

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

July 28, 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.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The commissioners honored Lewis County employees who've reached employment milestones as well as those who've gone above and beyond in their roles.

EMPLOYMENT MILESTONES

The following individuals were recognized for their years of service:

- **Five years:** Noxious Weed Control employee Charles Edmonson; Community Development employee Sarah Hensley; Public Works employees Rocky Lyon, Lyle Metzenberg and Richard Wirt; Facilities employee Alex Murray; Assessor's Office employee Brandon Rogers; and Sheriff's Office employees Debbie Schang and Colin Mackenzie.
- **10 years:** Community Development employee Bradley Clark; Assessor's Office employee Tanya Hahn; Public Works employees Ian Hilligoss and Tyson Drevniak; and Sheriff's Office employees Kelsey Williams and Preston McGlamery.
- **20 years:** Communications - E911 employee Jeanetta Yund and Public Works employee Russ Morton.
- **25 years:** Public Works employee Shawn Latimer and Public Disclosure Office employee Casey Maurermann.
- **30 years:** Sheriff's Office employee Tonja Matchett and Public Works employee William Norwood.
- **35 years:** Sheriff's Office employee Lisa Arthur.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

The following individuals were recognized for going above and beyond in their roles:

- Coroner's Office employees Rozz Wilson and Kyle White.

- Community Development employee Tara Snelson.
- Facilities employees TJ Snodderly and Andrea Dulaney.
- Department of Emergency Management employee Erika Katt.
- Sheriff's Office employee Colin Mackenzie.
- Board of County Commissioners' employee Rieva Lester.
- Capital Infrastructure employee Matt Patana.
- Assessor's Office employees Josiah Kopacz, Leah Kama Vida, Ty Kaeche, Scott Hamilton, Hugo Nevins, Sarah McMillian and Stacey Cochran.
- Community Development employees Bradley Clark, Molli Hurt, Jennifer Cervantes and Katie Johnson.
- Public Works employees Shannon Foister, William Potter, Jason Ford, Tyrone Musselman, Cindy Mickey, Kallan Kersavage, Rocky Lyon, Maggie MacInnis, Levi Wallace, Christy Fay, Pam Seigal
- Noxious Weed Control employees Sanne Holm and Kelsey Stritmatter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

James Allie of Chehalis suggested steps to prevent flooding in the Chehalis River Basin.

NOTICE ITEMS

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolutions 26-238 and 26-239. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 26-238: The temporary closure of Meade Hill Road to all through traffic. The closure is extended through 5 p.m. Aug. 14, 2026, or later as established by the Public Works Director or County Engineer if additional time is deemed necessary due to unforeseen circumstances.

Public Works Director Geoff Soderquist discussed the resolution. Geoff said the Meade Hill Road closure has been extended through Aug. 14.

Resolution 26-239: Issue a call for bids for cremation process for indigent (unclaimed) decedents. Bids are due to the Lewis County Coroner's Office at 585 NW Center St. in Chehalis by 5 p.m. Aug. 19, 2026.

Clerk of the Board Rieva Lester discussed the resolution. Rieva said the Coroner's Office is issuing a call for bids for the cremation process for unclaimed individuals.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve minutes from the July 21, 2026, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 26-240. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolutions 26-241 through 26-243. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Resolution 26-241: Reappoint Katherine Humphrey to the Lewis County Noxious Weed Control Board.

Noxious Weed Control Program Coordinator Charles Edmonson discussed the resolution. Charles said Katherine Humphrey has agreed to continue serving on the Weed Control Board.

Resolution 26-242: Intent to vacate an unimproved Alley in Block B, in the Plat of Doty, in Doty, Wash.

Real Estate Services Manager Kimberly Edminster discussed the resolution. Kimberly said the resolution instructs the County Engineer to evaluate the adjoining property owner's request that the county vacate its road.

Resolution 26-243: Authorize legal defense and indemnity for Jesse Anderson, Tristan Dickey, Christopher Tawes, Christopher Sweet, Giovanni Dominguez Gonzalez, Adam Rosales-Reyes, Nathaniel Gluck, Andrea Lowe and Kevin Schultz, and their marital community, if any, regarding a lawsuit brought by Kyle Scott - Case No. 3:25-cv-06181-BHS-TLF.

Budget / Risk Director Becky Butler discussed the resolution. Becky said the defense and indemnity is for county employees named in a lawsuit brought by Kyle Scott.

Motion passed 3-0.

HEARINGS

Resolution 26-244: Approve a franchise renewal to Middle Fork Water System to install, construct, operate and maintain water and sewer system facilities within county road rights of way.

Commissioner Pollock introduced the hearing.

Real Estate Services Manager Kimberly Edminster gave the staff report, providing a brief overview of the franchise renewal.

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

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 spoke.

Commissioner Pollock closed the hearing.

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolution 26-244. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution 26-245: Affirm the temporary six-month moratorium on the establishment of Family Burial Grounds, as adopted by Resolution 26-190, following the public hearing required by RCW 36.70A.390.

Commissioner Pollock introduced the hearing.

Senior Long-Range Planner Natalie Kamieniecki gave the staff report. Natalie said the county is holding its after-the-fact hearing regarding the moratorium on family burial grounds it instituted in June in response to changes in state law. She said state law requires that the commissioners hold the after-the-fact hearing within 60 days of its temporary moratorium and that Community Development plans to follow up again in October with a presentation outlining the Planning Commission's recommendations regarding permanent regulations for family burial grounds.

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

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

Natalie 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 spoke.

Commissioner Pollock closed the hearing.

Commissioner Brummer made a motion to approve Resolution 26-245. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The commissioners offered their condolences regarding the death of Gather Church Pastor Cole Meckle, who died July 27 after a battle with an aggressive and terminal cancer.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, August 4, 2026, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

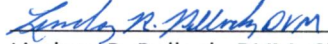
Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. The weekly Business Meeting streams live on YouTube (search for "LewisCountyWa" on YouTube or go to <https://www.youtube.com/user/LewisCountyWa/featured>). Video footage also is available at no charge at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/>.



ATTEST:


Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair


Scott J. Brummer, Vice Chair


Sean D. Swope, Commissioner