

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 3, 2011**

The Board of County Commissioners for Lewis County, Washington met in regular session on Monday, October 3, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. **Commissioners Ron Averill, P.W. “Bill” Schulte, and F. Lee Grose** were in attendance. **Chairman Averill** determined a quorum, called the meeting to order and proceeded with the flag salute. **Commissioner Grose** moved to approve the minutes from the 10:00 a.m. meeting held on Monday, September 26, 2011. **Commissioner Schulte** seconded the motion.

Motion Carried 3-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Idding, Vader, commented on the Vader Water System.

NOTICE

Commissioner Schulte made a motion to approve Notice Agenda item one. **Commissioner Grose** seconded the motion. **Chairman Averill** read the proclamation into the record.

1. Proclamation: Proclaiming the month of October as “Breast Cancer Awareness Month”.

Barbara Jaramillo stated, on behalf of the Puget Sound Susan G. Komen Foundation we would like to express our thanks and gratitude to the Commissioners for honoring the residents of Lewis County with this proclamation. A woman receives a diagnosis of breast cancer every two minutes which makes this disease the most frequently diagnosed cancer among women in the US. This is why we are so passionate to have this devastating disease eradicated. We thank Lewis County for proclaiming October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and we encourage you to continue in helping spread the message.

Motion Carried 3-0

CONSENT

Commissioner Grose made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items two through five. **Commissioner Schulte** seconded the motion. Candace Hallom read the items into the record.

2. Resolution No. 11-316 Approval of warrants for payment.

Chairman Averill stated this approves 1 Special Purpose Warrant (Vader Water System) for \$5,446.26; 1 Special Purpose Warrant (Washington Counties Risk Pool for

Chehalis-Centralia Airport Insurance) for \$3,401.00; and, 244 warrants issued by the Auditor's Office for \$728,501.98, for a combined total of \$737,347.24.

3. Resolution No. 11-317 Cancellation of warrants.

Chairman Averill stated this approves cancellation of one Auditor's Office warrant for \$1,190.43 that was lost or destroyed; and, one warrant for \$4.32 that was issued to the incorrect vendor. Further, reissue of both warrants is authorized.

4. Resolution No. 11-318 Approving an interagency agreement between Lewis County, Lewis County Noxious Weed Board, and the State Department of Agriculture for the management of invasive knotweed species.

Bill Wamsley, Lewis County Noxious Weed, stated this is a contract with the Washington State Department of Agriculture for the Management of invasive knotweed. This contract totals \$17,145.00. The work will be done on the Chehalis and Cowlitz Rivers following up on some of the work that they have been doing since 2004.

Chairman Averill stated this contract is extended through June of 2012. He asked what this funding will do.

Bill Wamsley stated a lot of the work has already been done with previous contacts with landowners. This will focus on contacting landowners again, adding new owners on to do the control work, and then doing on the ground treatment of knotweed next spring through July.

5. Resolution No. 11-319 Bid award for a pedestal mounted hydraulic excavator for the Solid Waste Division of the Lewis County Public Works Department.

Tim Elsea, Director of Public Works, stated a call to bid was issued on August 15, 2011 by Resolution No. 11-264 for the purchase of one Pedestal-Mounted Hydraulic Excavator for the Central Transfer Station in Centralia, which was due for replacement. The call for bids was advertised in the East County Journal, Daily Journal of Commerce (Portland and Seattle), and Lewis County Web Site. Public Works received three bids for this project on September 13, 2011, two of which were responsive. Cascade Trader provided the lowest responsive bid of \$262,750.00. Approval of the Resolution will authorize an action to execute a contract between Cascade Trader and Lewis County for the purchase of one Pedestal-Mounted Hydraulic Excavator and authorize the Director of Public Works to sign the same. Solid Waste has been collecting \$44,000.00 a year for replacement of these Pedestal-Mounted Excavators and we have enough in that Capital Fund to make this purchase.

Chairman Averill stated it was a great move on the part of Solid Waste to set up that fund. These are known replacements that we have to make and setting aside money makes it a lot easier for us. He stated this bid was a little more difficult for us as we had to call out for bid twice.

Tim Elsea stated we originally opened bids on June 28, 2011 and we had no responsive bidders from that first open so we went out to bid again.

