

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

January 23, 2024

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope

Recorder: Rieva Lester

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Johnson of Castle Rock discussed the custody case his daughter is battling.

Chris Granger discussed concerns regarding the carcinogenic effects of smart meters.

Bev Granger donated her time to Chris Granger.

Debbie Aust shared her concerns regarding smart meters.

Susan Anderson echoed concerns about smart meters.

Julie Balmelli-Powe echoed concerns about smart meters, including privacy concerns.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The Board of County Commissioners honored county employees who've reached five-year employment milestones, including:

- **Five years:** Public Works Director Josh Metcalf.
- **10 years:** Facilities employee Mel Coon and Sheriff's Office employee Sandy Lupo.
- **20 years:** Public Works employee Justin Bushnell.
- **25 years:** Public Works employee Keith Ritchey.

NOTICE ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 24-027 through 24-029. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 24-027: Lewis County 2023 budget emergency and supplemental appropriations to and transfers within current expense and various funds, a notice of hearing thereon. The hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. Feb. 6, 2024.

Budget Services Administrator Becky Butler discussed the resolution. Becky said the amendment reflects expenditure increases totaling \$80,510 and a \$80,510 decrease of fund balance.

Resolution 24-028: Issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to provide annual geotechnical engineering services for projects including Rural Arterial Program (RAP) funded projects, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funded projects, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded projects, and Lewis County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects. Proposals are due electronically in OpenGov (<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/lewiscountywa>) by 2 p.m. Feb. 16, 2024.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the county is looking to hire a consultant for geotechnical engineering services for 2024 for Rural Arterial Program (RAP) funded projects, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funded projects, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded projects, and Lewis County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects.

Resolution 24-029: Notice of hearing regarding a franchise to Lewis County to install, construct, operate, and maintain telecommunication facilities in Lewis County road rights-of-way. The hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. Feb. 13, 2024.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the work is related to the Winlock Broadband Project.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the January 16, 2024, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 24-030. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 24-030: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 879,819 through 879,842 and 879,852 through 880,030 and direct disbursements numbered 12539 through 12545 were issued in January for payments against the county totaling \$2,074,753.63. Grace said payroll/tax deposit

warrant numbered 64,065 also was approved for \$747.78. Grace noted a skip in sequence for warrants 879,817 through 879,818 and 879,843 through 879,851, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 24-031 through 24-037. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 24-031: Cancellation of delinquent personal property and mineral rights taxes from the tax collection system.

Chief Deputy Treasurer Shelly Stewart discussed the resolution. Shelly said the resolution reflects write offs totaling \$4,461.17 for 27 personal property parcels and 153 mineral rights parcels.

Resolution 24-032: Approve an interlocal agreement between Lewis County and Winlock Police Department regarding technology services.

IT Director Matt Jaeger discussed the resolution. Matt said the agreement pertains to Spillman services.

Resolution 24-033: Declaration of surplus personal property.

IT Director Matt Jaeger discussed the resolution. Matt said the county's old phones make up the bulk of the surplus items.

Resolution 24-034: Accept a bid on tax title property off Hobbs Drive in Morton.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the sale includes three parcels and that each parcel measures less than one-tenth of an acre.

Resolution 24-035: Accept an agreement with the Washington Military Department FEMA Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and authorize signatures thereon.

Emergency Management Planner Erika Katt discussed the resolution. Erika said the county will receive \$44,032 in grant funds to be used toward several projects, including equipment, training, preparedness and educational materials for first responders and other community members.

Resolution 24-036: Approve an interlocal agreement between Lewis County and Northwest Open Access Network ("NOANET") regarding technical oversight for the broadband project in the Winlock area.

Budget Administrator Becky Butler discussed the resolution. Becky said the agreement is for \$100,000 for technical oversight of the broadband program.

Resolution 24-037: Accept the Climate Planning Grant from the Washington Department of Commerce in the amount of \$135,000 and Authorize the Community Development Director to sign the grant agreement.

Community Development Director Lee Napier discussed the resolution. Lee said the grant may be used to fund the mandatory periodic update specific to Climate Resiliency.

Motion passed 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Pollock invited the public to a hydrogen meeting planned for Jan. 29 at the Baw Faw Grange in Curtis.

Commissioner Brummer noted that the commissioners will not hold a Business Meeting on Jan. 30.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 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



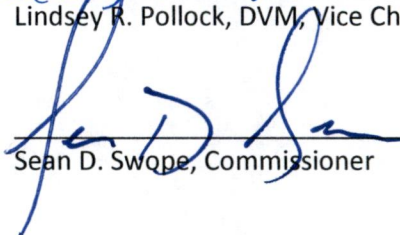
Scott J. Brummer, Chair

ATTEST:



Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair

Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board



Sean D. Swope, Commissioner