

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

April 28, 2026

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Swope

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Pollock called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The commissioners honored Lewis County personnel for employment milestones and recognized employees for going above and beyond in their duties.

Among the Employee Spotlight honorees:

- Patrol Sergeant Andrew Yocom and Community Service Officer Dave Sims of the Sheriff's Office
- Public Defense Coordinator & Risk Claims Specialist Natalie Mauermann of Public Defense / Risk Management
- Administrative Assistant Traci Hall, Property Control Specialist II Tanya Hahn and Property Control Specialist I Gwen McGeary of the Assessor's Office
- BOCC Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester
- Administrative Assistant Rebecca Orr of Public Works Motor Pool
- RMT 4 Andrew Shedd of Public Works Roads
- Health Specialist II Jacob Cleary of Environmental Health
- Coroner's Office employees Warren McLeod, Chelsie Niemcziek, Rylie Blair, Olympia Morris, Ashton Eyer, Rozz Wilson, Elizabeth Hagan, Kevin Rasku, Tyberius Tretheway, Christopher Johnson, Mandy See, Fallon Lef, Celeste Maldonado-Contreras, Kyle White and Faith Halseth.

Among the milestone honorees:

- **Five years:** Jill Nielson of Public Health and Social Services, Erika Katt of Emergency Management and Leslie Etherington of the Clerk's Office.
- **10 years:** Diane Graichen and William Rapp of Public Works.
- **15 years:** Chad Muir of Public Works and Jonathan Meyer and William Halstead of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

- **20 years:** Brady Taylor of the Sheriff's Office, Julie Campuzano of Public Health and Social Services, and Jeffrey Sanford of Public Works.
- **25 years:** Tim Mixer of Public Works and Lori Pulver and Sergeant Ricky Claxton of the Sheriff's Office.

Civic Champion honorees

The Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) has launched the Civic Champion Award to recognize individuals who go above and beyond in service to their communities.

- Budget Administrator / Risk Director Becky Butler
- Public Works GIS Supervisor Gary Hurley

PUBLIC COMMENT

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester said the county had received written public comment from several individuals. Those submitting comment included:

- Kyle Wheeler
- Shannon Crowl
- Martha Fleming
- Kyle Rakoz
- Joe Lefebvre
- Dr. Hillary Fazzari
- Wynne McHale
- Robert and Amanda Piedlow
- Freya Betts

NOTICE ITEMS

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolutions 26-133 through 26-134. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 26-133: Declaration of surplus vehicles and equipment. The items will be sold through Ritchie Brothers Auction (RBAuction.com) beginning at 8 a.m. May 7, 2026.

Solid Waste Services Manager Rocky Lyon discussed the resolution. Rocky said the county will sell several trailers at an upcoming Ritchie Brothers auction.

Resolution 26-134: Notice of hearing for Ordinance 1376, which would update Chapter 10.20 of Lewis County Code to allow electric-thrust operated vessels on specific bodies of water.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. May 12, 2026.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve minutes from the April 21, 2026, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 26-135. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolutions 26-136 through 26-141. Commissioner Swope seconded. Commissioner Swope noted he would be recusing himself from the vote regarding proposed Resolution 26-142.

Resolution 26-136: Accept agreement between Lewis County Sheriff/Jail and Cascade Mental Health Care.

Chief Chris Sweet discussed the resolution. Chief Sweet said Cascade has provided service to the jail for 15 years and that the agreement, which marks the first update to the contract since 2017, reflects increases linked to rising employee costs, etc.

Resolution 26-137: Rescind Resolution 96-45 and increase the Section 125 Trust Account balance.

Chief Accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace the county oversees the trust that covers claims for employees' health and dependent care flexible spending accounts and that staff has determined the trust balance should be increased to \$50,000 to cover expanded participation.

Resolution 26-138: List the bids received and contractor selected for the Carr Road MP 0.20 to MP 0.21 Slide Repair Project, 90-21F3782700020.

Public Works Director Geoff Soderquist discussed the resolution. Geoff said the county received 10 bids for the Carr Road project, with the lowest responsive bid of \$520,245.30 coming from Midway Underground of Toledo. He noted that the project is located between Randle and Packwood.

Resolution 26-139: Approve a Professional Services Contract with Carollo Engineers Inc. for the Middle Fork Water System Plan Update.

Public Works Director Geoff Soderquist discussed the resolution. Geoff said the contract awards funding of up to \$214,522 to Carollo Engineers Inc., which is updating the county's Middle Fork Water System Plan. Geoff noted that the funding is coming from a .09 Distressed Counties grant.

Resolution 26-140: Approve contract #H04-0257-25 amendment B between Hope Alliance and Lewis County.

Public Health and Social Services Director Meja Handlen discussed the resolution. Meja said the contract amendment extends the service agreement timeline and provides a \$160,000 funding increase to cover Hope Alliance's efforts to provide case management, rapid rehousing and shelter services for individuals who are homeless – or at risk of becoming homeless – and are fleeing domestic violence, dating violence or sexual assault.

Resolution 26-141: Approve contract #C15-0256-25 amendment D between Coastal Community Action Program (CAP) and Lewis County.

Public Health and Social Services Director Meja Handlen discussed the resolution. Meja said **

Motion to approve Resolutions 26-136 through 26-141 passed 3-0.

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve proposed Resolution 26-142: Authorizing legal defense and indemnity for Robert Snaza, Sean Swope, Jonathan Meyer and Warren McLeod, and their marital community, if any, regarding a lawsuit brought by Paul Bromm - Action No. 3:26-cv-05384. The motion was not seconded and therefore died.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

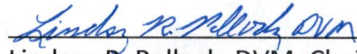
ADJOURNMENT

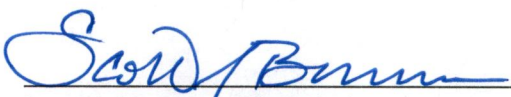
The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 5, 2026, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

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


Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair


Scott J. Brummer, Vice Chair

ATTEST:


Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board


Sean D. Swope, Commissioner