

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

July 20, 2020

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson

Recorder: Rieva Lester

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**NOTICE ITEMS**

*Commissioner Fund made a motion to approve Resolutions 20-245 through 20-247. Commissioner Jackson seconded.*

**Resolution 20-245:** Notice of public hearing and declaration of the Board of County Commissioners to dissolve Dikage and Drainage District #1 for Lewis County pursuant to Chapter 36.96 RCW. The hearing will take place Aug. 17, 2020, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Amber Smith spoke to the resolution. She said the Lewis County Auditor has determined that there is no record of activity for Dikage and Drainage District #1 since 2014 and that there is no record of election or appointment of elected members since 2012.

**Resolution 20-246:** Notice of hearing for a franchise to PUD No. 1 of Cowlitz County to install, construct, operate and maintain electrical facilities in Lewis County rights of way. The hearing will take place Aug. 10, 2020, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Real Estate Services Director Martin Roy spoke to the resolution. Martin said Cowlitz County PUD has been operating in Lewis County right of way in Ryderwood and the Bones Road area.

**Resolution 20-247:** The temporary closure of Pleasant Valley Road to all through traffic.

Real Estate Services Director Martin Roy spoke to the resolution. He said the county needs to close a portion of Pleasant Valley Road to allow for bridge repairs.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

#### CONSENT ITEMS

*Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve minutes from the July 13, 2020, meeting as well as Resolution 20-248. Commissioner Fund seconded.*

**Resolution 20-248:** Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Suzette Smith, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 830,730 through 830,989 and direct disbursements numbered 2366, 2371 and 2372 issued in July for payments against the county totaling \$1,918,926.54. She said warrants 795,771 through 795,774 and Automatic Deposits 13,663 through 14,266 also were approved for payments against the county totaling \$1,695,721.49. Suzette noted a skip in sequence for warrants 830,690 through 830,729 and 830,990 through 831,043, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

#### DELIBERATION ITEMS

*Commissioner Fund made a motion to approve Resolutions 20-249 through 20-253. Commissioner Jackson seconded.*

**Resolution 20-249:** Resolution to authorize initial placement of casual administrative assistant senior to be placed on the current Lewis County Salary Grid (13 Step M Grid) for non-union extra help.

HR Specialist Daleyn Coleman spoke to the resolution. She said the move will allow for the hiring of a casual employee in the Solid Waste division.

**Resolution 20-250:** Restrict outdoor burning throughout unincorporated Lewis County.

Community Development Director Lee Napier spoke to the resolution. She said the outdoor burning of brush no longer is allowed, effective at 8 a.m. July 18. She said recreational campfires are still allowed under the burn restrictions.

**Resolution 20-251:** Adoption of the June 15, 2020, Lewis County Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Analysis as the hazard analysis and assessment of local threats for Lewis County.

Emergency Management Deputy Director Andy Caldwell spoke to the resolution. He said the threat analysis is required and includes Risk calendars and Risk ratings.

**Resolution 20-252:** Ratify a consultant supplement over \$40,000 for Archaeological Investigations Northwest Inc.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf spoke to the resolution. He said the contract adds one year and \$140,000 to an existing contract.

**Resolution 20-253:** The proposed acquisition of additional right of way for a project on Highway 603, Chehalis.

Real Estate Services Manager Martin Roy spoke to the resolution. He said Resolution No. 20-189 instructed the County Road Engineer to acquire temporary easements from two adjacent property owners on Highway 603 for a safety improvement project. He said it has become necessary to acquire right of way from one additional property owner.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Fund discussed the PUD's work related to broadband.

## COVID-19

JP Anderson said the county learned of six new COVID-19 cases on July 18 and four more on July 19.

Commissioner Jackson said the Western portion of the state is faring much better than the Eastern portion of the state. He asked JP to reach out to the state to urge the governor's office to reconsider allowing local control rather than giving a one-size-fits-all approach across the state.

Commissioner Stamper discussed his recent trip to Montana, noting that Idaho and Montana also are requiring the use of face masks.

Emergency Management Deputy Director discussed proactive work to provide supplies to long-care facilities.

JP Anderson said the number of "recovered" cases will be updated. The group discussed HIPPA rules in regards to the location of COVID-19 cases.



Commissioner Stamper and Andy Caldwell discussed help for small businesses.

Becky Butler said Treasury has updated its guidance regarding Coronavirus Relief Funding linked to public safety and public health salaries.

The commissioners discussed their calendars.

Becky Butler noted that the Senate will come back in session later in the week to discuss additional relief funding.

Steve Wohld discussed the 10-person limit regarding meeting sizes and whether the commissioners' meetings would be limited to 10 participants.

#### PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for Monday, July 27, 2020, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

*Please note that minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. A recording of the meeting may be purchased at the BOCC office, or video footage can be viewed at no charge at [LewisCountyWa.gov/bocc-meetings](http://LewisCountyWa.gov/bocc-meetings). Video footage of BOCC meetings also is aired on Comcast Channel 3 at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m., and 10 p.m. daily. Video footage also can be found on the Lewis County Commissioners' Facebook page.*



ATTEST:



Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Gary Stamper, Chair

  
Edna J. Fund, Vice Chair

  
Robert C. Jackson, Commissioner