

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

September 14, 2020

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Stamper called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alicia Howard expressed her concerns and frustrations about virtual learning as well as the COVID-19 Education Forum that took place Sept. 10. She said she feels her questions – and others' questions – were left unanswered. Alicia said remote learning is not working, and she said monthly ***.

Commissioner Fund noted that the Boistfort School District has voted to switch to a hybrid in-person / virtual model.

Erik Martin said staff is working on an FAQ. He urged the public to send questions to the county at BOCC@lewiscountywa.gov.

NOTICE ITEMS

Commissioner Fund made a motion to approve Resolutions 20-313 through 20-317. Commissioner Jackson seconded.

Resolution 20-313: Notice of hearing regarding a franchise to City of Winlock to install, construct, operate and maintain water line facilities in Lewis County rights of way. The hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. Oct. 5.

Real Estate Services Manager Martin Roy spoke to the resolution. He said Winlock has an existing franchise and would like to increase the size of its footprint.

Resolution 20-314: The proposed vacation of a portion of the Theo. Hoss Road No. 132.

Real Estate Services Manager Martin Roy spoke to the resolution. He said a property owner has requested the vacation.

Resolution 20-315: Approving a call for bids for six new Sheriff patrol vehicles. Bids are due to the Clerk of the Board by 12:30 p.m. Sept. 29.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf spoke to the resolution. He said the vehicles are set to be replaced in the 2021 budget.

Resolution 20-316: Lewis County 2020 budget emergency and supplemental appropriations to and transfers within current expense and various funds, notice of hearing thereon. The hearing will take place in the Commissioners' Hearing Room at or after 10 a.m. Sept. 28.

Budget Services Manager Becky Butler spoke to the resolution. She said the public can comment on the proposed amendment.

Resolution 20-317: Call for bids to provide 2 jail isolation cells. Bids are due to the Clerk of the Board by 3 p.m. Oct. 15.

Capital Projects Manager Doug Carey spoke to the resolution. He said the two units cells have their own separate HVAC equipment. Becky Butler noted that CARES Act funding is being used for the project.

Motion passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve minutes from the August 31, 2020, meeting as well as Resolution 20-318. Commissioner Fund seconded.

Resolution 20-318: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Suzette Smith, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 832,364 through 832,603 and 832,638 through 832,697 as well as direct disbursements numbered 2451, 2464 through 2469, 2472, 2473, 2477 through 2479, 2487, 2489, 2490, 2507, 2530 and 2547 were issued the weeks of August 28 and September 10 for payments against the county totaling \$2,204,708.44. She said payroll/tax deposit warrants numbered 795,790 through 795,792 and Automatic Deposits 16,111 through 16,719 also were approved for payments against the county totaling \$1,736,404.48. Suzette noted a skip in sequence for warrants 832,349 through 832,363 and 832,604 through 832,637, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Fund made a motion to approve Resolutions 20-319 through 20-330. Commissioner Jackson seconded.

Resolution 20-319: Lewis County Burn Restrictions Modified to Total Ban throughout unincorporated Lewis County.

Community Development Director Lee Napier spoke to the resolution. She said campfires are no longer allowed, that only liquid gas or propane gas stoves that do not use solid briquettes can be used. She noted that the changes took effect Sept. 8.

Resolution 20-320: A revision of the existing Organization Chart of the Lewis County Public Works Department.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf spoke to the resolution. He said the process to change the organization chart started in February. Josh noted that the Airports and Emergency Management have moved to Public Works.

Resolution 20-321: Approving Defense and Indemnity for Sheriff Robert Snaza and his marital community, and for Joseph Solberg and his marital community, if any.

Safety Officer Tawni Shepherd spoke to the resolution. She said the request is pursuant to previous practices.

Resolution 20-322: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and The Salvation Army to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Eviction Rental Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$546,330.

Lewis County Public Health and Social Services Deputy Director John Abplanalp and Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. Gin Pack of the Salvation Army thanked the county for the opportunity.

Resolution 20-323: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Equity Institute to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Eviction Rental Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$96,025.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said this will provide help for non-English speakers and other marginalized populations.

Resolution 20-324: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Housing Resource Center to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Eviction Rental Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$87,893.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said the funding will be used to help individuals facing eviction.

