

**LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)**

**Business Meeting minutes**

**April 20, 2021**

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Stamper called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m., determined a quorum and then proceeded with the flag salute.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Peter Lahmann discussed WorkEx, an internship program for transitioning service men and women. He said Pac Mountain and the Thurston County Chamber of Commerce are sponsoring the WorkEx program, which works through Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to add to the Business Meeting agenda Resolution 21-166: Lewis County Emergency Burn Restrictions throughout unincorporated Lewis County.

Commissioner Swope seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

**PRESENTATION**

*Commissioner Swope made a motion to approve a proclamation recognizing April 22, 2021, as Earth Day. Commissioner Pollock seconded.*

**Proclamation recognizing April 22, 2021, as Earth Day.**

**Commissioner Pollock read the proclamation into the record.**

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

## CONSENT ITEMS

*Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the April 13, 2021, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 21-158. Commissioner Swope seconded.*

**Resolution 21-158:** Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Suzette Smith, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 840,438 through 840,869 and direct disbursements numbered 3339 through 3341, 3346 and 3347 were issued in April for payments against the county totaling \$2,258,231.34. She said payroll/tax deposit warrants numbered 795,822 through 795,826 and Automatic Deposits 24,424 through 25,000 also were approved for payments against the county totaling \$1,045,107.45. Suzette noted a skip in sequence for warrants 840,395 through 840,437, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

## DELIBERATION ITEMS

*Commissioner Swope made a motion to approve Resolutions 21-159 through 21-165. Commissioner Pollock seconded.*

**Resolution 21-159:** Adopt the amended and restated interlocal agreement of the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Planning Organization.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. He said the county is amending its agreement with the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments (COG) because COG had to implement updates to meet federal and state regulations.

**Resolution 21-160:** Approve a five-year agreement between Lewis County 911 Communications and Equature to provide telephone and radio recording equipment, software, and support in the amount of \$81,020.00, and authorizing the 911 Administrator to sign the agreement.

E911 Administrator Scott Smitherman discussed the resolution. He said the five-year contract includes hardware, software and support services.

**Resolution 21-161:** Approve Amendment #1 to SWMLSWFA Agreement between Washington Department of Ecology and Lewis County.

Public Health and Social Services Deputy Director John Abplanalp discussed the resolution. He said the resolution will increase the funding from the Department of Ecology by \$13,316 – with a match of \$4,438.67 – for a total increase of \$17,754.67, which increases the project total to \$107,538.

**Resolution 21-162:** Approve the professional services contract between Lewis County Public Health and Social Services and Equity Institute to provide rental and utility assistance to eligible non-English speakers who are experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19.

Public Health and Social Services Director JP Anderson discussed the resolution. He said the agreement will allow providing \$232,269 from the Treasury Rent Assistance Program (T-RAP) Grant from March 1, 2021, to Dec. 31, 2021, to help prevent evictions for non-English speakers experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

**Resolution 21-163:** Approve an agreement between Lewis County and Bird's Eye Medical to provide COVID-19 vaccine consultation, coordination and administration.

Public Health and Social Services Director JP Anderson discussed the resolution. He said the agreement is being updated to fit FEMA's authorization periods.

**Resolution 21-164:** Appoint Ellie Outwater to the Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging (LMTAAA) Advisory Council.

Commissioner Swope discussed the resolution. He said LMTAAA has indicated it is happy to have Ellie join the council.

**Resolution 21-165:** Amend Lewis County District Court Public Defender contracts.

County Manager Erik Martin discussed the resolution. He said the previous version of the contracts contained scrivener's errors that have since been corrected.

**Resolution 21-166:** Lewis County Emergency Burn Restrictions throughout unincorporated Lewis County.

Community Development Director Lee Napier discussed the resolution. She said the resolution ratifies actions the fire marshal took the previous week. She noted that the burn restrictions are for outdoor burning and do not affect campfires.

*Motion passed 3-0.*

## HEARINGS

**Vacation 21-002 (Lentz):** The proposed vacation of a portion of the Branch of E. J. Lentz Road North No. 405A.

Commissioner Stamper introduced the hearing.



Public Works Director Josh Metcalf gave the staff report. He said the site, located north of Winlock, has been determined to be useless to the county. He said the road was established in 1947. He said the portion being vacated is roughly 1,210 feet long and is not maintained by the county. He said the adjacent property owners have conveyed right of way to the county to allow for the creation of a turnaround at the site.

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 chose to speak.

Commissioner Stamper closed the hearing.

***Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve Vacation 21-002. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.***

#### **COVID-19**

JP Anderson said the walk-through vaccination clinic at the former Sears site at the Lewis County mall will begin operating soon. He said the National Guard team is in place and ready and will have 1,000 doses for the following week. He said 16- and 17-year-olds are now eligible for the Pfizer vaccine.

John Abplanalp said it's possible that boosters will be needed for the COVID-19 vaccines.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

#### **PRESS CONFERENCE**

In response to a question from Claudia Yaw, Erik Martin said the county is considering participating in a housing study and is reaching out to Centralia about possibly partnering with the city as it launches its own study.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 27, 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/>.



ATTEST:

Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
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Gary Stamper, Chair  
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Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair  
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Sean Swope, Commissioner