

Missoula Board of County Commissioners

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES COVER SHEET



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 – 2 PM

Hybrid meeting – Missoula County Courthouse Annex Sophie Moiese
Room/Microsoft Teams

[Click here to view the meeting recording.](#)

Time stamps (in green) correspond to meeting recording above. Please click to
the time stamps listed to view a particular item in the meeting.

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Present:

Chair Josh Slotnick

Commissioner Juanita Vero

Staff Present:

Cheryl Hartman, Administrative Assistant, Commissioners' Office

Shannon Therriault, Environmental Health Director, Health Department

John Hart, Civil County Attorney, County Attorney's Office

Kali Becher, Open Lands Project Manager, Parks, Trails, and Open Lands

1. **CALL TO ORDER** *[Time stamp – 0:02]*
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** *[Time stamp – 0:05]*
3. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** *[Time stamp – 0:10]*
Missoula County acknowledges that this event takes place in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispell people.
4. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS** *[Time stamp – 0:11]*
 - a. Closed Captioning
 - b. Land Stewardship Award Proclamation
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA** *[Time stamp – 0:47]*
6. **CURRENT CLAIMS LIST** *[Time stamp – 0:49]*
Claims received as of September 01, 2023 to September 19, 2023 by the Commissioners' Office total \$5,070,976.21.
7. **HEARINGS**
 - a. **Final Resolution- Missoula County Health Code Regulation Revision** *[Time stamp – 01:14]*

Shannon Therriault, Environmental Health Director, Health Department

Commissioner Vero made the motion that the Board of County Commissioners of Missoula County hereby approve and adopt the resolution and ordinance to revise the health code regulation to expand the Missoula Bear Buffer Zone and Potomac Bear Mitigation Zone.

Commissioner Slotnick seconded.

[Motion Passed 2-0.]

[Resolution 2023-076 Ordinance 2023-02 Book: 1093 Page:1212]

b. New Meadows Trail Bond Expenditure *[Time stamp – 16:17]*

Jackson Lee, Parks & Trails Project Specialist, Parks, Trails, and Open Lands

Commissioner Vero made the motion that the Missoula Board of County Commissioners approve the expenditure of up to \$31,562 of the 2014 County Parks and Trails Bond funds for design and construction services.

Commissioner Slotnick seconded.

[Motion Passed 2-0.]

c. Resolution- Amendment to the Land Use Fee Schedule *[Time stamp – 27:17]*

Karen Hughes, Director, Planning, Development and Sustainability

Commissioner Vero made the motion that the Missoula Board of County Commissioners approve and adopt the resolution to amend the land use fee schedule for subdivision exemption application fees.

Commissioner Slotnick seconded.

[Motion Passed 2-0.]

[Resolution 2023-077. Book: 1093 Page: 1219]

8. OTHER BUSINESS *Time stamp – 36:42]*

[None]

9. ADJOURN

Chair Slotnick – Called the meeting to adjourn at 2:36 p.m.

BCC Public Meeting September 28, 2023 – Transcription

This transcription was produced by transcription software. There may be discrepancies between this transcription and meeting dialogue. You can view the recording of the meeting on the county's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/missoulacounty> or contact the commissioners' office to obtain a copy.

Dialogue in the transcription attributed to "Sophie Moiese Room" is for all speakers that attended the meeting in person. Attendees that participated virtually are labeled individually.

0:0:0.0 --> 0:0:0.410

Sophie Moiese Room

Sort of.

0:0:0.460 --> 0:0:11.10

Sophie Moiese Room

The Missoula Board of County Commissioners do hereby proclaim Kim Greninger as the recipient of the 2023 Missoula County Lands Stewardship Award.

0:0:11.100 --> 0:0:20.100

Sophie Moiese Room

We honor Kim Gregers outstanding efforts in caring for the natural resources in Missoula County and for providing citizens with an opportunity to learn from their successes.

0:0:20.580 --> 0:0:28.250

Sophie Moiese Room

In this day, 28 of September 2023, Josh Slotnick Oneiro destroyer thanks Juan.

0:0:30.220 --> 0:0:34.130

Sophie Moiese Room

And if I understand it right, we will be visiting on Monday.

0:0:34.460 --> 0:0:37.140

Sophie Moiese Room

Yeah, yeah. Great.

0:0:37.670 --> 0:0:37.970

Sophie Moiese Room

Great.

0:0:39.160 --> 0:0:39.720

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks a lot.

0:0:39.730 --> 0:0:40.950

Sophie Moiese Room

We're looking forward to it as well.

0:0:40.960 --> 0:0:41.630

Sophie Moiese Room

It's it's a.

0:0:41.640 --> 0:0:44.870

Sophie Moiese Room

It's a fun annual visit we get to do, yeah.

0:0:47.190 --> 0:0:47.710

Sophie Moiese Room

OK.

0:0:47.720 --> 0:0:51.190

Sophie Moiese Room

Umm do we have any public comment on items not on the agenda?

0:0:52.900 --> 0:0:54.250

Sophie Moiese Room

Anybody can speak about anything?

0:0:57.340 --> 0:1:4.910

Sophie Moiese Room

OK, our current claims list claims received as of September 1, 2023 to September 19th, 2023 by the Commissioner's Office total 5,000,000.

0:1:4.920 --> 0:1:9.590

Sophie Moiese Room

Commissioner's Office total 5,000,000 seventy \$1976.21 we have 3 hearings today.

0:1:9.600 --> 0:1:14.170

Sophie Moiese Room

\$76.21 we have 3 hearings today.

0:1:14.460 --> 0:1:21.160

Sophie Moiese Room

The first one is a final resolution from the Missoula County on the Missoula County Health Code Regulation revision.

0:1:23.660 --> 0:1:25.550

Sophie Moiese Room

And Shannon will present.

0:1:26.560 --> 0:1:27.580

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you very much.

