



PUBLIC MEETING

April 21, 2026
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark Board of County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers, Rm 330.

Roll Call

Chair Tom Rolfe, Commissioner Andy Hunthausen and Commissioner Candace Payne were present. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Nicho Hash, Sarah Sandau, Pam Attardo, Frank Cornwell, Dan Ganyur, Eliza McLaughlin-Pizzini, Brad Molnar, and Brandi Grande, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

There were no consent action items.

Action Items

Grant Award from the National Environment Health Association-Federal Drug Administration (NEHA-FDA) Retail Flexible Funding Model Grant Program. (Sarah Sandau)

[1:48] Sarah Sandau, Public Health Grants Specialist, presented a grant award in an amount not to exceed \$9,200 from the National Environmental Health Association - U.S. Food and Drug Administration (NEHA-FDA) Retail Flexible Funding Model (RFFM) Grant Program with a grant period from April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027. Staff recommend approval of the grant award.

No public comment was received.

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

The motion Passed on a 3- 0 vote.

Contract Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and Andrew Laue. (Sarah Sandau)

[7:10] Sarah Sandau, Public Health Grants Specialist, presented a contract with Andrew Laue in the amount of \$716 to speak at the Coordinating Hope Summit about secondary trauma and resilience on June 17, 2026 with a contract period through June 30, 2026. Staff recommend approval of the contract.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Payne and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3- 0 vote.

Contract Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and Florence Crittenton. (Sarah Sandau)

[10:36] Sarah Sandau, Public Health Grants Specialist, presented a contract with Florence Crittenton in the amount of \$1,500 to be the keynote speaker at the Coordinating Hope Summit on June 17, 2026 with a contract period through June 30, 2026. Staff recommend approval of the contract.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Commissioner Payne. The motion Passed on a 3- 0 vote.

Contract Between Lewis and Clark Public Health and Halliday and Associates. (Sarah Sandau)

[14:43] Sarah Sandau, Public Health Grants Specialist, presented a contract with Halliday and Associates in the amount of \$150 to speak about boundaries at the Coordinating Hope Summit on June 17, 2026 with a contract period through June 30, 2026. Staff recommend approval of the contract.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Payne and seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3- 0 vote.

Grant Award to Lewis and Clark County from the State of Montana Historic Preservation Office. (Pam Attardo)

[17:14] Pam Attardo, Historic Preservation Officer, presented a grant award in the amount of \$ 11,000 from the Montana State Historic Preservation Office for the Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant for department operations and two historic preservation workshops with a grant period of May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027. Staff recommend approval of the grant award.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Commissioner Payne. The motion Passed on a 3- 0 vote.

Resolution 2026-23 To Approve Tax Abatement To American Chemet Corporation On Qualifying Class Eight Property. (Frank Cornwell)

[29:10] Frank Cornwell, Chief Financial Officer, presented a resolution to approve tax abatement to American Chemet Corporation on Qualifying Class Eight Property for a period of five years

and includes a 20% phase out annually until the property is fully taxable. Considerations include a Discretionary Abatement Rate of 80%, 90%, or 100%. Staff recommend approval of the resolution and for the Commission to decide the rate.

[32:51] Dan Ganyur, American Chemet Director of Finance, explained each abatement for new product expansion and new equipment. He explained the processes of production at American Chemet, where the product is shipped to, and pointed out there are no competitors within the United States.

No public comment was received.

Commissioner Payne made a motion to approve the tax abatement resolution at a rate of 80%. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Resolution 2026-24 To Approve Tax Abatement To American Chemet Corporation On Qualifying Class Eight Property. (Frank Cornwell)

[47:22] Frank Cornwell, Chief Financial Officer, presented a resolution to approve tax abatement to American Chemet Corporation on Qualifying Class Eight Property for a period of five years and includes a 20% phase out annually until the property is fully taxable. Considerations include a Discretionary Abatement Rate of 80%, 90%, or 100%. Staff recommend approval of the resolution and for the Commission to decide the rate.

No public comment was received.

Commissioner Hunthausen made a motion to approve the tax abatement resolution at a rate of 80%. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Payne. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Resolution 2026-25 To Approve Tax Abatement To American Chemet Corporation On Qualifying Class Eight Property. (Frank Cornwell)

[49:45] Frank Cornwell, Chief Financial Officer, presented a resolution to approve tax abatement to American Chemet Corporation on Qualifying Class Eight Property for a period of five years and includes a 20% phase out annually until the property is fully taxable. Considerations include a Discretionary Abatement Rate of 80%, 90%, or 100%. Staff recommend approval of the resolution and for the Commission to decide the rate.

No public comment was received.

Commissioner Payne made a motion to approve the tax abatement resolution at a rate of 80%. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunthausen. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Resolution 2026-26 To Approve Tax Abatement To American Chemet Corporation On Qualifying Class Eight Property. (Frank Cornwell)

[51:52] Frank Cornwell, Chief Financial Officer, presented a resolution to approve tax abatement to American Chemet Corporation on Qualifying Class Eight Property for a period of five years and includes a 20% phase out annually until the property is fully taxable. Considerations include a Discretionary Abatement Rate of 80%, 90%, or 100%. Staff recommend approval of the resolution and for the Commission to decide the rate.

No public comment was received.

Commissioner Hunthausen made a motion to approve the tax abatement resolution at a rate of 80%.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Payne. 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.

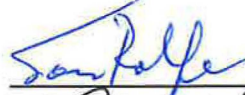
[56:04] Brad Molnar, Public Service Commissioner District #2, came to discuss property taxes and utility rates specifically for the Coal Strip production plant. Rate based utilities changed to market based for Coal Strip and customers were considered recipients with the lowest energy bills in the nation. He is requesting a letter of support that energy be returned to rate based. Deadline for the letter is April 30, 2026.

Adjourn

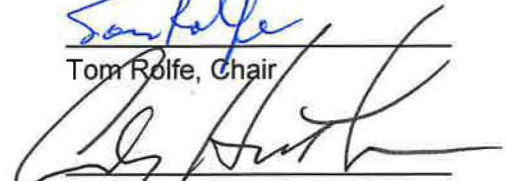
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.

Meeting minutes approved on 5-12-26

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Tom Rolfe, Chair



Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair

Candace Payne, Member

ATTEST:



Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board