

**LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)**

**Business Meeting minutes**

**May 19, 2026**

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Swope

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Pollock 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 written public comment had been submitted and that the comments, from Kyle Wheeler, had been included in the record.

Donna O’Claire of Packwood discussed emergency work High Valley residents performed to protect homes, lives and properties from the December 2025 floods in Packwood. She said locals raised money needed to erect an emergency revetment and were alerted in May about an expensive after-the-fact permit process that is required. She said she is asking the commissioners for help.

Jeaneva Hallett echoed the need for the commissioners’ help to protect the homeowners from having to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in after-the-fact fees.

Rob Maricle discussed the need to mitigate change – possibly redirecting the river channel – to protect salmon and homeowners from floodwaters. He also noted that his earlier efforts to have the Assessor’s Office correct the value of his property finally proved successful.

Peter Lahmann discussed the Salzer Valley Historical Schoolhouse’s need to replace its bridge. He also invited the public to three events: 5 p.m. May 19 Historical Society meeting, 3 p.m. May 20 Port of Centralia meeting and May 25 Memorial Day service at Washington Park.

Commissioner Brummer said he is committed to working with the state and local authorities to ensure the Packwood area property owners aren’t left owing hundreds of thousands of dollars for the emergency work they had performed with the state’s blessing.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

***Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve minutes from the May 12, 2026, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 26-156. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.***

## DELIBERATION ITEMS

*Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolution 26-142. Commissioner Pollock seconded.*

**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.

Commissioner Pollock noted that outside counsel reviewed the matter and advised the county that Lewis County has a legal responsibility to indemnify the employees named in the lawsuit.

Commissioner Brummer noted that in addition to outside counsel, two others also reviewed the matter – Risk lawyers and the county’s own legal team – and that all three determined that the employees acted within the scope of their employment and that the county is required to indemnify them.

Motion passed 2-0, with Commissioner Swope recusing himself from the vote.

*Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolutions 26-157 through 26-159. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 26-157:** Rescind Resolution 24-370 and increase the balance of the Lewis County Auditor Revolving fund.

Chief Accountant Grace Jimenez discussed the resolution. Grace said the Auditor’s Office is seeking to increase its petty cash amount by \$600.

**Resolution 26-158:** Rescind Resolution 10-115 and update Capital Facilities Planning Committee membership.

Capital Infrastructure Specialist Matt Patana discussed the resolution. Matt said the resolution reestablishes the committee and outlines its membership.

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to amend Resolution 26-158 to indicate that a designee can fill a member’s position. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Resolution 26-159:** Intent to vacate an unimproved portion of Fagley Road #609, Centralia.

Real Estate Services Manager Kimberly Edminster discussed the resolution. Kimberly said the resolution would instruct the County Engineer to examine the portion of right of way.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

Commissioner Swope clarified that he had recused himself from the vote regarding Resolution 26-142.

## HEARING

**Vacation 26-001 (Washington):** The vacation of an undeveloped right of way, being a continuation of Washington Street in Mineral.

Commissioner Pollock introduced the hearing.

**Real Estate Services Manager Kimberly Edminster** gave the staff report.

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

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

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

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

Commissioner Pollock closed the hearing.

**Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Vacation 26-001 (Washington). Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

## PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

## ADJOURNMENT

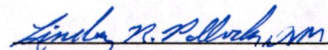
The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 26, 2026, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

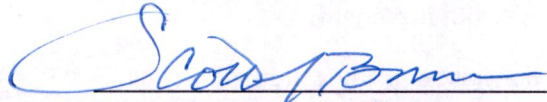
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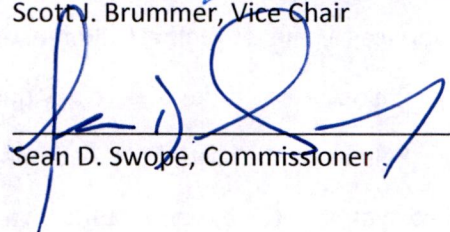
Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. The weekly Business Meeting streams live on YouTube (search for "LewisCountyWa" on YouTube or go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/LewisCountyWa/featured>). Video footage also is available at no charge at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/>.



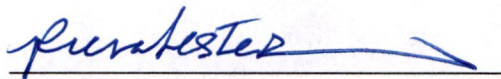
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair

  
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Scott J. Brummer, Vice Chair

  
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Sean D. Swope, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
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Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board