0:1:27.640 --> 0:1:29.390

Sophie Moiese Room

Can you hear this in my close enough?

0:1:29.580 --> 0:1:30.10

Sophie Moiese Room

OK.

0:1:30.220 --> 0:1:30.680

Sophie Moiese Room

Awesome.

0:1:31.610 --> 0:1:35.60

Sophie Moiese Room

I'm gonna share my screen and I'm gonna give a shortened presentation.

0:1:35.70 --> 0:1:42.80

Sophie Moiese Room

From what we have done before, but to let everybody know who might want to comment will go through.

0:1:44.390 --> 0:1:53.140

Sophie Moiese Room

It in brief, so we are here today to talk about adopting the revised version of regulation.

0:1:53.150 --> 0:1:57.520

Sophie Moiese Room

Three of the city County Health Code, which is a solid waste management.

0:1:57.590 --> 0:2:14.260

Sophie Moiese Room

We had our first Commissioner here hearing on September 14th, so two weeks ago and what were the subject is the changes that the Health Board approved after two public hearings and two comment periods on August 17th, 2023.

0:2:14.570 --> 0:2:25.20

Sophie Moiese Room

So last time I talked in more detail about the changes to the regulations, but a lot of them are small editing or getting rid of some obsolete rules.

0:2:25.30 --> 0:2:28.620

Sophie Moiese Room

But the big changes are focused on bears.

0:2:29.350 --> 0:2:32.760

Sophie Moiese Room

Umm we the the health Board approved?

0:2:33.350 --> 0:2:37.510

Sophie Moiese Room

Umm, a larger bear buffer zone around Missoula.

0:2:37.520 --> 0:2:43.540

Sophie Moiese Room

And so in this slide, the area that is cross hatched is the current beer buffer zone.

0:2:43.690 --> 0:3:1.760

Sophie Moiese Room

It is not big enough to keep the Bears out of garbage and it basically is just limited to city limits and so this is a bigger zone that will keep bears from becoming habituated or from seeking their behavior, seeking food in garbage cans.

0:3:1.770 --> 0:3:7.130

Sophie Moiese Room

And then they move on to seeking it in houses and sheds and other areas.

0:3:7.140 --> 0:3:9.190

Sophie Moiese Room

So wanna keep that from happening?

0:3:9.440 --> 0:3:19.400

Sophie Moiese Room

The other thing to know is that in the revised bear buffer zone around Missoula, it will require a bear resistant containers.

0:3:19.410 --> 0:3:39.380

Sophie Moiese Room

So on the bottom you can see a bear resistant container that have been knocked over by the bear and in the video here you can see a bear trying in the rattlesnake trying to get into a bear resistant container and then when that doesn't happen you'll see the bear just sort of walk away.

0:3:39.850 --> 0:3:45.970

Sophie Moiese Room

So bear resistant containers really can keep theirs out of our garbage.

0:3:47.140 --> 0:3:49.200

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you, Jamie for providing that.

0:3:50.520 --> 0:3:52.190

Sophie Moiese Room

That is a heck of a video.

0:3:52.880 --> 0:3:53.230

Sophie Moiese Room

Yeah.

0:3:53.620 --> 0:3:53.840

Sophie Moiese Room

Yeah.

0:3:55.410 --> 0:4:3.840

Sophie Moiese Room

So because yeah, the buffer zone is pretty big and it will take time to get the bear resistant containers here in Missoula.

0:4:4.70 --> 0:4:19.940

Sophie Moiese Room

We've talked with the both the garbage providers and after doing that and talking with our experts, the the recommendation, the recommendation or what the Health Board approved is 3 phases.

0:4:20.0 --> 0:4:24.500

Sophie Moiese Room

So really, first of all and that also helps us put things into place right away.

0:4:24.510 --> 0:4:34.0

Sophie Moiese Room

So by April of 2024, Rattlesnake and Grant Creek, where we have a lot of bear activity, we'll have to comply with the bear regulations.

0:4:34.10 --> 0:4:39.490

Sophie Moiese Room

Then it moves from the rattlesnake to UM and the Patty Canyon area for the next year.

0:4:39.500 --> 0:4:45.40

Sophie Moiese Room

And then the following year is the rest of that bear buffer zone, and also through public hearing.

0:4:45.910 --> 0:4:59.770

Sophie Moiese Room

There were comments from Potomac residents and fish, wildlife and parks about the need to have a mitigation area and require bear resistant containers in Potomac, so that is also part of it.

0:4:59.860 --> 0:5:2.970

Sophie Moiese Room

These now I'm going to turn it over to Jamie.

0:5:2.980 --> 0:5:4.270

Sophie Moiese Room

Who's gonna just talk to us?

0:5:4.280 --> 0:5:6.580

Sophie Moiese Room

About what's been going on in the last couple weeks.

0:5:8.770 --> 0:5:10.90

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you for having me again.

0:5:11.200 --> 0:5:18.250

Sophie Moiese Room

Umm so as I mentioned two weeks ago it we had a very, very quiet summer compared to last year.

0:5:18.660 --> 0:5:20.390

Sophie Moiese Room

Last year we had a food failure.

0:5:20.400 --> 0:5:21.860

Sophie Moiese Room

That was absolutely insane.

0:5:22.810 --> 0:5:25.380

Sophie Moiese Room

Uh, about a week and a half.

0:5:25.390 --> 0:5:30.990

Sophie Moiese Room

Two weeks ago, though, we started to see a lot of bearers pouring into the Missoula Basin.

0:5:31.90 --> 0:5:34.440

Sophie Moiese Room

And then the Potomac area for the apples?

0:5:34.450 --> 0:5:35.600

Sophie Moiese Room

And what's left to the choke?

0:5:35.610 --> 0:5:42.40

Sophie Moiese Room

Cherry and a lot of those bears, sadly, have displaced off onto garbage.

0:5:42.210 --> 0:5:43.350

Sophie Moiese Room

And then fruit trees.

