LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC)

Business Meeting minutes

January 18, 2022

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Grose

Recorder: Rieva Lester

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Grose made a motion to approve minutes from the January 11, 2022, Business Meeting as well as Resolution 22-012. Commissioner Pollock seconded.

Resolution 22-012: Approval of warrants/claims against the various county departments.

Chief accountant Grace Jimenez, representing the Auditor's Office, said warrants 850,371 through 850,710 and direct disbursements numbered 4387 through 4392 were issued in January for payments against the county totaling \$1,861,086.60. She said payroll/tax deposit warrants 795,881 through 795,882 and Automatic Deposits numbered 35,046 through 35,623 also were approved for payments against the county totaling \$1,143,609.11. Grace noted a skip in sequence for warrants 850,353 through 850,370, which were issued on behalf of Special Purpose Districts.

Motion passed 3-0.

DELIBERATION ITEMS

Commissioner Grose made a motion to approve Resolutions 22-013 through 22-016. Commissioner Pollock seconded.

Resolution 22-013: Cancellation of delinquent personal property and mineral rights taxes from the tax collection system.

Treasurer Arny Davis discussed the resolution. He said the resolution reflects write-offs for 35 personal property parcels and 146 mineral rights parcels.

Resolution 22-014: Authorizing cash-flow loan from Current Expense Fund No. 0010 to Cowlitz River Basin Subzone Fund 1260.

Public Works Director Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. He said he is asking that the county provide upfront funding of up to \$650,000.

Resolution 22-015: Acceptance of agreement between Lewis County and Washington State Military Department for the 2021 - 22 Emergency Management Performance Grant, American Rescue Plan Act (EMPG-ARPA).

Department of Emergency Management Planner Erika Katt discussed the resolution. She said the \$14,901 grant covers emergency radio equipment.

Resolution 22-016: Approving Erika Katt, DEM Planner, as the Lewis County Community Emergency Coordinator and William Teitzel as the Alternate Community Emergency Coordinator for 2022-2024 hazardous material incidents.

Department of Emergency Management Planner Erika Katt discussed the resolution. She said the designations are required as per state law.

Motion passed 3-0.

COVID-19

JP Anderson said the Toledo School District has switched to remote learning due to bus driver shortages linked to the pandemic. He discussed the release of new school guidelines for COVID-19 cases.

Chris Panush presented an updated decision tree regarding the COVID-19 "decision tree." He also discussed proposed changes to the emergency leave pool.

Commissioner Swope recommended giving Erik Martin authority to implement changes to CDC guidelines.

The commissioners said they would like to adopt CDC guidelines verbatim as they change.

Commissioner Swope said he would like to have Erik adopt changes that ease restrictions but would like the commissioners to make decisions on changes that increase restrictions.

Commissioner Swope made a motion to approve the decision tree as presented. Commissioner Grose seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The commissioners said they authorize Erik to adopt changes that ease restrictions, as outlined in his contract. They said they would like to continue having a say regarding increased restrictions.

The commissioners said they would further discuss the leave pool at the following day's ESC / Directors' Update.

Erik asked the board to also consider the use of ARPA funding to cover COVID-19 leave, which has been covered by donations in the past. Erik said employees donated roughly \$85,000 in donated time and that a balance of roughly \$40,000 remains.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Swope thanked everyone involved in the Jan. 15 cleanup day in Centralia.

PRESS CONFERENCE

No questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The BOCC Business Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m., with the next Business Meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday, January 25, 2022, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room (Room 223).

Minutes from the BOCC Business Meeting are not verbatim. The weekly Business Meeting streams live on YouTube (search for "LewisCountyWa" on YouTube or go to https://www.youtube.com/user/LewisCountyWa/featured). Video footage also is available at no charge at https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/bocc-meetings/.

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ATTEST:

Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair

Sean D. Swope, Vice Chair

F. Lee Grose, Commissioner