

LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

April 6, 2021

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope

Recorder: Lara McRea

Commissioner Stamper called the meeting to order at 2 p.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**NOTICE ITEMS**

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 21-126 through 21-128. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 21-126:** Publication of 2020 County Forces road construction projects and costs.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. He said this is their annual notice for any work to be performed by county forces and includes all of their maintenance projects for chip seal and their safety and guardrail program. The total projected amount is \$614,549 for the county's portion of the work this year.

**Resolution 21-127:** Publishing of Lewis County's On-Call Consultant Roster and appoint the Public Works Director as approving authority for category changes.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. He said this publishes the annual on-call services performed annually. This is for small projects that come up throughout the year.

**Resolution 21-128:** Call for bids for the material purchase of a precast concrete split box culvert for future installation. Bids are due to the Clerk of the Board by 12:15 p.m. April 22, 2021.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. He said this is for Public Works Lincoln Creek project scheduled for later this summer.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

#### CONSENT ITEMS

*Commissioner Swope made a motion to approve minutes from the March 30, 2021, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 21-129. Commissioner Pollock seconded.*

**Resolution 21-129:** Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant **Suzette Smith**, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 839,970 through 840,161 and direct disbursements numbered 3270 through 3279 as well as 3281, 3294 and 3295 were issued in March for payments against the county totaling \$ 1,026,977.37. She said Automatic Deposit numbered 24,423 also was approved in March for a payment against the county totaling \$156.77. Suzette noted a skip in sequence for warrants 839,939 through 839,969, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

#### DELIBERATION ITEMS

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolutions 21-130 through 21-137. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 21-130:** Authorize the Director of IT Services to execute the renewal of an Enterprise Agreement with Insight, a Washington state contracted reseller for Microsoft Corporation licenses.

Chief of Internal Services **Steve Wohld** discussed the resolution. He noted this is their annual true-up with Microsoft and the contract is approximately \$145,000 with tax.

**Resolution 21-131:** Approve an agreement between Lewis County and the Department of Commerce to provide Treasury Rent Assistance Program funds through the Housing Assistance Unit in the amount of \$4,867,482.

Community Health Services & Contracts Coordinator **Meja Handlin** discussed the resolution. She said the agreement between the County and the Department of Commerce is for rental and utility assistance for Lewis County residents. The funds were not anticipated in Public Health & Social Services's original budget. The timeline is March 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, with an anticipated extension as this is a large amount of funding to get out in that timeline.



**Resolution 21-132: Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Rural Arterial Program Project Agreement for Construction Proposal contract between Lewis County and the County Road Administration Board for the Centralia Alpha Road Improvements Project – CRP 2084, and authorizing signatures thereon.**

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. He said this amendment is reducing the overall length of the project by approximately .01 miles and the intent of the amendment reduces the overall cost of the project. This project includes one fish passage project.

**Resolution 21-133: Reappoint Peter Lahmann to the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council.**

Lara McRea discussed the resolution. She said Mr. Lahmann, who serves as a Port of Centralia Commissioner, is currently serving a three-year Pac Mountain term that expires on June 30, 2021. Resolution 21-133 will reappointment him to a three-year term expiring June 30, 2024.

**Resolution 21-134: List the bids received and newspaper selected for Lewis County legal printing for July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.**

Lara McRea discussed the resolution. She said the Board of County Commissioners issued a call for sealed bids for the printing of legal publications on February 1, 2021. The county received bids from the Chronicle, the East County Journal and the Lewis County News. This resolution awards the bid to the Chronicle for its standard quoted bid of \$3.10 per column inch.

**Resolution 21-135: Appoint / reappoint individuals to the East Lewis County Public Development Authority (ELCPDA) Board of Directors.**

Lara McRea discussed the resolution. She said this resolution appoints/reappoints F. Lee Grose, Ken Rankin and Blake Griffith to the East Lewis County Public Development Authority Board of Directors to complete terms ending April 1, 2022. This resolution also appoints/reappoints C. Gerald Monkman for a three-year term ending April 1, 2024.

**Resolution 21-136: Waive bid requirements and approve a special market condition purchase of two 5-yard dump trucks.**

Fleet Services Manager Tim Murphy discussed the resolution. He said this resolution would waive their normal bid requirements within their normal purchasing process. The purchase price is just under \$90,000 per truck at \$89,488.

**Resolution 21-137: Accept an agreement between Lewis County and Washington State Military Department for the 2019-20 Emergency Management Performance Supplemental Grant increase in funds and authorizing signatures thereon.**

Department of Emergency Services Deputy Director Andy Caldwell discussed the resolution. He said these funds were not included in their budget and the additional funding is \$3,852.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

## HEARINGS

### **Resolution 21-138: Public Hearing informing the public of Community Development Block Grant General Purpose Grant opportunities.**

Commissioner Stamper introduced the hearing.