0:5:45.260 --> 0:5:59.500

Sophie Moiese Room

Right now, for example, in the Potomac area, I mean in the Missoula area, we have three different black bear females, all with young and one of those females is very food condition.

0:5:59.510 --> 0:6:1.250

Sophie Moiese Room

She's been getting into garbage.

0:6:1.740 --> 0:6:16.690

Sophie Moiese Room

One of the issues we now have are all the homeless camps and there's lots and lots of garbage in those fringe areas along in the urban interface where where the homeless are trying to eke out a living, but also we have bears there now.

0:6:17.120 --> 0:6:18.410

Sophie Moiese Room

And so we've had probably.

0:6:20.200 --> 0:6:26.330

Sophie Moiese Room

5-6 incidents just in the last week of Bears getting into homeless camps.

0:6:28.360 --> 0:6:36.990

Sophie Moiese Room

In the Potomac area, we did have black bears there pretty much all summer, getting into garbage and then Grizzlies this spring.

0:6:37.460 --> 0:6:42.530

Sophie Moiese Room

But again, about two weeks ago, more Black Bear started pouring into the Potomac Valley.

0:6:42.840 --> 0:6:59.400

Sophie Moiese Room

I would guess we have 20 plus black bears right now getting into actual garbage in Potomac and then besides this big male grizzly that just showed up the other day, we have we think 2 maybe three additional Grizzlies in the Potomac area.

0:6:59.410 --> 0:7:2.20

Sophie Moiese Room

Also, sadly getting into garbage.

0:7:6.990 --> 0:7:20.620

Sophie Moiese Room

Definitely a need for us to do something to keep theirs away from garbage, and so the ordinance, the resolution that would adopt the ordinance looks like this.

0:7:21.300 --> 0:7:45.340

Sophie Moiese Room

The BC would resolve that to adopt the Missoula City County Health Code Regulation 3 solid waste management as approved by the Health Board on August 17th, 2023 by reference as a Missoula County ordinance, and this action would supersede and replace the adoption of regulation 3IN resolution or or.

0:7:45.350 --> 0:7:52.400

Sophie Moiese Room

I'll just say an ordinance 2022003 when the whole health code was adopted by reference.

0:7:52.690 --> 0:8:12.140

Sophie Moiese Room

So it's just surgically changing that one regulation, the proposed motion is we recommend that you adopt an ordinance incorporating by reference the revised Mozilla City County Health Code Regulation 3 solid waste management as approved by the Health Board on August 17th, 2023.

0:8:12.150 --> 0:8:15.340

Sophie Moiese Room

And I'll just say John and I talked about it right before.

0:8:15.450 --> 0:8:19.300

Sophie Moiese Room

So we're we're set in the in the proposed motion.

0:8:20.930 --> 0:8:21.410

Sophie Moiese Room

That's it.

0:8:25.440 --> 0:8:26.170

Sophie Moiese Room

I thank you.

0:8:26.560 --> 0:8:29.480

Sophie Moiese Room

Would anybody like to speak to this online or in person?

0:8:41.690 --> 0:8:42.300

Sophie Moiese Room

Commissioners.

0:8:44.390 --> 0:8:58.340

Sophie Moiese Room

I'm Butler from Grant Creek and I'm here because I have spent the past couple of years spending time with Shannon and Jamie and others in the Missoula Bear Smart Working group.

0:8:59.680 --> 0:9:14.590

Sophie Moiese Room

But more importantly, for the past 15 years I've been trying to encourage my neighbors to do the right thing and grant Craig, and I've had some success, as Jamie could confirm.

0:9:15.0 --> 0:9:29.300

Sophie Moiese Room

But I've also found that education alone, even when conducted at the lowest level where I've worked, isn't enough to help resolve the problems that we have in our community.

0:9:30.490 --> 0:9:32.770

Sophie Moiese Room

Ohh, so.

0:9:34.830 --> 0:9:58.40

Sophie Moiese Room

In Grant Crick, we're doing pretty good, but we're not doing good enough and I guess my experience

working with people over the past 70 some odd years is that it's really best when people are set up to do the right thing by default, not when they're set up to do the wrong thing by default, which is what we've been doing basically.

0:9:58.50 --> 0:9:59.230

Sophie Moiese Room

Just saying.

0:9:59.240 --> 0:10:3.460

Sophie Moiese Room

Well, don't put the garbage out before 5:30 in the morning and maybe it'll work out.

0:10:3.470 --> 0:10:12.900

Sophie Moiese Room

OK, in this case, if everybody has a bear resistant container, the only thing that's left for them to screw up is not to latch it properly.

0:10:15.70 --> 0:10:22.800

Sophie Moiese Room

Well, that'll happen some, but nonetheless we will have set it up so that the default behavior is the desired behavior.

0:10:23.10 --> 0:10:25.560

Sophie Moiese Room

And I think that's going to work ever so much better.

0:10:25.810 --> 0:10:26.130

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you.

0:10:27.950 --> 0:10:28.390

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks Bert.

0:10:31.560 --> 0:10:34.220

Sophie Moiese Room

Anybody else like to speak in, in person or online?

0:10:34.230 --> 0:10:35.770

Sophie Moiese Room

Chris, you've been waiting patiently.

0:10:35.780 --> 0:10:37.90

Sophie Moiese Room

If you want to jump in, you're welcome to.

0:10:38.210 --> 0:10:39.220

chris (Guest)

Alright, thank you.

0:10:44.740 --> 0:10:46.180

Sophie Moiese Room

Ohh good luck Chris.

0:10:39.850 --> 0:10:52.900

chris (Guest)

I am online today because I had shoulder surgery 2 days ago and someone slowed down, but I'm doing I'm doing OK and I'm here to speak in favor of this resolution.

0:10:53.250 --> 0:11:2.900

chris (Guest)

I'm a member of the Missoula Bear Smart Working Group along with Bert and many others, we worked really hard to try to come up with solutions to these problems.

