

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

December 17, 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 discussed a police report that indicates he showed up at his granddaughter's school armed. He shared concerns regarding the care of his granddaughter.

Agenda change: Commissioner Pollock made a motion to add to the agenda Resolution 24-476: Publish a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consulting firms with expertise in conducting review of streams assessments and wetland reports. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

LIGHTCURVE PRESENTATION

Amanda Singleton, Jim Fuhrman and Lorie Hills provided an overview of fiberoptic buildouts Lightcurve (formally known as Rainier Connect) is working on in Chehalis and Centralia. They invited the public to a ribbon-cutting event planned for Dec. 19 at Jeremy's.

NOTICE ITEMS

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 24-455, 24-456 and 24-476.
Commissioner Swope seconded.*

Resolution 24-455: Notice of hearing regarding a franchise renewal to Newaukum Hill Water Association to install, construct, operate and maintain water system facilities in Lewis County road rights-of-way.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the hearing will take place Jan. 7.

Resolution 24-456: Notice of hearing regarding the proposed vacation of a portion of undeveloped Roppert Road.

Public Works Real Estate Services Manager Shawn Kyes discussed the resolution. Shawn said the hearing will take place Jan. 14.

Resolution 24-476: Publish a request for proposals (RFP) for consulting firms with expertise in conducting review of streams assessments and wetland reports. Proposals are due in OpenGov (<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/lewiscountywa>) no later than 5 p.m. January 24, 2025).

Community Development Director Mindy Brooks discussed the resolution. Mindy said the county is seeking proposals from firms to help with stream assessments and wetland reports.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the December 10, 2024, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 24-457. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 24-457: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez, representing the Auditor's Office, and Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester said warrants 893,741 through 894,037 and direct disbursements 13756, 13805, 13824, 13826, 13834, 13845, 13858, 13859, 13879 through 13884, 13887 through 13890, 13907 through 13914, 13925 and 13926 were issued in December for payments against the county totaling \$3,008,903.66. They noted that the payroll/tax deposit warrants numbered 796,240 through 796,241 and automatic deposits 76,576 through 77,146 also were approved for payments against the county totaling \$1,281,631.93. The approvals did not include warrants 893,722 through 893,740, which were issued on behalf of special purpose districts.

Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 24-434 as well as Resolutions 24-458 through 24-474. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 24-434: Approve an Interlocal Agreement between Lewis County Public Safety Parties for the Operation, Maintenance and Participation in Lewis County 911.

911 Communications Director Jenn Libby-Jones discussed the resolution. Jenn said the interlocal agreements establish the joint provision of communication services.

Resolution 24-458: Accept grant from WSAC for energy audits in the Law & Justice Center and Historic Courthouse.

Capital Projects Manager Doug Carey discussed the resolution. Doug said the grant provides funding for work at the Law and Justice Center as well as the Historic Courthouse.

Resolution 24-459: Reappoint Roger Moore to the Lewis County Planning Commission.

Community Development Director Mindy Brooks discussed the resolution. Mindy said Roger Moore will serve an additional term through 2027.

Resolution 24-460: Renew professional services contract with Penser North America for workers' compensation third-party administration.

Budget Administrator Becky Butler discussed the resolution. Becky said Penser will continue serving as the county's third-party administrator for workers' compensation.

Resolution 24-461: Approve a contract amendment with Berry Dunn McNeil & Parker LLC for grant management compliance and consulting services.

Budget Administrator Becky Butler discussed the resolution. Becky said the amendment extends the contract through 2027 and increases the contract amount by \$100,000.

Resolution 24-462: Initiate county road construction projects and assign County Road Project (CRP) numbers.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the county's road projects are outlined on the attachment.

Resolution 24-463: Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Rural Arterial Program Project Agreement for Construction Proposal between Lewis County and the County Road Administration Board for the Barnes Dr Paving Project – CRP 2201.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the agreement authorizes additional Rural Arterial Trust Account (RATA) funds for the Barnes Drive project.

Resolution 24-464: Close the special revenue fund Parks and Recreation Fund No. 1160.

Auditor's Office Deputy Director Graham Gowing discussed the resolution. Graham said the fund no longer is needed.

Resolution 24-465: Close the debt service fund 2015 Debt Service Fund No. 2150.

Auditor's Office Deputy Director Graham Gowing discussed the resolution. Graham said the fund no longer is needed.

Resolution 24-466: Close the debt service fund 2020 Debt Service Fund No. 2200.

Auditor's Office Deputy Director Graham Gowing discussed the resolution. Graham said the fund no longer is needed.

Resolution 24-467: Adopt the 2025 Lewis County Indirect Cost Allocation Plan.

Auditor's Office Deputy Director Graham Gowing discussed the resolution. Graham said the resolution adopts the cost allocation plan.

Resolution 24-468: Approve 2025 "Lodging Tax" contracts with various organizations for funding from Tourism Promotion Fund No. 1980 for tourism-related activities.

Financial Analyst Rudy Rodriguez discussed the resolution. Rudy said the resolution approves contracts with various organizations for 2025 tourism efforts.

Resolution 24-469: Reappoint Richard DeBolt to the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said Richard DeBolt will serve through June 30, 2024.

Resolution 24-470: Approve Addendum A to Resolution 24-436 to capture levy information submitted by junior taxing districts on or after Dec. 2, 2024.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the addendum captures corrections and late submissions from the region's junior taxing districts.

Resolution 24-471: Ratify a contract with Gordon Thomas Honeywell (GTH) Governmental Affairs for lobbying services.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the contract covers lobbying efforts for 2025.

Resolution 24-472: Establish procedures for conducting public hearings and meetings.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the resolution establishes protocols for public meetings, specifically focusing on public comment and public testimony.

Resolution 24-473: Amend Lewis County's 2025 State Legislative Agenda.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the amendment removes the equestrian center from the county's Legislative Agenda and adds a Medicaid-billing process for inmates' medical needs.

Resolution 24-474: Establish the Chair and Vice Chair for the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners for 2025.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said Scott Brummer will remain chair and Lindsey Pollock will remain vice chair for 2025.

Motion passed 3-0.

HEARING

Resolution 24-475: Lewis County 2024 budget, emergency and supplemental appropriations to and transfers within current expense and other funds.

Commissioner Brummer introduced the hearing.

Budget Administrator Becky Butler gave the staff report. Becky said the amendment reflects expenditure increases totaling \$5,916,623 and revenue increases totaling \$5,047,438, resulting in a \$869,185 decrease in the estimated ending fund balance. Becky noted that the 2024 budget will remain open for roughly two months after 2024 ends.

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

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

Becky asked that her previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Brummer asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against the resolution. No one chose to speak.

Commissioner Brummer closed the hearing.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 24-475. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Brummer noted that the commissioners will not hold Business Meetings on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 7, 2025, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

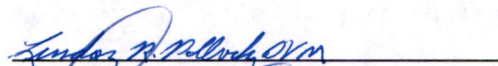
Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. The weekly Business Meeting streams live on YouTube (search for "LewisCountyWa" on YouTube or go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/LewisCountyWa/featured>). Video footage also is available at no charge at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/>.


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Scott J. Brummer, Chair

ATTEST:


Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board


Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair


Sean D. Swope, Commissioner

