

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

November 25, 2025

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope (virtual attendance)

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Bummer called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Russell of Chehalis stressed the need for critical areas protections and complimented the county on the work it does to protect fish.

NOTICE ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 25-323 through 25-325. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 25-323: Notice of hearing regarding Ordinance 1370, which would amend Chapters 17.38, (Critical Areas) and 17.10 (Definitions) of Lewis County Code.

Community Development Director Mindy Brooks discussed the resolution. Mindy said the hearing will take place Dec. 9, 2025. She said Community Development will provide a preview of the ordinance on Dec. 3. She outlined the steps for providing written public comment.

Resolution 25-324: Notice of a Public Hearing for Ordinance 1371, which would amend Chapter 2.40, Standards for Public Defense Services, of Lewis County Code.

Budget Administrator / Risk Director Becky Butler discussed the resolution. Becky said the hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. Dec. 9, 2025.

Resolution 25-325: Issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an experienced Rodeo Producer to provide a high-quality, family-friendly rodeo performance during the 2026 Fair.

Fair and Events Manager Fionna Valezquez discussed the resolution. Fionna said proposals must be submitted electronically through OpenGov (<https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/lewiscountywa>) by 5 p.m. Jan. 5, 2026.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the November 4, 2025, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 25-326. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 25-327 through 25-337. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 25-327: Authorize cash-flow loan from Solid Waste Disposal District Fund No. 4150 to Roads Fund No. 1170.

Chief Accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the resolution allows for a cash-flow loan from Solid Waste to the Roads Fund to ease the financial burdens caused by time lapses between project expenditures and grant reimbursements.

Resolution 25-328: Amend Lewis County Investment Policy to allow all interest earnings for Communications Building and Equipment Fund No. 3300 to be retained by that fund.

Treasurer Army Davis discussed the resolution. Army said the resolution allows investment interest earnings generated by Communications Building and Equipment Fund No. 3300 to be retained by that fund.

Resolution 25-329: Approve a contract to purchase Pure Storage FlashArray systems, equipment, support subscriptions and related services for Lewis County Information Services using Sourcewell Contract #121923-CDW.

IT Director Gabe Anzelini discussed the resolution. Gabe said the resolution approves a contract for enterprise storage array systems, equipment, support subscriptions and related services.

Resolution 25-330: Approve Amendment 1 to GEN-006-2023 to extend the contract through December 31, 2025.

Community Development Director Mindy Brooks discussed the resolution. Mindy said the resolution extends a contract with Kimley-Horn for completion of the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan.

Resolution 25-331: Approve a Grant Agreement between the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) and Lewis County for the Van Ornum Creek at Bunker Creek Road Fish Passage Construction project, CMP #1610, RCO #23-1788R.

Public Works Director Geoff Soderquist discussed the resolution. Geoff said the resolution allows the county to receive grant funding from the state totaling up to \$260,036 for a fish passage project.

Resolution 25-332: Approve contract #T01-0262-25 Amendment A between The Salvation Army and Lewis County.

Social Services Manager Caroline Garibay discussed the resolution. Caroline said the amendment adds \$578,287.50 to the county's night-by-night shelter and homeless services contract with The Salvation Army and extends the contract timeline to June 30, 2026.

Resolution 25-333: Approve contract #R01-0260-25 Amendment A between Reliable Enterprises and Lewis County.

Social Services Manager Caroline Garibay discussed the resolution. Caroline said the amendment adds \$138,285.09 to the county's contract for case management services for homeless individuals and extends the contract timeline to June 30, 2026.

Resolution 25-334: Approve a collective bargaining agreement with Teamsters 252, representing the Sheriff's Operations Sergeants Group, effective Nov. 1, 2025, through Dec. 31, 2028.

County Manager Ryan Barrett discussed the resolution. Ryan said the resolution approves the CBA with the Sheriff's Operations Sergeants Group.

Resolution 25-335: Adopt Department of Emergency Management policy on Service Charges and Scope of Services for Non-Interlocal Agreement (Non-ILA) Cities.

Department of Emergency Management Deputy Director Erika Katt discussed the resolution. Erika said the resolution provides policies and procedures for the county to use when providing emergency management services to cities with which the county does not have an ILA for such services.

Resolution 25-336: Authorize legal defense and indemnity for Charlotte Garcia, and her marital community, if any, regarding a lawsuit brought by the Estate of Brandon Blurton - Action No. 3:25-cv-05654.