0:11:3.230 --> 0:11:4.720

chris (Guest)

We live in bear habitat.

0:11:4.810 --> 0:11:19.780

chris (Guest)

We have a responsibility to do the right thing and this is certainly the right thing to do and we need to move forward with this and become bear smart community and to make it compatible for people in bears to be better coexisting on them as well the landscape.

0:11:19.790 --> 0:11:21.290

chris (Guest)

So thank you for considering this.

0:11:22.410 --> 0:11:22.670

Sophie Moiese Room

That.

0:11:22.680 --> 0:11:23.70

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you.

0:11:26.720 --> 0:11:27.480

Sophie Moiese Room

Anybody else?

0:11:27.490 --> 0:11:28.490

Sophie Moiese Room

You welcome to speak.

0:11:28.500 --> 0:11:30.510

Sophie Moiese Room

Oh, thank thanks for catching it.

0:11:32.560 --> 0:11:32.970

Sophie Moiese Room

Wait.

0:11:34.240 --> 0:11:35.10

Blake Nicolazzo

Hi.

0:11:35.700 --> 0:11:37.170

Blake Nicolazzo

Yep, Blake nicolazzo.

0:11:37.240 --> 0:11:38.100

Blake Nicolazzo

I live in Missoula.

0:11:38.110 --> 0:11:39.430

Blake Nicolazzo

I started in Missoula for bears.

0:11:39.440 --> 0:11:56.470

Blake Nicolazzo

I've worked with a lot of these faces and I'm just, you know, definitely speaking in support and I just want to express a lot of gratitude towards you 3 for being open and also Shannon, your your presentations are fabulous and super clear and I really appreciate that.

0:11:56.560 --> 0:12:0.710

Blake Nicolazzo

So it all seems really clear and and I think that we're moving in the right direction.

0:12:0.720 --> 0:12:12.160

Blake Nicolazzo

And I I'm just like in my head in the future of just, and I don't want to get ahead of myself and congratulating Missoula, but we are going to be an example of a pretty swift turn around.

0:12:12.170 --> 0:12:31.20

Blake Nicolazzo

And if you look at some of the statistics around having bear resistant containers in the movie bearers of Durango, the researcher there says if you have 60% of people using bear resistant trash containers, your problem will reduce so drastically that it's so worth it.

0:12:31.30 --> 0:12:36.450

Blake Nicolazzo

So just echoing what Bert said and and Chris has said and Jamie says every single day.

0:12:36.460 --> 0:12:40.890

Blake Nicolazzo

So just huge support for this from my camp and a lot of thanks.

0:12:40.950 --> 0:12:45.180

Blake Nicolazzo

And yeah, I hope this this just passes through with flying colors.

0:12:46.480 --> 0:12:47.50

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks Blake.

0:12:50.520 --> 0:12:51.110

Sophie Moiese Room

Anybody else?

0:12:52.820 --> 0:12:54.290

Sophie Moiese Room

Jenny, you've been at this a long time.

0:13:1.240 --> 0:13:3.710

Sophie Moiese Room

I have but I don't qualify as the general public.

0:13:4.100 --> 0:13:6.660

Sophie Moiese Room

Ah, I don't know what you do live in the middle.

0:13:6.670 --> 0:13:7.610

Sophie Moiese Room

Rattlesnake, right?

0:13:7.720 --> 0:13:16.320

Sophie Moiese Room

I do live in the middle rattlesnake and I will say that before I ever worked for the city, probably 20 years ago, we were starting to have meetings.

0:13:17.390 --> 0:13:32.0

Sophie Moiese Room

I'm with Aaron Edge from defenders in the neighborhood and trying to do something, so it's personally very rewarding to me to see that our elected bodies are so enthusiastic about this.

0:13:33.10 --> 0:13:46.110

Sophie Moiese Room

You don't really often see the Missoula City Council wanting to adopt A resolution to absolutely they were just over the moon about how important it is and how much they supported.

0:13:46.120 --> 0:13:54.150

Sophie Moiese Room

And of course, they will be hearing these regulations on Monday night at the final public hearing.

0:13:54.160 --> 0:13:58.740

Sophie Moiese Room

But I would say I can't speak for them, but it's nice to see that they are so amenable.

0:14:0.530 --> 0:14:1.820

Sophie Moiese Room

It's great and thank you.

0:14:1.830 --> 0:14:5.610

Sophie Moiese Room

They're going to be trust under the massive influence of me and Juan today.

0:14:5.670 --> 0:14:7.960

Sophie Moiese Room

Well, it's lurking presence that can happen.

0:14:7.970 --> 0:14:11.990

Sophie Moiese Room

Yes, I think there's shaking now. Cool.

0:14:15.230 --> 0:14:16.20

Sophie Moiese Room

Anybody else?

0:14:20.210 --> 0:14:22.530

Sophie Moiese Room

Well, let's see that correct language that.

0:14:38.630 --> 0:14:39.10

Sophie Moiese Room

OK.

0:14:59.300 --> 0:15:5.190

Sophie Moiese Room

OK, well I moved to adopt an ordinance incorporated incorporating by reference.

0:15:5.280 --> 0:15:13.670

Sophie Moiese Room

They revise Missoula City County Health Code Regulation 3 solid waste management, as approved by the Health Board on August 17th, 2023.

0:15:15.310 --> 0:15:19.930

Sophie Moiese Room

I'll second that and any public comment anybody else want to speak to this?

0:15:21.740 --> 0:15:23.450

Sophie Moiese Room

I do want to say 1 little thing to say.

0:15:23.460 --> 0:15:34.650

Sophie Moiese Room

Can't help myself just to express a huge, massive, immeasurable debt of gratitude to folks like Bert and Jamie and Shannon and Chris and others who I should name but their names aren't on the tip of my tongue.

