

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

November 25, 2019

Present: Commissioner Jackson, Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Jackson called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Guenther of Chehalis discussed the possible delisting of biosolids from Kalama Chemical and Fire Mountain Farms. He said there is a comment period that ends Dec. 12. He said he believes there has been no testing on the properties the hazardous material has been dumped on over the last 19 years. Bob said he fears delisting the 20,000 cubic yards of materials will lead to its application on Lewis County lands.

NOTICE ITEMS

Commissioner Fund made a motion to approve Resolutions 19-340 and 19-341. Commissioner Stamper seconded.

Resolution 19-340: Issue a request for proposals (RFP) for Packwood Floodplain Mapping. Proposals are due to Lewis County Public Works by 3 p.m. Dec. 13, 2019.

Public Works Traffic Operations Manager Jack Niehuser spoke to the resolution. He said the notice is being published in two newspapers, The Chronicle and the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce.

Resolution 19-341: Call for bids for the 2020 Graf Road MP 1.01 Culvert Replacement Project, CMP 1531. Bids are due to the Clerk of the Board by 11 a.m. Dec. 17, 2019.

Public Works Traffic Operations Manager Jack Niehuser spoke to the resolution. He said the notice is being published in two newspapers, The Chronicle and the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Stamper made a motion to approve minutes from the Nov. 18, 2019, meeting as well as Resolution 19-342. Commissioner Fund seconded.

Resolution 19-342: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Suzette Smith, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 821583 through 821894 were approved the week of Nov. 15-21, 2019, for payments against the county totaling \$1,584,198.04. Suzette noted a skip in sequence for warrants 821506 through 821582, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

*Commissioner Fund made a motion to approve Resolutions 19-343 through 19-346. Commissioner *** seconded.*

Resolution 19-343: Execute a contract with the Washington State Department of Commerce to fund the Packwood FEMA Floodplain Study.

Public Works Traffic Operations Manager Jack Niehuser spoke to the resolution. Jack said the state Department of Commerce is providing \$624,260.

Resolution 19-344: Approve an addendum to the Nisqually Watershed Management Plan in response to the 2018 Streamflow Restoration Act (RCW 90.94).

Lee Napier, Director of Community Development, spoke to the resolution.

Resolution 19-345: Approve the 5-year Housing and Homeless Strategic Plan as required from the Department of Commerce to identify homeless housing needs and develop goals and objectives to address those needs.

JP Anderson, Director of Public Health and Social Services, spoke to the resolution. He said the plan is required by the Department of Commerce.

Resolution 19-346: Appoint Rachel Wood, MD, MPH as Lewis County Health Officer; and approve an agreement employing Rachel Wood, MD, MPH in such capacity.

JP Anderson, Director of Public Health and Social Services, spoke to the resolution. He said Rachel Wood has served Lewis County for a decade, a time during which she also served Thurston County. HE said she will now serve only Lewis County.

Motion passed 3-0.

HEARINGS

Ordinance 1307: Ordinance 1307, which amends the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Jackson introduced the hearing.

Lee Napier and planning consultant John Kliem gave the staff report. He said the plan would remove 809 acres from the Urban Growth Areas.

John said the Planning Commission held a hearing and recommended moving forward with an amendment for Land Use Map 1. John said the state Department of Fish and Wildlife submitted the lone comment on the project.

Commissioner Jackson asked if there were any questions. No one asked questions.

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

John and Lee asked that their previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Jackson asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against the resolution.

No one chose to speak.

Commissioner Jackson closed the hearing.

Commissioner Stamper made a motion to approve Ordinance 1307. Commissioner Fund seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

Ordinance 1309: Ordinance 1309, which adopts a system of special assessment applicable to parcels within Lewis County Flood Control District 1, located in southern Chehalis and surrounding areas.

Commissioner Jackson introduced the hearing.

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Eric Eisenberg gave the staff report. He said the county must set forth a "rulebook" of sorts that outlines a system by which Flood Control District 1 can raise its budget.

Eric said FCD1 provides flood control prevention efforts. He said FCD1 provides ditch-clearing services, provides on-call response for flooding problems and completes studies that is uses to apply for grants.

Eric said the County Engineer has determined the assessment should reflect 100 percent of the total improvement values and 50 percent of the land values for each parcel, an amount that would then divided by the total for all parcels to determine each parcel's share of the cost.

Eric said notice of the proposed system was mailed to each property owner in addition to being printed in the county's newspaper of record.

In response to a question from Commissioner Fund, Eric noted that FCD1 was formed in 1991.

Eric said FCD1 has collected assessments for many years but did not do so for 2019.

Commissioner Jackson asked if there were any questions.

John Grady, who resides at 2395 Jackson Highway, asked who the proposal affects. Eric said it only affects the individuals who live within the boundaries of FCD1. John noted that he had tried to find the map outlining the boundaries of FCD1 but could not find it.

Leslee Lavender Lowther, who resides at 2598 Jackson Highway, said she doesn't understand why there have been taxes. Eric clarified that the money collected is special assessments, not taxes. He said FCD1 had been using a different method to come up with its special assessment. Leslie said the Jackson Highway ditches have not been cleared in 20 years. Eric suggested Leslie contact FCD1 regarding any concerns about ditch work, noting that the county is merely developing a rulebook by which the district can raise values.

Commissioner Jackson asked Erik Martin to address questions about ditch maintenance.

Erik said the county maintains many of the ditches and that he would meet with Leslie after the meeting to look into who maintains the ditches to which she was referring.

Commissioner Stamper clarified that the county was merely

Jan Schlindwein, who resides at 2610 Jackson Highway, discussed troubles with flooding at her property.

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

Eric Eisenberg asked that his previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Jackson asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against the resolution.

No one chose to speak.

Commissioner Jackson closed the hearing.

Commissioner Stamper made a motion to approve Ordinance 1309. Commissioner Fund seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Fund noted that the courthouse will be closed Nov. 28 and 29. She noted that Lewis County has several areas that will provide free Thanksgiving meals.

Commissioner Stamper echoed her remarks.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions from the press.

ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday, December 2, 2019, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

Please note that minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. A recording of the meeting may be purchased at the BOCC office, or video footage can be viewed at no charge at LewisCountyWa.gov/bocc-meetings. Video footage of BOCC meetings also is aired on Comcast Channel 3 at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., and 10 p.m. daily. Video footage also can be found on the Lewis County Commissioners' Facebook page.



ATTEST:

Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Robert C. Jackson, Chair

Gary Stamper, Vice Chair

Edna J. Fund, Commissioner