Resolution 20-325: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Hope Alliance to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Emergency Solutions COVID19 Grant in the amount of \$79,573.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said the funds will help those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

Resolution 20-326: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and The Salvation Army to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Emergency Solutions COVID19 Grant in the amount of \$48,471.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said the funds will help provide rental assistance to those at or below 50 percent of the median income under the eligibility criteria.

Resolution 20-327: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Compass Career Solutions to provide inclusion services funding in the amount of \$65,000.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said the funding will be used to help those with developmental disabilities.

Resolution 20-328: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Reliable Enterprises to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Emergency Solutions COVID19 Grant in the amount of \$56,112.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said the funding will be used to help those who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance.

Resolution 20-329: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Morningside to provide funds through DDA in the amount of \$302,200.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said the funds will be used to help those who have developmental disabilities. Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Deputy Director Sara Sons said contract provides funding for the county to help 10 individuals transition from school to employment.

Resolution 20-330: Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Reliable Enterprises to provide funds through DDA in the amount of \$278,051.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator Meja Handlen spoke to the resolution. She said the funds will be used to help those with developmental disabilities.

Motion passed 3-0.

HEARINGS

Resolution 20-331: Approve a franchise to Cardinal FG Company to install, construct, operate and maintain natural gas facilities in Lewis County road rights of way.

Commissioner Stamper introduced the hearing.

Real Estate Services Manager Martin Roy gave the staff report. Martin said Cardinal has a pipeline that provides natural gas to its Winlock facility. Martin said Resolution 20-280 set Sept. 14 as the hearing date for the nonexclusive franchise. He described the boundaries of the franchise. He said Cardinal has reviewed and approves of the franchise agreement.

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

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

Martin Roy asked that his previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Stamper asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against the resolution.

No one spoke.

Commissioner Stamper closed the hearing.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve Resolution 20-331. Commissioner Fund seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

Resolution 20-332: Approve a franchise to Cardinal FG Company to install, construct, operate and maintain water line facilities in Lewis County road rights of way.

Commissioner Stamper introduced the hearing.

Real Estate Services Manager Martin Roy gave the staff report. Martin said Resolution 20-281 set Sept. 14 as the hearing date for the nonexclusive franchise. He described the boundaries of the franchise and noted that Cardinal has reviewed and approved the franchise.

Commissioner Stamper asked if there were any questions. Col. Ron Averill asked if the two franchises were new franchises or whether they were renewals. Martin said the two franchises are renewals.

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

Martin Roy asked that his previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Stamper asked if anyone wanted to speak for or against the resolution.

No one spoke.

Commissioner Stamper closed the hearing.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve Resolution 20-332. Commissioner Fund seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

COVID-19

John Abplanalp said the county learned of five new COVID-19 cases over the weekend, pushing the total countywide to 432.

Erik Martin thanked the public for participating in the COVID-19 forum the previous week. He said the county has been asked to hold another forum. Commissioner Stamper said he'd like to see less time spent on providing background and more time spent on answering questions. Commissioner Fund said a parent has asked if they can join the group of physicians and superintendents that meets weekly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Jackson said George and Elaine Chandler have asked that the commissioners recognize Oct. 28 as First Responders Day.

CALENDARS

The commissioners discussed their calendars.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

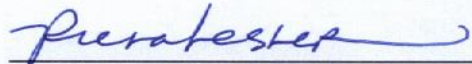
ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday, September 21, 2020, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

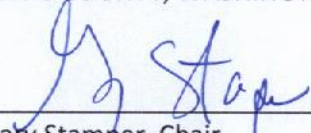
Please note that minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. A recording of the meeting may be purchased at the BOCC office, or video footage can be viewed at no charge at LewisCountyWa.gov/bocc-meetings. Video footage of BOCC meetings also is aired on Comcast Channel 3 at 10 a.m., 2 p.m.,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

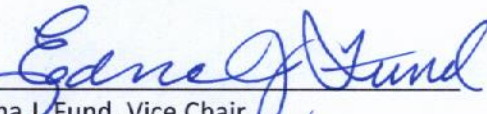


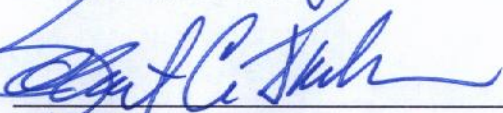
ATTEST:


Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Gary Stamper, Chair


Edna J. Fund, Vice Chair


Robert C. Jackson, Commissioner