0:15:34.660 --> 0:15:38.590

Sophie Moiese Room

Who are have been part of this bear smart group?

0:15:38.600 --> 0:15:47.310

Sophie Moiese Room

Bear Aware group that folks have been working on this bear garbage issue, not just in the last year, but really for a really long time and we wouldn't be here without that level of activism.

0:15:47.320 --> 0:15:51.130

Sophie Moiese Room

And we're very, very gracious and grateful for your work.

0:15:51.950 --> 0:15:52.460

Sophie Moiese Room

So with that.

0:15:53.490 --> 0:15:54.160

Sophie Moiese Room

We can do a thing.

0:15:55.190 --> 0:15:56.280

Sophie Moiese Room

Imagine that.

0:15:56.410 --> 0:15:57.340

Sophie Moiese Room

Look at that.

0:15:57.770 --> 0:15:59.880

Sophie Moiese Room

We'll call for a vote on favor.

0:15:59.890 --> 0:16:1.100

Sophie Moiese Room

Aye, the eyes have it.

0:16:2.110 --> 0:16:2.440

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you.

0:16:2.450 --> 0:16:3.280

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you.

0:16:3.610 --> 0:16:4.270

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you so much.

0:16:7.180 --> 0:16:11.80

Sophie Moiese Room

OK, Next up, Jackson Lee is gonna talk about the New Meadows Trail bond.

0:16:12.90 --> 0:16:13.700

Jackson Lee

Afternoon, commissioners.

0:16:13.780 --> 0:16:22.340

Jackson Lee

Before you is a consideration of trails, bond expenditure for construction of the New Meadows Trail system at Missoula County's New Meadows Park.

0:16:28.200 --> 0:16:38.930

Jackson Lee

And this project has been many years in the making now, and I'll go through and give Project Timeline and budget and background on new mails, Park master planning process as well.

0:16:39.600 --> 0:16:42.950

Jackson Lee

But first I'll start here with the site location of New Meadows.

0:16:42.960 --> 0:16:46.150

Jackson Lee

Park Neos Park is in the Grass Valley area.

0:16:46.160 --> 0:16:53.520

Jackson Lee

It's located off of Mullen Rd, adjacent to the shared use pathway out there and pretty close to the intersection with Cody Lane.

0:16:54.750 --> 0:17:1.220

Jackson Lee

It also ties or is adjacent to the Mullen build area, which is seen rapid growth in this area.

0:17:1.230 --> 0:17:6.550

Jackson Lee

Missoula County and also on this map of note is other recreation sites.

0:17:7.690 --> 0:17:15.120

Jackson Lee

It's near by in the northwest corner of the map is the parcel we're referring to, which is overlaid there in purple.

0:17:17.860 --> 0:17:19.240

Jackson Lee

So why trap instruction?

0:17:19.250 --> 0:17:26.890

Jackson Lee

That new mode park, the first is we have a long history of of planning that's been centered around this park parcel.

0:17:27.310 --> 0:17:37.490

Jackson Lee

It's an 88 acre park parcel that is adjacent to the New Mail subdivision and also close to Elmar subdivision as well.

0:17:37.740 --> 0:18:6.980

Jackson Lee

And then also of note is that that Mullen build connection that I mentioned earlier and the planning process, our planning documents that reference the importance of a park within this area date back to 2004 with the need for a Community park outlined in the city and County Joint Master Park and Recreation plan that was then expanded upon in 2012 with Mozilla County parks and Trails Master Plan which recommended a reclassification of this part from a neighborhood park to a community park.

0:18:7.700 --> 0:18:29.330

Jackson Lee

And then in 2018, in response to that 2012 identified need parks trails and open land staff worked with the community in this area on a comprehensive New Meadows park master plan and the two highest scoring community priorities out of that planning process were low impact development and the development of a walking loop trail.

0:18:31.390 --> 0:18:40.420

Jackson Lee

When we looked at the map a a few moments ago, one thing of note is those public park spaces that are developed are over 2 miles away from the site.

0:18:40.550 --> 0:18:53.260

Jackson Lee

And so at this time, we're seeing a real need within this park and within the surrounding neighborhoods to have a space for recreation, whether that's just off of work hours, bringing kids to the park or whatever it may be.

0:18:53.410 --> 0:19:3.160

Jackson Lee

And we're also seeing that this site has great connectivity and in close proximity of those existing neighborhood trail systems with the Cody Lane and Mullen Rd shared use paths.

0:19:6.440 --> 0:19:23.110

Jackson Lee

So this is the site plan that came out of that 2018 Master Park planning process and you can see prominent within this plan is development of a perimeter trail as well as a connector trail from Mullen Road to New Meadows Drive.

0:19:25.880 --> 0:19:28.240

Jackson Lee

The goals of the New Meadows Trail system project.

0:19:29.550 --> 0:19:40.80

Jackson Lee

These were identified within the community planning process in 2018 and then further expanded upon when we first sought recreational trails program funding for this project.

0:19:40.270 --> 0:19:42.840

Jackson Lee

So the first being is to provide welcome access.

0:19:43.590 --> 0:19:58.350

Jackson Lee

Right now there's a network of social trails out at Neumos Park, and the real priority with trail construction out at New Meadows is to take these social social trails and bring them into compliance with accessibility and national trail standards.

0:19:59.510 --> 0:20:13.480

Jackson Lee

And we also want to respond to the Community need, noting that the highest ranking recreational values are addressed through trail construction at Neumos Park, improving safety and maintenance, transitioning to social trail to a sanction trail network.

0:20:13.690 --> 0:20:21.540

Jackson Lee

And then we'll also be able to have a better presence with our maintenance staff and the ability to maintain the trail system out at Neumos Park.

0:20:22.70 --> 0:20:28.360

Jackson Lee

And then I think a really key point of what we've seen with this project in particular is to leverage community partnerships.

0:20:28.440 --> 0:20:33.610

Jackson Lee

We've been able to engage with the Mozilla colleges heavy machinery program.

