

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

August 24, 2020

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson

Recorder: Rieva Lester

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alicia Howard of Chehalis said she has questions about a proposed plan for education pods. Erik Martin said that Coronavirus Relief Funding likely would be used if the proposal were to go through. She also noted that she has reached out to Breeze with no success. Alicia also discussed a forum planned for Aug. 26.

Scott Crossfield of Toledo asked about a stop-work order on a gravel pit in Toledo. He said the owner continues to operate at all hours. Scott asked if there was any follow-up to previous discussions about the gravel pit. Commissioner Stamper said he would follow up with Scott.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Fund made a motion to approve minutes from the August 17, 2020, meeting as well as Resolution 20-289. Commissioner Jackson seconded.

Resolution 20-289: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Suzette Smith, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 831,759 through 831,789 and 831,833 through 832,028 and direct disbursements numbered 2474 and 2475 were issued in August for payments against the county totaling \$2,319,271.38.

She noted a skip in sequence for warrants 831,790 through 831,832, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve Resolutions 20-290 through 20-298. Commissioner Fund seconded.

Resolution 20-290: The proposed vacation of a portion of the Theo. Hoss Road No. 132.

Real Estate Services Manager Martin Roy spoke to the resolution. He property owners have requested that the county vacate Theo. Hoss Road No. 132.

Resolution 20-291: Authorize the Director of Information Technology Services to execute a purchase order with Ednetics and Cisco.

IT Director Matt Jaeger spoke to the resolution. He said the purchase will allow courts to continue providing video court appearances. He said the project will cost \$490,493.67 and will be paid using either Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) or Coronavirus Relief Funding (CRF).

Resolution 20-292: Adopt the August 12, 2020, Hydrological Drought Plan as an Annex to the Lewis County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.

Emergency Management Deputy Director Andy Caldwell spoke to the resolution. He said historical information has been added to the plan.

Resolution 20-293: Appoint Frank Corbin to the Lewis County Planning Commission.

Community Development Director Lee Napier spoke to the resolution. She said Frank will serve the remainder of a term vacated by Bob Whannell. Frank Corbin spoke about his excitement regarding the appointment.

Resolution 20-294: Approve a contract amendment between Lewis County and Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason, & Thurston Counties.

Public Health and Social Services Director JP Anderson spoke to the resolution. He said the amendment adds \$43,000 and extends the contract through the end of October.

Resolution 20-295: Approve an amendment for CJTA Funded Treatment and Recovery Support Services between Washington Health Care Authority and Lewis County.

Public Health and Social Services Director JP Anderson spoke to the resolution. He said the amendment will pay for services in the jail and includes funds for a new project.

Resolution 20-296: Approve an amendment between the Salvation Army and Lewis County to extend duration and add funding for the Homeless Shelter and Isolation & Quarantine Facility.

Public Health and Social Services Director JP Anderson spoke to the resolution. He said the resolution amends and extends a contract with the Salvation Army to provide an isolation and quarantine facility at the fairgrounds for the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

Resolution 20-297: Approve a .09 ("Distressed Counties") grant agreement with the Port of Chehalis for the Tenant Improvement Package project.

Commissioner Fund spoke to the resolution. She said the \$49,000 grant will be used to improve the area for a tenant coming in.

Resolution 20-298: Approving a grant agreement with Breeze LLC for enhancement to wireless systems in rural Lewis County to enable distance learning and teleworking using Coronavirus Relief Funds.

Fair Manager Tamara Hayes spoke to the resolution. She said the \$150,000 grant will be used to provide wireless systems in rural areas of Lewis County to facilitate distance learning and telework capabilities. Breeze owner Peter Crosby said he is reaching out to Alicia Howard, who had expressed her concerns about the lack of communication from the company. Peter Crosby said Breeze will be offering 50 percent off installation costs for families of school-age children.

Motion passed 3-0.

COVID-19

Erik Martin said the county learned of 17 new cases over the weekend.

JP Anderson discussed the county's response to a COVID-19 outbreak at the jail.

JP Anderson said the recommendation for someone who tests positive is to self-isolate for 10 days, regardless of whether they are symptomatic. He said that the individual can come out of isolation if they no fever for three days and that their cough has improved three days after that 10-day period. JP said a press release is in the works to address that specific topic for employers.

JP explained that someone who has been exposed should be quarantined for 14 days after the exposure.

JP said he will hold a meeting with superintendents later in the week. He said he and Dr. Wood also met with pediatricians and school representatives earlier in the day.

Tamara Hayes said Lewis County Together is creating an informational post about vacancies at area day care centers.

Becky Butler reminded the group that Coronavirus Relief Fund grant applications for nonprofits are due Sept. 3.

JP Anderson said the state is working on data cleaning to ensure all of the data is accurate. He suggested moving to weekly data updates locally to ensure the data presented is accurate, noting that sometimes a positive test can be attributed the Lewis County when the patient lives in another county. He suggested moving to a weekly update on Thursdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Fund said the Army Corps of Engineers has announced that public comments for the NEPA are due in September.

Ron Averill discussed the NEPA and also discussed a livestock auction that took place over the weekend. He also asked that his Lewis County Seniors meeting be rescheduled.

PRESS CONFERENCE

There were no questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday, August 31, 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. 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 Stasper, Chair


Edna J. Fund, Vice Chair


Robert C. Jackson, Commissioner