Budget Services Administrator / Risk Director discussed the resolution. Becky said the resolution approves legal defense and indemnity for an individual being named in a lawsuit for actions taken while working on behalf of Lewis County.

Resolution 25-337: Approve an Agreement from the Washington State Office of Public Defense in the amount of \$218,417.77 for use in calendar year 2026.

Budget Services Administrator / Risk Director discussed the resolution. Becky said the resolution accepts funding from the state for the state-mandated public defense provided for those who are indigent. She noted that the state reimburses the county less than 5 percent of the costs the county incurs providing those state-mandated services.

Motion passed 3-0.

HEARINGS

Resolution 25-338: Approve a franchise to Cardinal FG Company to install, construct, operate and maintain natural gas utility facilities in Lewis County rights of way.

Commissioner Brummer introduced the hearing.

Public Works Real Estate Services Manager Kimberly Edminster gave the staff report. Kimberly said the agreement would approval renewal of Cardinal Glass's non-exclusive franchise.

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 spoke.

Commissioner Brummer closed the hearing.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 25-338. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution 25-339: Adopt the 2026-2031 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and 2026 Annual Construction Program (ACP).

Commissioner Brummer introduced the hearing.

County Engineer Wes Anderson gave the staff report. Wes said the TIP outlines projects Public Works plans to tackle over the next six years and establishes the county's funding priorities. He said the ACP

identifies projects planned for 2026 and outlines the types and amounts of funding the county will use, including the matching funds the county would be required to provide.

Commissioner Brummer asked if there were any questions. There were none.

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

Wes asked that his previous comments be adopted into the record.

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

Commissioner Brummer closed the hearing.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 25-339. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Ordinance 1368: Authorize the County Manager to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of Chehalis for the City to annex territory within the City of Chehalis urban growth area (this hearing is continued from Oct. 20, 2025).

Commissioner Brummer introduced the hearing.

Community Development Director Mindy Brooks gave the staff report.

Mindy noted that the county started the hearing during a joint meeting with the City of Chehalis on Oct. 20, 2025.

She said the county designated an urban growth area for the City of Chehalis as required by the Growth Management Act (GMA) and that the city has chosen to move forward with annexation of the UGA as outlined in RCW 35A.14.472.

Centralia City Manager Stacy Denham outlined the city's stance regarding the proposed annexation.

Commissioner Brummer asked if there were any questions.

Kelsi Hamilton asked whether policy proposals have been provided to affected residents.

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

Mindy and Stacy asked that their previous comments be adopted into the record.

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

Bud Goodwillie spoke in opposition to the ordinance. He expressed concerns regarding the city's ability to provide emergency services to the UGA.

Lewis County Fire Protection District 6 commissioner Greg Greene spoke in opposition to the ordinance. He said the proposed annexation will decrease emergency services. Greg said the fire district had requested to be a party to the interlocal agreement and now plans legal action because it was not.

Ted Knapp spoke in support of the ordinance. He said the proposal provides structure for those looking to develop in the area.

Chehalis Fire Chief Adam Fulbright outlined the fire district's plan to address the proposed changes to the service areas.

Tim Potter spoke in opposition to the ordinance. Tim said affected residents will see higher PUD and cell phone bills if the annexation takes place. He said voters should get to decide the fate of the annexation.

Charlie Allen expressed concerns regarding water services.

Attorney Heather Burgess, who said she represents the Clayco Development Group developing land in the Chehalis UGA, expressed support for the proposed ordinance, noting it helps landowners understand what to expect regarding permitting requirements as the annexation proceeds.

Kelsi Hamilton spoke in opposition of the ordinance. Kelsi expressed concerns regarding the annexation and urged that the proposal be put to the voters as a public vote.

Greg Cole spoke in opposition of the ordinance. Greg expressed concerns regarding a lack of transparency in addition to concerns about the city's ability to provide emergency services to an expanded coverage area.

Commissioner Brummer closed the hearing.

Commissioner Swope said he would like to see the meeting recessed to allow time to address concerns raised during public testimony. Commissioner Pollock echoed that sentiment. Commissioner Brummer outlined the processes by which cities and counties are required to address growth. He said the county and city need to do a better job addressing growth in a timely matter, noting that the urban growth area's lines were drawn three decades ago.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to close the hearing to public testimony and to recess the hearing until at or after 10 a.m. Dec. 2, 2025. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Brummer noted that county offices will be closed Nov. 27-28.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, December 2, 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



ATTEST:

Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

Scott J. Brummer, Chair

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair

Sean D. Swope, Commissioner