

**LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)**

**Business Meeting minutes**

**February 21, 2023**

Present: Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Swope called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Peter Lahmann invited the commissioners and the public to the Historical Society's annual meeting and dinner beginning at 6 p.m. Feb. 21.

Frank Corbin discussed the Lewis County Broadband Action Team's work on a digital equity plan.

**NOTICE ITEM**

*Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolution 23-062. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 23-062:** Notice of hearing regarding a franchise to City of Centralia to construct, operate and maintain electrical distribution, water, stormwater and sewer facilities in Lewis County road rights-of-way. The hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. March 14, 2023.

**Real Estate Services Manager Shawn Kyes** discussed the resolution. Shawn said the hearing would take place in March.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

**CONSENT ITEMS**

*Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve minutes from the February 14, 2023, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 23-063. Commissioner Pollock seconded.*

**Resolution 23-063: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.**

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants numbered 865,928 through 866,140 and direct disbursements numbered 5368 through 5369, 11107 through 11110 and 11112 through 11113 were issued the week of February 10-16, 2023, for payments against the county totaling \$2,634,690.80. She said payroll/tax Automatic Deposits numbered 50,411 through 50,983 also were approved for payments against the county totaling \$1,223,976.94. Grace noted a skip in sequence for warrants 865,876 through 865,927, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

## DELIBERATION ITEMS

*Commissioner Swope noted he would recuse himself from voting on Resolution 23-067 and that he has stepped down from the Fox Theatre Restorations group. Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolutions 23-064 through 23-066 and 23-068 through 23-070. Commissioner Pollock seconded.*

**Resolution 23-064: Declaration of surplus personal property.**

Facilities Administrator Director Alex Murray discussed the resolution. Alex said the surplus property is being disposed of in accordance with Lewis County Code, Chapter 3.30.

**Resolution 23-065: Authorizing the IT Director to execute a purchase order with Dell Inc.**

IT Director Matt Jaeger discussed the resolution. Matt said the county will purchase equipment through its Department of Enterprise Solutions (DES) and NASPO ValuePoint contracts.

**Resolution 23-066: Approving a contract to purchase Replacement Microwave Link for the Lewis County Communications System using National Association of State Procurement Officials contract #05715.**

911 Communications Director Jenn Libby-Jones discussed the resolution. Jenn said the county will purchase radio equipment using its National Association of State Procurement Officials contract.

**Resolution 23-068: Reappoint Carol Brock, Heidi Buswell and Amy Turnbull and appoint Debbie Aust to the Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging (LMTAAA) Advisory Council.**

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the resolution appoints Debbie Aust and reappoints Carol Brock, Heidi Buswell and Amy Turnbull to the Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging.

**Resolution 23-069:** Appoint members to the Distressed Counties (.09) Fund / Rural Economic Development Public Facilities Advisory Committee.

**Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester** discussed the resolution. Rieva said the resolution appoints the following individuals to the .09 committee: Lewis County Commissioner Sean Swope, Port of Chehalis Commissioner Paul Ericson, Port of Centralia Commissioner Kyle Markstrom, East Lewis County Public Development Authority (ELCPDA) board member Fred Morton, Centralia Mayor Kelly Smith-Johnston, Napavine Mayor Shawn O'Neill, Economic Alliance Chair Luke Moerke, Industrial Commission Chair Buck Hubbert and Chehalis City Council member Bob Spahr.

**Resolution 23-070:** Authorize application for the Federal RAISE Grant from the US Department of Transportation, commit local matching funds and assign Director of Community Development as the Authorized Representative.

**Long-range Planner Mindy Brooks** discussed the resolution. Mindy said the resolution paves the way for Lewis County to apply for a federal RAISE grant to help with a project on Highway 12 in Packwood.

*Motion to approve Resolutions 23-064 through 23-066 and 23-068 through 23-070 passed 3-0.*

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 23-067. Commissioner Brummer seconded.*

**Resolution 23-067:** Approve a grant award between the County and Historic Fox Theatre Restorations for Phase 4 of the Historic Fox Theatre restoration including the construction of the building envelope.

**Budget Administrator Becky Butler** discussed the resolution. Becky said the resolution earmarks up to \$500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding toward the restoration of the Fox Theatre.

*Motion passed 2-0-1, with Commissioner Brummer and Commissioner Pollock approving and Commissioner Swope abstaining.*

## HEARING

**Resolution 23-071:** Approve a license renewal to Sprint Communications Company for the installation, construction, operation, and maintenance of telecommunications facilities within the road rights-of-way of unincorporated Lewis County.

Commissioner Swope introduced the hearing.

Shawn Kyes gave the staff report. Shawn said the resolution would approve a non-exclusive, five-year license with Sprint.

Commissioner Swope asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

Commissioner Swope then closed the question-and-answer portion of the hearing.

Shawn asked that his previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Swope asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against the resolution. No one spoke.

Commissioner Swope closed the hearing.

***Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolution 23-071. Commissioner Pollock seconded.***

***Motion passed 3-0.***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS / NEW BUSINESS**

At 10:20 a.m., Commissioner Swope announced that the Board would be going into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for 10 minutes to discuss two topics: Opioid litigation and Jung v. Lewis County et al.

Executive session started at 10:20 a.m.

(During executive session, the building evacuated in response to a fire alarm.)

- At 10:30 a.m., the Board extended executive session for 10 minutes.
- At 10:40 a.m., the Board extended executive session for 10 minutes.

Executive session ended at 10:50 a.m. Commissioner Swope noted that no decisions had been made.

## **PRESS CONFERENCE**

No questions.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 28, 2023, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

*Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. The weekly Business Meeting streams live on YouTube (search for "LewisCountyWa" on YouTube or go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/LewisCountyWa/featured>). Video footage also is available at no charge at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/>.*

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Sean D. Swope, Chair

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Scott J. Brummer, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

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Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

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Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Commissioner