

Missoula Board of County Commissioners

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES COVER SHEET



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 – 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 Vero

Commissioner Strohmaier

Staff Present:

Violet Plummer, Administrative Assistant, Commissioners' Office

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

Chris Lounsbury, Missoula County Chief Administrative Officer

Mel Fisher, Strategic Initiatives Manager, Communications and Projects

Kyla Lehnerz, Administrative Assistant, Commissioners' Office

Emmie Bristow, Community Engagement Coordinator, Communications

Carey Powers, Communications Coordinator, Communications

Jason Emery, Missoula County Chief Information Officer

Erica Grinde, Director, Risk and Benefits

1. **CALL TO ORDER** *[Time stamp – 0:02]*
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** *[Time stamp – 0:13]*
3. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** *[Time stamp – 0:43]*
Missoula County acknowledges that this event takes place in the aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispel people.
4. **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS** *[Time stamp – 0:55]*
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA** *[Time stamp – 1:01]*
6. **[CURRENT CLAIMS LIST](#)** *[Time stamp – 1:08]*
Claims received as of September 7, 2022 to September 19, 2022 by the Commissioners' Office total \$6,345,649.93.

7. HEARINGS

a. Resolution of Intent – Missoula Local Government Building Special District *[Time stamp – 1:39]*

Chris Lounsbury, Missoula County Chief Administrative Officer

Mel Fisher, Strategic Initiatives Manager, Communications and Projects

[Resolution 2022-099 Book: 1082 Page: 111]

8. OTHER BUSINESS *[Time stamp – 7:47]*

9. ADJOURN

Chair Vero – Called the meeting to adjourn at 2:08 p.m.

BCC Public Meeting September 27, 2022 – 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.

0:02

Good afternoon, everyone.

0:03

Can you hear me?

0:06

Yep, I can hear you on.

0:07

OK, great.

0:09

We'll get started.

0:13

We'll begin with a Pledge of Allegiance.

0:21

Do we have the flag up here?

0:24

Great.

0:26

Pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, to the Republic, to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, one nation, under God, indivisible, indivisible, with liberty and justice and justice for all.

0:43

And if you're in the Sophie Moise room, Zula County acknowledges that this event takes place on the Aboriginal territories of the Salish and Kalispell people.

0:55

Are there any public announcements?

1:00

Yeah, all right.

1:01

Any public comment on items not on the agenda?

1:07

OK.

1:08

Our current claims list as of September 7th, 2022 to September 19th, 2022 is 6,345,000 dollars, \$649 sorry and \$0.93.

1:23

We have one hearing today.

1:26

This is a resolution related to Missoula Local government building special districts and Chris Lounsberry.

1:35

Good afternoon commissioners.

1:37

Thanks for scheduling this special public meeting.

1:39

As you'll recall, back on September 15th, we had the first of the required 2 hearings to create a special district.

1:46

This special district is solely for the purpose of the County and city.

1:51

City jointly acquiring the federal building located at 200 E Broadway.

1:57

This second hearing is very similar to the first where you'll open a public hearing, take any public comment that might come in, close the public hearing.

2:05

And then what we would ask is the motion would be to adopt the resolution of intent to create a joint special district with the City of Missoula for the purposes of acquisition of the federal building.

2:17

As you'll recall, we are in the middle of that gifting process.

2:21

The federal building is going through the National Monument process.

2:24

We don't have a date yet for when that transfer will occur, but we know that it will be sometime late this calendar year or during next calendar year.

2:34

And so we are just working through that process.

2:36

This is the, the creation of the special district is what we've determined through legal counsel and working with others the best way for the county to jointly manage that both that project of the federal building but also its long term historic preservation as well as the cost when the city and the county occupy that building for use under government services.

2:55

And with that, I would ask that you open the public hearing and hear any public comment that might be out there.

3:01

And I'm certainly available to answer questions.

3:10

Thanks so much, Chris.

3:10

Is there any public comment?

3:17

And I'm sorry my, my phone's a little glitchy.

3:21

So Violet, help me out if you see anyone will do.

3:27

So far, nobody.

3:30

Oh, I do see that.

3:31

Martin's on, OK.

3:39

Or Dave, you you've been at this for a while.

3:41

Do you do you have anything he'd like to share?

3:46

Dave, as in Dave.

3:47

Stromer.

3:48

Sorry.

3:48

Stromer.

3:49

Yes.

3:50

Commissioner Stromer.

3:51

No, I I have no questions.

3:57

And.

3:59

OK.

4:00

And and Martin, I'm sorry, were you trying to say something?

4:04

Just, I just had a quick question.

4:06

When is the due diligence going to be complete or has it been completed at this point in time, Chris?

4:18

Oh, yeah, there you go.

4:20

Yeah.

4:20

So you bet, commissioners.

4:21

And Mel, I may need you to help me out here with dates.

4:25

So the county and the city continue to work with A&E Architects.

4:29

We have gone through the first phase when I will call the first phase of the due diligence piece around this building.

4:36

We are still trying to garner some information from our partners at GSA around some of that.

4:41

And so concurrently with the, the kind of last piece of the due diligence that we're working through, we have begun some of the, what I'm going to call the programmatic piece looking at what departments of the city, the city and the county share.

4:54

That would be good fits together to help centralized that for the public accessing those services.

5:01

And Mel, you might have more information on whether or not the due diligence kind of final reporter draft report has been has been circulated yet.

5:11

I I don't know that off the top of my head, sorry.

5:14

Yeah, the final due diligence report, I don't know if it was circulated super widely.

5:19

We did provide that update to the commissioners, gosh, probably about a year ago around that report and certainly glad to share it.

5:27

Yeah, I think you hit all the other points of what has happened since that due diligence report was completed.

5:32

We're working hard with the architects to figure out what it might look like once we're in the building.

5:38

Yeah, that's where we are.

5:39

It is a bit of a moving target when the feds will be ready to turn over the building.

5:52

Thanks, Mel.

5:58

Any further comment or questions and I can't tell if I don't think Josh is on, is that correct?

6:10

OK.

6:12

Dave and I are here in here in Billings with Chris Montana Association of Counties Conference.

6:18

Are we ready for a motion?

6:23

We're ready for a motion.

6:26

OK.

6:26

I'll just preface it by saying this building has sat vacant for many years in the heart of Missoula.

6:33

And this really is a once in a generation, once in a lifetime opportunity to put this facility back into use, into public service with the city and the county as partners.

6:47

And this is a necessary step along that path.

6:51

So I would move the resolution, resolution of intent.

6:55

Is that correct, Chris?

6:58

OK, yes, I agree.

7:03

Second, any further discussion.

7:09

OK, all in favor, aye.

7:11

Aye, thank you commissioners.

7:17

And I believe that is our one and only action item for this.

7:21

Just in case folks are wondering why there's a time requirement in statute between the 1st and 2nd hearing and so that's why we are having a special public meeting this week is to stay inside that.

7:31

Unfortunately travel schedules made it a little too tight in our next meeting would have been outside the required deadlines.

7:40

Thanks for keeping us on track, everyone.

7:46

OK.

7:46

I don't think there's any other business, so we're adjourned.

7:48

Have a great afternoon, everyone.

7:51

Goodbye.