

City of Lewistown Study Commission  
November 30, 2015  
Lewistown City Complex

Attendees included Dick Krillenberger, Darryl McKenzie, Alexandra Dunnington, Dick Ellestad, Butch Sturtz, Gayle Doney. Melody Scott performed the duties of recording secretary.

**Call to Order:** Krillenberger called the meeting to order at 6:57 PM.

**Roll Call of Members Present**

**Disposition of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Dunnington approved the November 13, 2015 minutes. Doney and Tom St. John made amendments to the minutes. Krillenberger said he will post the minutes at the city and county offices. Scott mentioned that the minutes are available on the city website. Dunnington explained how to look up the Government Study Facebook page. Scott read aloud the revisions to the minutes. Dunnington made a motion to approve the revised minutes. Sturtz seconded.

**Budget-Paid Expenses and Current Balance:** No finance report available.

**Response to Gayle Doney's Letter:** The missing items have been turned in. The process by which documentation has been turned over to the city in the past was explained.

**Open Public Participation:** Frank Westhoff expressed his objection to Dave Byerly's comment about participation. Westhoff gave his thoughts on the same statement. Michael Chapman remarked that Westhoff made a good point. He shared his thoughts on living in Lewistown and how often there is not public attendance at meetings unless there is controversy. Krillenberger rebutted with number of voters choosing to have a study commission. The vote in the 2014 was 663 for a study commission, 560 against. Tom St. John said with the city commission, the public does not show up because of the vote splits. He feels there is no representation. Charlie Pfau referred to the survey results, saying the city office reported 66 surveys turned in. He asked why the study commission reports that there were a lot of surveys completed. Pfau commented that he works with the city often and finds Myhre easy to work with. He likes the current form of city government and does not feel there is a point to going backwards toward the mayoral form. Tom St. John gave Dan Clark's reference on mayoral-managerial form. Discussion followed. Ed Butcher commented that it sounds like the public wants an option. He commented that this kind of talking is circular. We should put together an option for voters. If things were going well, the study commission would not have been voted for. Frank Gremaux disagreed. The public voted for the government review, not proposal. Pfau said that half of the population voted on the study commission, so half are okay with the status quota. Pfau, Butcher and Westhoff continued discussion on surveys, documentation and public opinion. Doney discussed that with public meetings, there needs public access to documentation that is kept in a public area. Butcher said it is the responsibility of the study commission is to keep such documentation. Doney asked how the secretary would be able to keep documentation public and accessible. Krillenberger explained that this is why the study commission chose to go with storage at the city office. Gremaux said that he worked under the old system and it did not work. The current system works. Krillenberger, Pfau and Suzanne Westhoff discussed the anonymous surveys received. Discussion was also held between S. Westhoff, Pfau, and Chapman on issues of the building inspector and the dog catcher. Butcher spoke on the interpretation of the law.

**Committee Member Comments:** Doney mentioned that the Hamilton study commission has prepared a tentative report that is available online. She also asked if there had been any mail in the PO box. Krillenberger mentioned to Charlie Denison that he would like to have a picture in the paper of the PO box and asked whether it would be possible to put the study commission minutes in the paper. January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting was announced. Doney asked if the December meetings had been canceled. Krillenberger said yes. Scott mentioned that the revised time line should be published in the December 5<sup>th</sup> paper.

**Adjournment:** Meeting dismissed by Krillenberger at 8:00pm. McKenzie moved to adjourn. Ellestad seconded.

Melody A. Scott  
Melody A. Scott, Recording Secretary

Dick Krillenberger  
Dick Krillenberger, Chairman