Josh Metcalf said this is in compliance with the Washington State Department of Commerce requirements to hold a public hearing to provide an opportunity for community members to propose projects or provide input on proposed projects. He noted a request was received from Lewis County Water District #1 to sponsor a project they have on their high priority list. This is for a new water storage reservoir and have requested for \$900,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). This has been the only request received.

Bill McMahan, who is the Board President for LC Water District #1, said there is a directive from the state health department to disconnect their fire flows system from their tank and to build their own tank which could end up being a lot of money. This is a water quality and health safety issue.

Cathi Read from the Department of Commerce said the Water District #1 has conducted a household income survey which shows that the residents are 59.6% low to moderate income so they are eligible to receive CDBG funds. The district will also be applying for Public Works trust fund loan funding to round out the project. The anticipated cost of the project is more than \$900,000. CDBG handouts were available to the public via the county's online resolution portal.

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

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

Josh Metcalf 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 Swope made a motion to approve Resolution 21-138. Commissioner Pollock seconded.***

***Motion passed 3-0.***



**Resolution 21-139: Approve a franchise to Mashell Telecom Inc. to install, construct, operate and maintain telecommunication facilities in Lewis County road rights of way.**

Commissioner Stamper introduced the hearing.

Real Estate Services Manager Martin Roy gave the staff report. He said this hearing is to consider granting a non-exclusive franchise to Mashell Telecom Inc. to construct, operate and maintain telecommunication facilities in Lewis County road rights of way. Mashell Telecom Inc. also doing business as Rainier Connect has a franchise with the county for some time. This proposed franchise would be the renewal of an existing franchise for telecommunication facilities within the county roads. This franchise is for two map locations within the county excluding those portions within the incorporated towns and cities. All county road rights of way within the noted area not in incorporated cities are covered with this agreement. This non-exclusive franchise is being granted, pursuant to and conformance with RCW 36.55 and Lewis County code 12.25 through 12.50.

Resolution 21-193 passed by the BOCC on March 16, 2021, set April 6, 2021, as the date for the hearing. RCW 36.55 requires that no hearing be held on a proposed franchise until five days after the last publication date and 15 days after posting the notice thereof in three public places. Publication must be twice in the official newspaper publication in the county. Publication occurred on March 18 and 25, 2021, in the Chronicle. A notice of franchise was also posted in three public places. The franchise, with a five-year term, has been sent to the applicant for review and they have accepted the terms of the franchise and have signed the document. Martin said it is the recommendation of the Public Works Department that this franchise for telecommunication facilities be granted to Mashell Telecom Inc.

Commissioner Stamper asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Stamper asked for clarification about the rights of way. Martin Roy said Mashell would have rights of way with property owned by Lewis County, but would have to work with private property owners if any problems arose.

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

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

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

There was a letter and other documentation from Tim Pegler of Toledo that was read for public testimony received March 31, 2021.

Colonel Averill said that Mashall, doing business as Rainier, uses fiber not towers.

Commissioner Stamper closed the hearing.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Resolution 21-139. Commissioner Swope seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

**Resolution correction:**

Lara McRea asked for clarification with Resolution 21-137. It was noticed the contract amount had a transposed number in the summary portion of the resolution.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to amend Resolution No. 21-137 to consistently read \$3,582.

Commissioner Swope seconded the motion.

Motion passed 3-0.

#### **COVID-19**

No update.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

No announcements.

#### **PRESS CONFERENCE**

Claudia asked the board about the TransAlta and WDFW land acquisition. She noted that the project passed another hurdle last week and the county had previously argued that the acquisition would be unlawful. Are there any plans to mount any sort of legal challenge or if there have been any conversations on that front.

Commissioner Stamper noted that he had not heard anything at this time.

Commissioner Swope said the only thing that is affected by this announcement is that WDFW will still move forward with considering it. As far as the unlawfulness, that is the land zoning. For them to obtain it for wildlife it is unlawful for that use currently.

Claudia asked as this continues will there be any sort of strategy on the part of the board to make this more of a win for the county.

Commissioner Stamper said there are a lot of behind the scenes communications happening. At the appropriate time there will be public announcements and information that needs to be shared.

Commissioner Swope said there has been a good partnership with TransAlta and did wish for more discussion with WDFW.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 13, 2021, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

*Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. Video footage can be viewed online at no charge at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/>.*

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



ATTEST:

Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

Gary Stamper, Chair

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair

Sean Swope, Commissioner