



PUBLIC MEETING

May 12, 2022
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers, Room 330.

Roll Call

Vice Chair Tom Rolfe called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen was present. Commissioner Jim McCormick was out of the office on other County business. Others attending all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Marni Bentley, Emily Frazier, Dan Karlin, Charles Lane, Audra Zacherl, Jenny Chambers, Kevin Horne, Loy Chvilicek, John Moore, Michael Harrison, Lyle Schwabacler, Bettijo Starr, Jacob Augenstein, Wayne Beckman, and Nadine McCarty, Recording Secretary.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

- a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending May 13, 2022. (Marni Bentley)

Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, reported on consent action item 2a and recommended approval.

No public comment was received.

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

Grant Application to the Department of Justice. (Brad Bragg)

Brad Bragg, Detention Center Captain, presented the grant application to the Department of Justice for Advancing the Use of Technology to Assist Victims of Crime in the amount of \$431,000. Funds will be used for an electronic victim notification system that would automatically notify victims of domestic violence via text messages, emails and calls. The public will also be allowed to sign up for notifications regarding individuals that they are victims of for other crimes. It will cover eleven counties in Montana and three years of annual fees. Law enforcement can also sign up for notifications on suspects. The grant period begins October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2025. Staff recommends approval of the

grant application submission to the Department of Justice. Captain Bragg explained the Sheriff's Office would still be available for further information.

No public comment was received.

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

Resolution 2022-30 Resolution to Authorize the Director of Public Works as County Road Superintendent. (Dan Karlin)

Dan Karlin, County Engineer, presented the resolution that would authorize the County Public Works Director to be County Road Superintendent. However, after discussion with County legal staff it has been determined that Road Superintendent might not be the appropriate designation and that Road Supervisor might work better. Staff requested the item be tabled at this time.

Charles Lane, Deputy County Attorney suggested no action be taken and the item can be resubmitted at a later date.

No public comment was received.

Commissioner Rolfe stated there will be no action taken at this time.

Bid Award. 2022 Paint Striping Project. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented the bid award for the 2022 paint striping project. On May 3, 2022, a bid opening was held for the project and two bids were received. The project generally consists of paint striping centerline and shoulder roadway markings on approximately 87 miles of roadway in Lewis and Clark County. There was less than a \$6,000 difference between the apparent low bidder and the second bid. Cost estimation is \$177,746. The project is budgeted in the FY23 Mill Levy budget and the Applegate, Beartooth, Colorado Gulch, Ten Mile Creek Estates Rural Improvement District budgets. Staff recommends awarding the contract to the low bidder, Streamline Markings, Inc. of Billings, Montana for Schedule 1 a mobilization fee of \$2,500 and per gallon charge of \$29.40 and for Schedule 2 a mobilization fee of \$1,250 with the same per gallon charge of \$29.40 for a total bid amount for both schedules of \$135,079.80.

No public comment was received.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunthausen to award the contract to the low bidder, Streamline Markings, Inc. and seconded by Commissioner Rolfe. The motion Passed on a 2-0 vote.

Resolution 2022-29 to Authorize the Director of Public Works as a Contract Signatory. (Audra Zacherl)

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented the resolution that would authorize the Public Works Director to be the contract signatory on the following: Public Works' contracts that are less than or equal to \$24,999; change orders on contracts previously approved by the Commission that do not have a change in scope and do not exceed 10% of the contract amount or exceed the approved budget authority for the project; notices to proceed, substantial completions, field orders and work change directives, common contract documents on contracts approved by the Commission.

Past standard operating procedure has been that the Public Works Director signs contracts valued at \$20,000 or less. This has been increased to align with the recently approved Procurement Policy Small Purchases - Quotes process. Any contract with purchases \$25,000 or more through the limited

solicitation procurement or bid process will go before the Commission. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

No public comment was received.

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

Contract Between Lewis and Clark County and Slate Architecture. (Audra Zacherl).

Audra Zacherl, Public Works Assistant Director, presented the contract with Slate Architecture for the Public Works Masterplan Project. In December of 2021, a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process began looking for an architectural firm. Compensation is on a time and material basis to be billed monthly for a sum not to exceed \$47,000. Staff recommends approval of the contract with Slate Architecture.

Jacob Augustine, Slate Architecture, thanked the Commission for the positive history in past projects.

No public comment was received.

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

Presentation by Helena Area Community Foundation. (Emily Frazier)

Emily Frazier, Helena Area Community Foundation Executive Director, gave a presentation regarding the allocation of general fund dollars for the non-profit grant program. She is joined by John Moore, Chair of Community Connections Committee. On February 10, 2022, they opened a grant cycle and accepted applications until March 15, 2022. Two sessions were held April 8, 2022. Forty-seven applications were received, of which about twenty-five applications were awarded grant funds. On April 12, 2022, the grants were approved by the Community Connections Committee. She listed the fifteen non-profits that received funds and the dollar amounts received. The non-profit programs varied greatly with \$2,000 being the limit. She noted they did not see as many applications as they normally do. She added that Lewis and Clark County and neighboring counties are eligible to apply.

John Moore, Community Connections Committee Chair, gave an overview of the evaluation and selection process.

No public comment was received.

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

Wayne Beckman, resident, discussed the election and voting integrity. He stated there has been a formal request to the Treasurer to share the contract with ESS and it has been stone walled. No information has been shared regarding that contract. He watched the process for 2.5 hours and voiced his concerns that there was no judge in the area. Connor Fitzpatrick seems that he believed voter ID is a burden on the judges. Everything has been turned over to ESS and checking the machines should be done by other companies. Someone was flown in from Kansas from ESS to count 17,000 votes. That makes no sense. Software and hardware programs are unknown to the public and there was a device that looked like a cell phone that was used for a few minutes running an app.

Loy Chrilicek, lives in Lewis and Clark County, reiterated what Wayne said. All ballot stock comes from ESS. Is video testimony accepted by the Commission? The Secretary of State has no control over the voting machines, and she does not know what is inside the machines. Lewis and Clark County is the only county with the power to look inside the machines. She is again asking that a forensic audit be completed. She submitted copies of the 13-17-103 MCA as well as the Montana State Register that tells the uniformed procedures for voting systems.

Mike Harrison, lives in Lewis and Clark County, spoke of the election integrity and expressed his concern, noting people pushing toward no requirement of voter ID. There is too much at stake to ignore things. He encourages the authority to look into things and noted non-transparency is dangerous for a democracy. Why the shroud of secrecy?

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 am.

Meeting minutes approved on 01/31/2023

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Tom Rolfe, Chair



Andy Hunthausen, Vice Chair



Candace Payne, Member

ATTEST:


Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board