

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

July 22, 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.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The commissioners honored six Lewis County employees for going "Above and Beyond" in their duties: TJ Snodderly, Mel Coon, Tommy Dembinski, Steve Hunt, Darol Hamilton and Grace Jimenez.

The commissioners honored TJ Snodderly, Mel Coon and Tommy Dembinski for their outstanding work on the restoration of the flagpole atop the Historic Lewis County Courthouse. They praised Steve Hunt for his exceptional dedication and outstanding contributions as a Lead Maintenance Technician in the Facilities Department. They recognized Darol Hamilton for the dedication, knowledge and expertise he exemplified while repairing the ADEPT permitting software that's crucial to Community Development, Public Works, and Environmental Health. And they congratulated Chief Accountant Grace Jimenez for her accomplishments in receiving the GFOA Recognition for Outstanding Public Service, a prestigious national award given by the Government Finance Officers Association.

The commissioners honored the following employees for reaching five-year employment milestones:

Five years: Public Health and Social Services employee Sara Bumgardner, Sheriff's Office employee Detective Kelton Wheeldon, Community Development employee Michael Johnston, Clerk's Office employee Stacy Hull and Public Works employee Geoff Soderquist.

10 years: IT Department employee Chris Brewer, Board of County Commissioners Office employee Rieva Lester and Public Works employees Oscar Silvestre and Dan Anderson.

25 years: IT Department employee Amanda Price and Treasurer's Office employee Shelly Stewart.

30 years: Public Works employee Ron Scharber.

35 years: Public Works employee Kevin Korpi.

Honorees unable to attend included Juvenile Detention employee Jonathan Kendall (five years); Juvenile Court employee Shad Hail (15 years); and Public Works employees Dan Sayad (10 years), Jared Rogers (20 years), Jeff Vanasse (20 years) and Josh Rogers (30 years).

The commissioners also recognized Public Health and Social Services employee Vickie Thormahlen, who is retiring after 22 years of service.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Former County Commissioner Edna Fund of Centralia invited the public to participate in the talent show during the Southwest Washington Fair. She noted that those interested in participating will need to attend auditions at the Fairgrounds at 6 p.m. July 31. Edna thanked the Claquato Cemetery for its interest in the Claquato Church.

Lisa Striedinger-Hubbard shared concerns regarding homelessness and services available for those at risk of becoming homeless.

NOTICE ITEM

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 25-205. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 25-205: Notice of Public Hearing for a Traffic Ordinance fixing the maximum speed at which vehicles may be operated over certain roads in Lewis County, Washington: defining offenses, and providing penalties for the violation thereof. The hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. Aug. 5.

County Engineer Wes Anderson discussed the resolution. Wes said the traffic ordinance would establish speed limits for on Labree Road, Hamilton Road and Hamilton Road North.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the July 15, 2025. Business Meeting as well as Resolution 25-206. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 25-207 through 25-213. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 25-207: Declaration of surplus personal property.

IT Director Gabe Anzelini discussed the resolution. Gabe noted that each of the 43 items on the surplus list is valued at less than \$5,000.

Resolution 25-208: Ratify addendum to Plus 1 Productions contract (the "Rodeo Producer") for the 2025 Southwest Washington Fair Rodeo.

Facilities Director Alex Muray discussed the resolution. Alex said the agreement paves the way for the rodeo's return in 2025. He noted that the county has secured \$46,000 in sponsors for the rodeo so far.

Resolution 25-209: Approve Agreement #SWMLSWFA-2025-LCPHSS-00240 between the Washington State Department of Ecology and Lewis County.

Environmental Services Manager Kirsten Wecker discussed the resolution. Kirsten said DOE provides grant funding totaling \$140,668, with a 25 percent match requirement of \$ 46,889.33, to cover the costs of the county's code enforcement work.

Resolution 25-210: Reappoint four members to the Lewis County Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

Public Works Director Geoff Soderquist discussed the resolution. Geoff said the resolution reappoints Terry Harris, Max Vogt, Jason Adams and Robert Spahr to serve additional terms on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee through June 2027.

Resolution 25-211: List the bids received and contractor selected for the Sargent Road MP 1.33 Bridge Scour Repair, CRP 2159N, F.A. Project NO. BHOS-2021 (070).

County Engineer Wes Anderson discussed the resolution. Wes said Tapani Inc. of Battleground, Wash., provided the lowest of the five bids the county received for the Sargent Road project. He said the resolution would award the project to Tapani for its bid of \$527,125.

Resolution 25-212: Approve agreement for memorial sign at the Gary Stamper Memorial Overlook at Riffe Lake.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the agreement covers the county's responsibilities related to maintenance of the memorial along Highway 12.

Resolution 25-213: Approve an amendment to the agreement with Antiquity Consulting LLC for consulting services related to the Winlock Broadband Project.

Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the agreement covers additional archaeological monitoring related to the Winlock Broadband Project.

Motion passed 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to add to the agenda a discussion regarding the Claquato Church. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Claquato Cemetery Board of Directors President Brett Mitchell said the Claquato Cemetery plans to submit a proposal for the purchase of the Claquato Church. Brett and Director Angie Vlach outlined the steps the cemetery board has taken to ensure it would be able to preserve the church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

PRESS CONFERENCE

Commissioner Swope said Sen. Braun and Rep. Abbarno have reached out to Commerce to discuss the Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG).

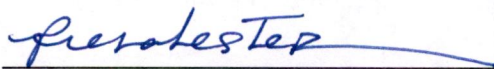
ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, August 5, 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/>.

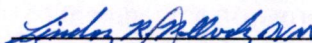


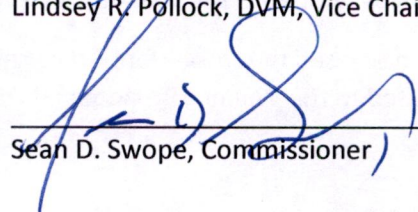
ATTEST:


Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Scott J. Brummer, Chair


Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair


Sean D. Swope, Commissioner