Motion Carried 3-0

HEARING

Hearing: Adoption of the 2012 Preliminary Budget

Chairman Averill announced the hearing and asked for a staff report.

Dawna Truman, Budget Director, stated previous to 2011, the BOCC passed Resolution 92-437 adopted on August 20, 1992 that set dates relating to the budget process, including but not limited to the dates set in RCW 36.40.010, 36.40.050 and 36.81.130 to conform to the alternate dates for the budget process. Since that time, the BOCC passed Resolution 11-204 on June 20, 2011 which rescinded resolution 92-437. The BOCC and Budget Dept. are now following the budget dates set forth in RCW 36.40 for the purpose of conducting the annual county budget process. RCW Chapter 36.40 provides requirements for the adoption of the preliminary and final budget for counties. A notice of hearing was published on September 21st and 28th.

The beginning fund balance is estimated to be \$10,099,078.00, new revenue \$32,580,523.00, for a total of \$42,679,601.00. General Fund expenditures \$30,624,290.00, transfers \$2,233,273.00, for a total of \$32,857,563.00. This is using \$277,040.00 of the fund balance for a total estimated ending fund balance of \$9,822,048.00. This brings the total General Fund expenditures and ending fund balance to \$42,679,601.00. Other fund estimated beginning balance is \$46,942,807.00 with estimated new revenue of \$63,391,178.00, preliminary budgeted expenditure of \$69,499,770.00 for a total estimated ending balance of \$40,835,215.00. This will bring the total estimated revenue and beginning fund and the total estimated expenditure and ending fund balance to \$110,333,985.00

Chairman Averill stated this is the preliminary budget. Between now and the adoption of the budget at the beginning of December there will probably be some changes in these figures.

Dawna Truman stated we are having a preliminary presentation on this budget in the evening of November 21, 2011 at 5:30 pm in the BOCC Hearing Room.

Chairman Averill asked if there were any more questions. There were none. He closed the question and answer portion of the hearing and opened the formal hearing.

Dawna Truman asked that her previous comments be adopted into the record.

Commissioner Grose stated we have been in budget meetings with the elected officials and staff regarding their individual budgets and there is around \$750,000.00 in additional requests. At the end of this process we will look over those requests and make decisions on which direction we should go. We are very cautious about adding back staff because we recognize it is a long term commitment. We don't want to make that commitment unless we feel comfortable with additional revenues in the future. About 80% of our budget is in salaries so we need to look very carefully at that in the future.

Chairman Averill stated as we have talked with fellow Commissioners around the State. We have found many of them are having hard times with their budgets. The process has been eased for us because we made some drastic changes over the past two years to make sure we stayed within our budget. As we go down the road and look at the near future we still have to look at what might happen if the economy improves or even if it gets worse. It is a factor in life that as the economy starts to improve we see inflation and those are areas of concern as we look at the future of Lewis County. We do have some bright things in our future one being Ritchie Brothers Auction which will give us some relief. Our income has been flat with very little increase. We are not seeing it as good on the sales tax as we hoped and we see some increase from forest revenues. We have had very good co-operation from the Directors and Elected officials in recognizing the situation. He thanked all of the staff and electeds for helping us keep our budget to where the County can meet its commitments and survive.

Commissioner Schulte thanked the employees of Lewis County. We have downsized but have not cut much of services. We still have over 100 vacant frozen positions.

Chairman Averill asked if there were any other statements for public testimony. There were none. He closed the hearing and asked for a motion.

Commissioner Grose made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11-320.

Commissioner Schulte seconded the motion. Candace Hallom read the item into the record

Adopting the Preliminary Budget of Lewis County for the Calendar Year of 2012. Resolution No. 11-320

Motion Carried 3-0

There being no further business, the Commissioners' public meeting adjourned at 10:34 am on October 3, 2011. The next public meeting will be held Monday, October 10, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.

Please note that minutes from the Board of County Commissioners' meetings are not verbatim. A recording of the meeting may be purchased at the Commissioners' office.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

Ron Averill, Chairman

Karri Muir, Clerk of the Board
Lewis County Commissioners

P.W. Schulte, Commissioner

F. Lee Grose, Commissioner