0:20:33.880 --> 0:20:58.130

Jackson Lee

Who are interested in doing the construction phases of this project and also some independent living staff who have provided accessibility consultation and then this part is as part of the Recreational Trails Program, a word process we went through substantive environmental assessment of this site, which include consultation with the Audubon Society as well as the Department of Ecology.

0:21:1.440 --> 0:21:27.280

Jackson Lee

Once we received funding and I'll note this better within the timeline, but the GIST is back in 2019, after the planning process at NEUMOS was complete, P2L program staff applied for the Recreational Trails Program administered through FWP, and we're unsuccessful in our 2019 application, but we revamped that application and reapply it in 2022 and we're successful at that time around.

0:21:27.910 --> 0:21:42.480

Jackson Lee

Once we receive the funding award, we really focused in on developing 100% design set for the new mails trail system that is based off of that concept plan out of the master planning process.

0:21:42.490 --> 0:21:49.360

Jackson Lee

But really transitions that concept plan to something that's reflective of those four goals that I mentioned on the last slide.

0:21:52.110 --> 0:21:58.250

Jackson Lee

As far as project budget, timeline and specifications, we anticipate trail construction being split into 2 phases.

0:22:0.500 --> 0:22:14.930

Jackson Lee

With work getting underway this fall and then finishing up spring early summer of 2024, the 100% trail designed by DJ and A is consistent with the trail layout that was outlined during the 2018 planning process.

0:22:15.40 --> 0:22:17.140

Jackson Lee

That was then adopted by the board of County Commissioners.

0:22:18.220 --> 0:22:25.150

Jackson Lee

The perimeter trail will be 6 feet wide and the connector trail from Mullen Road to New Meadows Drive will be 8 feet wide.

0:22:26.20 --> 0:22:39.760

Jackson Lee

That a total new trail proposed is just over 1/2 mile and all trails propose will be constructed with three quarter minus gravel and that came through consultation with DJ and A as well as summit independent living staff.

0:22:40.920 --> 0:23:3.830

Jackson Lee

The trails bond requests before you accounts for a third of the total project budget, with the remaining 2/3 being sourced from that 2022 Recreational Trails Program award and this uh, this budget spread is consistent with the intent of the trails bond 2014 trails bond, which is to have that trails bond act as local match for larger state and federal funding programs.

0:23:6.270 --> 0:23:11.340

Jackson Lee

Just an overview of the project timeline and how this trails bond request fits within it.

0:23:11.670 --> 0:23:28.10

Jackson Lee

So as I mentioned, this planning process really started in earnest back in 2018 as it referenced those 2004 and 2012 planning efforts done by the city, county and then the county solely in 2012.

0:23:28.750 --> 0:23:42.620

Jackson Lee

And as a result of the 2018 planning process and a better understanding of Community needs within the New Meadows area, P2, all staff really keyed in on prioritizing new trail construction at the site.

0:23:42.870 --> 0:24:2.70

Jackson Lee

So level 2 trail spawn application was submitted in the fall of 2018 and this was reviewed by the parks and Trails Advisory Board, who provided a letter of recommendation in the winter of 2019 to the BCC and then that led to a qualifying resolution for trails bond expenditure being approved by the BCC. At that time.

0:24:3.100 --> 0:24:5.780

Jackson Lee

We then applied for RTP funding in 2019.

0:24:6.280 --> 0:24:23.230

Jackson Lee

We were unsuccessful and then we revamped that in early 2022, which led to an award of \$62,111.00 from the RTP funding towards design and construction of trail system Neumos Park back in August of 2022.

0:24:23.240 --> 0:24:35.850

Jackson Lee

The BCC approved a contract with fish, wildlife and parks for implementation of this RTP award and then that LED staff to begin with the design phase of the project January through July of this year.

0:24:36.280 --> 0:24:47.560

Jackson Lee

In consultation with DJ and a from August until this month, we've been working on securing a contract with Mozilla College for construction of the trail.

0:24:47.810 --> 0:24:52.240

Jackson Lee

We provided notice of these upcoming trail activities to neighbors.

0:24:52.730 --> 0:25:2.950

Jackson Lee

Put a legal ad for two weeks in the Missoulian and now we're here today, requesting final approval from the BCC for expenditure of 2014 trails bond funding.

0:25:5.420 --> 0:25:6.220

Sophie Moiese Room

Hey Jackson.

0:25:6.600 --> 0:25:6.800

Jackson Lee

Yeah.

0:25:6.880 --> 0:25:13.690

Sophie Moiese Room

Ohhh, what did we do differently between the two awards when we used to talk about the revamping?

0:25:13.700 --> 0:25:14.270

Sophie Moiese Room

What was different?

0:25:15.10 --> 0:25:23.360

Jackson Lee

Yes, we we spent some time on the narrative and and demonstrating the tie between this project and the Moon build project was one piece.

0:25:23.710 --> 0:25:32.870

Jackson Lee

And then we also spent some more time on developing partnerships for implementation of the project, including that consultation with some independent living.

0:25:33.450 --> 0:25:33.980

Sophie Moiese Room

Oh, great.

0:25:33.990 --> 0:25:34.600

Sophie Moiese Room

OK.

0:25:34.750 --> 0:25:40.790

Sophie Moiese Room

And then I was just wondering 6 feet like that, that's enough for two wheelchairs to pass or two strollers or?

0:25:42.0 --> 0:25:42.530

Jackson Lee

Yeah.

0:25:42.760 --> 0:25:42.950

Sophie Moiese Room

Like.

0:25:42.540 --> 0:25:49.950

Jackson Lee

So the the six foot width is to the outdoor accessibility standards by the US Access Board.

0:25:49.960 --> 0:25:58.330

Jackson Lee

So they do allow for passing of other pedestrians or wheelchairs, and we'll also have resting spaces along the trail too.

