

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

January 7, 2025

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

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester noted that Kyle Wheeler and Rob Maricle had submitted written public comment for the record.

Bob Guenther discussed concerns regarding the application of biosolids on farmlands. Bob said the Department of Ecology has issued a new permit for the application of biosolids.

Robert Johnson of Castle Rock discussed concerns regarding a September 2024 case related to possible threats allegedly made by him.

Rob Maricle discussed concerns regarding property tax assessments in the Packwood area.

Lisa Stevens of Packwood shared concerns regarding property tax assessments in the Packwood area.

Frank Dipola discussed frustration regarding his efforts to secure a conditional use permit with the city of Centralia.

Mary Proffit shared concerns regarding property tax assessments in the Packwood area.

Commissioner Swope directed staff to invite Assessor Ross Nielson and / or his representatives to attend upcoming Business Meetings.

RETIREMENT

The commissioners honored retiring Superior Court Judge James Lawler for his 17 years of service to Lewis County.

NOTICE ITEM

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 25-001. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 25-001: Establishment of 2025 county road construction projects by County Forces.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the county is required to notice any work to be completed in excess of \$10,000. Josh outlined projects on the 2025 project list.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the December 17, 2024, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 25-002. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 25-002: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants numbered 894,105 through 894,132, 894,142 through 894,349, 894,379 through 894,527, 894,531 through 894,597, 894,601 through 894,622 and 894,629 through 894,892 as well as direct disbursements 14043 through 14047 were issued in December and January for payments against the county totaling \$4,002,124.03. She said payroll/tax deposit warrants numbered 796,242 through 796,244 and automatic deposits numbered 77,147 through 77,719 also were approved for payments totaling \$1,242,749.56. Grace noted a skip in sequence for warrants 894,038 through 894,104, 894,133 through 894,141, 894,350 through 894,378, 894,528 through 894,530, 894,598 through 894,600 and 894,623 through 894,628, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

Commissioner Pollock discussed concerns with two warrants for a clothing allowance for a deputy who has a Brady letter, is unable to testify and is subject to decertification.

Commissioner Swope asked if the particular deputy was one Commissioner Pollock and her husband had reported to the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJCT). Commissioner Pollock said she did not report the deputy in question to the CJCT.

Commissioner Brummer directed staff to invite Sheriff Snaza to meet with the commissioners to discuss Commissioner Pollock's concerns.

Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 25-003 through 25-012. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 25-003: Adopt 2025 Equipment Rental and Revolving Fund (ER&R) rates for the Public Works Department.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the resolution establishes ER&R rates as required per state law.

Resolution 25-004: Approve Master Interlocal Agreements between Lewis County and municipalities in Lewis County and authorizing signatures thereon.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Josh said the resolution approves agreements with Chehalis, Mossyrock, Napavine and Toledo, allowing the county to perform work on behalf of those municipalities.

Resolution 25-005: Appoint one individual to a regular-member position and remove three individuals from positions on the Veterans' Advisory Board (VAB).

Public Health and Social Services Director Meja Handlen discussed the resolution. Meja said the resolution appoints Jerry Villarreal to the VAB and removes Tina Koehn, Tabitha Hopp and George Dodd from the board.

Resolution 25-006: Approve Contract #R01-157-22 Amendment A between Reliable Enterprises and Lewis County.

Public Health and Social Services Director Meja Handlen discussed the resolution. Meja said the amendment increases Department of Commerce funding by \$180,918 and extends the contract with Reliable Enterprises through June 30, 2025.

Resolution 25-007: Establish a new managerial enterprise fund - Solid Waste Utility Capital Reserve Fund No. 4020.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the fund will be used for capital funds for the Solid Waste Utility.

Resolution 25-008: Authorize cash-flow loan from the General Fund No. 0010 to the Community Development Block Grant Fund No. 1400.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the cash-flow loan is related to funding gaps linked to year-end reimbursements.

Resolution 25-009: Close the Lewis County Auditor Imprest Account.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the county's new financial system negates the need for the account.

Resolution 25-010: Rescind Resolution 81-305 and increase the petty cash fund established for District Court.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the resolution increases District Court's petty cash fund to \$1,220.

Resolution 25-011: Approve a financial contribution agreement between Lewis County and Timber River Connections (FKA Lewis County Seniors) for senior nutrition program support during calendar year 2025.

Budget Services Administrator Becky Butler discussed the resolution. Becky said the resolution approves and agreement with Timber River Connections under which the county agrees to provide first-half funding totaling \$50,000 toward Senior Nutrition services.

Resolution 25-012: Set Lewis County's 2025 mileage rate at 70 cents per mile effective Jan. 1, 2025.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the resolution establishes the county's 2025 mileage rate as 70 cents per mile, representing a 3-cent-per-mile increase over the previous year. She noted that the county follow's the IRS's lead on the mileage rate.

Motion passed 3-0.

HEARINGS

Resolution 25-013: Approve a non-exclusive franchise renewal to Newaukum Hill Water Association to install, construct, operate and maintain water system facilities in Lewis County road rights-of-way.

Commissioner Brummer introduced the hearing.

Right of Way Agent II Kimberly Edminster gave the staff report. Kimberly said the 10-year, non-exclusive franchise allows Newaukum Hill Water Association to install, construct, operate and maintain water system facilities in Lewis County road rights-of-way.

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

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

Kimberly 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 25-013. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution 25-014: Approve a non-exclusive franchise renewal to Hampton Lumber Mills-Washington, Inc. to install, construct, operate and maintain stormwater system facilities in Lewis County road rights-of-way.

Commissioner Brummer introduced the hearing.

Right of Way Agent II Kimberly Edminster gave the staff report. Kimberly said the 10-year, non-exclusive franchise allows Hampton Lumber Mills-Washington to install, construct, operate and stormwater system facilities in Lewis County road rights-of-way.

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

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

Kimberly 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 25-014. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

PRESS CONFERENCE

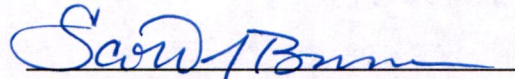
No questions.

ADJOURNMENT

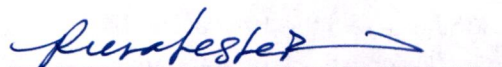
The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 14, 2025, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

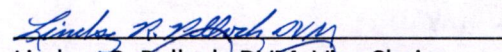
Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. The weekly Business Meeting streams live on YouTube (search for "LewisCountyWa" on YouTube or go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/LewisCountyWa/featured>). Video footage also is available at no charge at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/>.

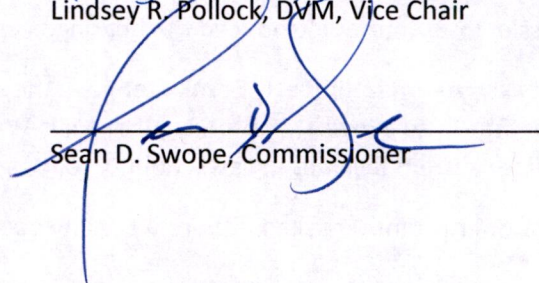
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Scott J. Brummer, Chair

ATTEST:


Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board


Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair


Sean D. Swope, Commissioner