation plan for air quality and EPA contaminants are regulated across the state. Two of those contaminants are sulfur dioxide and lead. The nondesignation for sulfur dioxide was created in March of 1978 primarily due to the operation of the Asarco lead smelter. Attempts have been made to regulate and decrease the amount of sulfur dioxide and it was decreased. The area continued to be a nonattainment area until 2001 when the smelter was shut down and then torn down. There is now no source of sulfur

dioxide in the area with the exception of some from Ash Grove Cement well below the health standard.

The plan that DEQ has presented to the EPA will show that the area is in compliance within the sulfur dioxide attainment, the improvement of air quality has been accomplished by the demolition of the main source; and all applicable state and federal air quality designations have been met.

The redesignation of this area for East Helena will open the potential for redevelopment and new business opportunities. Staff recommends supporting of the letter.

Ms. Moore noted the Mayor of East Helena is aware of the proposed letters.

No public comment was received.

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

Redesignation of East Helena Lead Nonattainment Area Letter of Support. (Kathy Moore)

Kathy Moore, County Public Health Environmental Division Administrator presented the proposed letter supporting the Montana Department of Environmental Quality's proposal to redesignate the East Helena Area as being in attainment of United States Environmental Protection Agency National Ambient Air Quality Standards for lead air pollution.

During the years of operation of the Asarco smelter from 1888 to 2001 the smelter emitted lead in the air spreading and contaminating soils and water. It still resides in very small limited areas. The superfund clean up removed much of the lead in addition to the destruction of the smelter the primary source of lead is no longer. The only remaining source of lead in the east valley area is the Chemet facility and it is well below the standard.

DEQ did a similar study. In 1991 the East Helena area was designated as nonattainment for lead. Now because the area has obtained the air quality standards for lead, an implementation plan is in place, there will be ongoing maintenance and monitoring, and DEQ has demonstrated compliance of all state and federal rules for meeting clean air standards a request for redesignation is being proposed.

Commissioner Good Geise referenced the lead abatement program and asked how long the program will continue. Ms. Moore stated the EPA established a fund in the approximate amount of \$3 million for the program and that interest earned on the account would go to supporting the program in perpetuity. The program has been in existence for ten to fifteen years and is expected to easily exist for another ten years. By the time funding decreases the necessary active work will have also decreased. The remaining potential sources of lead are several hundred acres of trust properties and once developed either the developer or the trust will clean the property prior to use.

Ms. Moore gave an overview of the activities involved in the lead education and abatement program including: blood lead screenings, a follow up in the home is done on a positive screening result; free permits are required to move soil in East Helena, the sole reason to assess the soil for lead contamination; education with realtors, school kids; certify those working with potentially contaminated soils in the area; and work closely with the EPA on soil sampling.

The superfund area is about a 26 square mile area. One goal is to shrink the boundary and eventually have only the interior site, the plant site, which is not a superfund site but a response to environmental contamination site run by the EPA. Properties have already been excluded from the area and property owners have been notified.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Good Geise and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. 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.

Kathy Moore, County Public Health Environmental Division Administrator gave an overview on the public information meeting in Augusta, Montana this evening related to the recent flooding, some contaminated wells, septic tanks, etc. Discussion will include: steps to ensure resident safety, groundwater contamination, well disinfecting, well sampling, and open up for questions. Ms. Moore noted there will be experienced attendees to address the issues.

Maps will be available to: locate sampled wells and the result; second map will have a layer of flooding for property owners to draw in flooding on their property.

Commissioner Good Geise stated due to the quickness of the meeting the Rave system, a communication system, was put into place and used as the best way to notify residents. Eric Griffin, Director of Public Works will also be in attendance to give an update on the roads.

The Augusta Solid Waste Board made the decision that if residents bring construction and demolition waste affected by the flooding to the solid waste facility they will receive a receipt to take to the Chamber of Commerce for possible reimbursement from the \$15,000 that was raised to assist those affected by the flood.

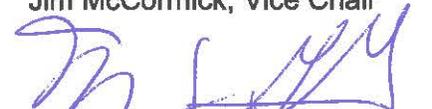
Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:34 am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Andy Munthausen, Chair

Jim McCormick, Vice Chair


Susan Good Geise, Member

ATTEST:



Paulette DeHart, Clerk of the Board