0:26:0.370 --> 0:26:1.50

Sophie Moiese Room

Great. Thanks.

0:26:1.450 --> 0:26:1.650

Jackson Lee

Yeah.

0:26:3.920 --> 0:26:20.840

Jackson Lee

So the action requests today is for approval of this expenditure in the amount of \$31,562, which would go up, go towards design and construction services associated with the New Meadows Trail system project at Missoula Counties, New Meadows Park.

0:26:23.310 --> 0:26:23.720

Sophie Moiese Room

Great.

0:26:24.190 --> 0:26:24.680

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks.

0:26:25.180 --> 0:26:28.390

Sophie Moiese Room

It's anybody out there wanna speak to this or have anything you'd like to say?

0:26:35.420 --> 0:26:49.930

Sophie Moiese Room

OK, I moved that the board approve expenditure of up to \$31,562.00 of 2014 county parks and trails bond funds for design and construction services associated with the New Meadows Trail system project at Missoula Counties, New Meadows Park.

0:26:50.980 --> 0:26:54.820

Sophie Moiese Room

We just shorthand this resolution to more really good work by Jackson.

0:26:54.910 --> 0:26:56.290

Sophie Moiese Room

Yes, yes, this called.

0:26:58.350 --> 0:26:59.190

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks, Jackson.

0:26:59.200 --> 0:26:59.460

Sophie Moiese Room

Yeah.

0:26:59.470 --> 0:27:0.460

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you so much.

0:27:0.590 --> 0:27:2.580

Sophie Moiese Room

Yet another really good piece of work.

0:27:3.130 --> 0:27:3.300

Jackson Lee

They.

0:27:2.750 --> 0:27:3.980

Sophie Moiese Room

Sorry it took 20 years.

0:27:5.500 --> 0:27:6.420

Jackson Lee

Thank you, commissioners.

0:27:4.350 --> 0:27:7.670

Sophie Moiese Room

Yeah, like that.

0:27:9.40 --> 0:27:10.860

Sophie Moiese Room

Ah, alright, do we vote?

0:27:11.0 --> 0:27:12.170

Sophie Moiese Room

Do we all in favor?

0:27:12.300 --> 0:27:13.710

Sophie Moiese Room

Aye, aye, just to be sure.

0:27:13.720 --> 0:27:14.150

Sophie Moiese Room

Go.

0:27:14.200 --> 0:27:14.650

Sophie Moiese Room

OK.

0:27:14.720 --> 0:27:15.120

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you.

0:27:16.910 --> 0:27:17.220

Sophie Moiese Room

Alright.

0:27:17.230 --> 0:27:21.450

Sophie Moiese Room

Our last hearing is from Karen Hughes, an amendment to the land use fee schedule.

0:27:24.720 --> 0:27:25.690

Karen Hughes

Good afternoon commissioners.

0:27:27.220 --> 0:27:34.490

Karen Hughes

Umm, I'm here with the proposal to increase the land use fees just for the subdivision exemption.

0:27:34.500 --> 0:27:36.960

Karen Hughes

Applications from 200 to \$400.

0:27:38.110 --> 0:27:40.990

Karen Hughes

Umm, I guess I should say I'm playing development sustainability.

0:27:42.860 --> 0:27:58.950

Karen Hughes

You may remember the last year we did a fee update and we across the board increased our fees to reflect kind of a 50% recuperation rate the and the last time we had redone our fees was about a decade ago.

0:27:59.520 --> 0:28:19.720

Karen Hughes

The only fee that we didn't update was the fee related to subdivision exemption applications, and that's

because that fee is set in statute and it was set in 2003 at \$200.00 and it hasn't been updated until this last legislative session when they allowed local governments to charge \$400.00 for each subdivision application.

0:28:20.370 --> 0:28:32.140

Karen Hughes

So it's been 20 years since that authorization was put in place, and this proposal essentially allows, UMM, allows us to go forward with that.

0:28:32.150 --> 0:28:45.540

Karen Hughes

It was the legislation was in House Bill 874, I think, and it just simply allows us to help cover the costs of the review for those subdivision exemption applications.

0:28:45.550 --> 0:28:59.370

Karen Hughes

And those are applications that deal with the divisions of land like family transfers and boundary line relocations, creation of cemetery lots, quartered divisions, those that are not subject to full subdivision review.

0:29:0.190 --> 0:29:11.410

Karen Hughes

In Mozilla County Staff review these exemption applications to determine that there isn't an evasion of subdivision review we receive about 15 to 20 of these applications a year.

0:29:12.420 --> 0:29:31.120

Karen Hughes

And like I said, and Intel recently, we were limited to what we could charge and we are still limited, but because it's set in statute, but we can now charge \$400.00 if we don't raise our fees, essentially we pass those costs on to taxpayers instead of charging the applicants.

0:29:31.130 --> 0:29:40.790

Karen Hughes

So that's part of the reason for this request and I think I have for you with your packet, a draft resolution that we're hoping that you will approve and adopt today.

0:29:40.800 --> 0:29:44.100

Karen Hughes

And when you're ready, I can put up a motion if you need it.

0:29:44.860 --> 0:29:47.100

Sophie Moiese Room

Hey Karen, I may have missed this, but how?

0:29:46.440 --> 0:29:48.100

Karen Hughes

And I'm happy to answer any questions that you have.

0:29:49.300 --> 0:29:50.330

Sophie Moiese Room

Oh sorry umm.

0:29:50.340 --> 0:29:52.10

Sophie Moiese Room

How much does it?

0:29:52.180 --> 0:29:52.470

Sophie Moiese Room

What?

0:29:52.550 --> 0:29:56.330

Sophie Moiese Room

What's the real cost of doing a subdivision review exemption?

0:29:56.340 --> 0:30:0.850

Sophie Moiese Room

So we're probably not near 50%, but what's the real cost?

0:30:2.760 --> 0:30:4.220

Karen Hughes

Umm, I don't.

0:30:4.280 --> 0:30:5.810

Karen Hughes

I actually don't know the answer to that.

0:30:5.820 --> 0:30:13.120

Karen Hughes

We've never done a time study because the fee was set in statute, so we didn't have a reason to study the amount of time.

0:30:19.280 --> 0:30:23.600

Karen Hughes

But I'm fairly certain that it takes longer than that it.

0:30:27.720 --> 0:30:28.100

Karen Hughes

That help?

0:31:4.430 --> 0:31:5.230

Sophie Moiese Room

Aaron, can you hear me?

0:31:8.560 --> 0:31:9.500

Sophie Moiese Room

We can't hear Karen.

0:31:11.350 --> 0:31:12.40

Karen Hughes

I can hear you now.

0:31:12.50 --> 0:31:14.550

Karen Hughes

Can you hear me all right.

0:31:12.420 --> 0:31:14.990

Sophie Moiese Room

Ohh yes perfect you you cut out.

0:31:15.0 --> 0:31:17.330

Sophie Moiese Room

Just we were on the edge of our seats.

0:31:17.410 --> 0:31:18.80

Sophie Moiese Room

So exciting.

0:31:19.470 --> 0:31:20.760

Karen Hughes

Yeah, it's not exciting.

0:31:24.870 --> 0:31:25.440

Sophie Moiese Room

Oh.

0:31:20.860 --> 0:31:29.450

Karen Hughes

We've never done a time study because we weren't allowed to to charge anything other than what the state allows us to charge.

0:31:30.500 --> 0:31:30.780

Sophie Moiese Room

Hmm.

0:31:32.30 --> 0:31:39.20

Sophie Moiese Room

And I guess some of these are different, a cemetery lot and a family transfer can be really complicated or it can be not a big deal.

0:31:39.30 --> 0:31:41.530

Sophie Moiese Room

But is there a way just to describe the image?

0:31:42.230 --> 0:31:49.610

Sophie Moiese Room

Can we answer one question in more general terms about describing this sort of staff response to these types of requests?

0:31:52.430 --> 0:31:52.880

Karen Hughes

Yeah.

0:31:52.890 --> 0:32:1.510

Karen Hughes

I mean, there's plenty of questions asked about them in terms of the general work that's done on subdivision exemplification exemption applications.

0:32:1.520 --> 0:32:11.320

Karen Hughes

There's a number of kind of back and forth, either with applicants or with developers representatives to answer questions they.

0:32:13.30 --> 0:32:15.620

Karen Hughes

We receive an application we checked to make sure it's complete.

0:32:15.630 --> 0:32:34.420

Karen Hughes

That may require some back and forth to make sure that they have adequate information, provided we

go through innovation review that includes a report, I'm determining, you know, with the review of the rebuttable presumptions and each each exemption has a different set of criteria that we review it against.

0:32:34.850 --> 0:32:36.740

Karen Hughes

And then there's a decision letter.

0:32:36.850 --> 0:32:41.440

Karen Hughes

And notice to the applicant for family transfers, there's an additional.

0:32:43.720 --> 0:32:53.420

Karen Hughes

Uh, the the applicant attends a public meeting in testifies before the Commissioners regarding exemptions as well.

0:32:55.530 --> 0:32:55.860

Sophie Moiese Room

Great.

0:32:55.870 --> 0:32:56.310

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks.

0:32:56.410 --> 0:32:56.690

Sophie Moiese Room

Yeah.

0:32:56.770 --> 0:32:56.890

Karen Hughes

Yeah.

0:32:56.700 --> 0:32:57.450

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks for the history.

0:32:59.880 --> 0:33:5.900

Sophie Moiese Room

I I think well, I hope this is the correct language that I have in front of me, but I.

0:33:5.440 --> 0:33:8.40

Karen Hughes

So we need to take public comment probably first.

0:33:7.640 --> 0:33:8.450

Sophie Moiese Room

Ohh, thank you.

0:33:8.460 --> 0:33:8.770

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you.

0:33:8.780 --> 0:33:9.330

Sophie Moiese Room

Thank you.

0:33:9.400 --> 0:33:11.200

Sophie Moiese Room

Sorry, anybody wanna speak to this?

0:33:17.470 --> 0:33:18.800

Sophie Moiese Room

All right. What?

0:33:19.330 --> 0:33:24.700

Sophie Moiese Room

I moved that the board adopt A resolution to amend the land use fee schedule for the subdivision exemption.

0:33:24.710 --> 0:33:25.730

Sophie Moiese Room

Application fees.

0:33:26.110 --> 0:33:34.860

Sophie Moiese Room

Oops, I move that the resolution to amend the land use fee scheduled to increase subdivision exemption application fees from \$200.00 to \$400.00 be adopted.

0:33:37.190 --> 0:33:37.720

Sophie Moiese Room

Alright.

0:33:37.730 --> 0:33:38.830

Sophie Moiese Room

Uh, one more time.

0:33:38.840 --> 0:33:39.590

Sophie Moiese Room

Any public comment?

0:33:41.360 --> 0:33:45.210

Sophie Moiese Room

I'll second this and my only little comment on this.

0:33:45.320 --> 0:33:46.410

Sophie Moiese Room

I appreciate that.

0:33:46.420 --> 0:33:50.230

Sophie Moiese Room

We're gonna recover some of these costs rather than putting them on the backs of taxpayers.

0:33:50.240 --> 0:33:54.570

Sophie Moiese Room

Where overburdened right now and thanks for doing this.

0:33:54.680 --> 0:33:55.370

Sophie Moiese Room

All right, all in favor.

0:33:55.700 --> 0:33:57.280

Sophie Moiese Room

I thanks Karen.

0:33:57.290 --> 0:33:57.720

Sophie Moiese Room

Thanks Karen.

0:34:0.120 --> 0:34:3.360

Sophie Moiese Room

OK, less we have any other business, I guess we're done.