

Directors' Update

April 30, 2025

9 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Ryan Barrett, Becky Butler, David Bailey, Karin Phomma, Angie Hodge, Mindy Brooks, Rocky Lyon, Geoff Soderquist, Wes Anderson, Gabe Anzelini, Liz Casteel, Alex Murray, Doug Carey, Undersheriff Kevin Engelbertson, Chief Chris Sweet, Guilherme Motta, Gary Fredricks, Casey Mauermann, Graham Gowing, Matt Thuston, Tom Stanton

Guest(s): Jacob Moore, Chip Duncan, unnamed guests

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Public comment: None.

Executive session: At 9:01 a.m., Commissioner Brummer announced that the Board would be going into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) until 9:12 a.m. to discuss two topics: Jail medical and Nelson litigation.

At 9:12 a.m., Commissioner Brummer extended executive session until 9:15 a.m.

Executive session ended at 9:15 a.m. Commissioner Brummer noted that no decisions had been made.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to authorize the BOCC chair to sign the interrogatory and other responses on the Nelson case. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Public comment: Chip Duncan said Veterans Journey Forward has grant funding available but needs a pass-through from a city or county government. He said a response is needed by noon.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to add a discussion about the Veterans Journey Forward request to the day's agenda. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Chip said the grant would provide \$300,000 annually for three years. Becky Butler said it's likely the county would be responsible for accounting

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to have the county sign on as a pass-through for the Veterans Journey Forward grant. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The commissioners said they would like Veterans Journey Forward to come and present to the BOCC.

Becky Butler discussed a notice of a Public Hearing for Ordinance 1364, which would amend Chapter 2.40, Standards for Public Defense Services, of Lewis County Code.

Geoff Soderquist discussed a notice of Public Hearing for a Traffic Ordinance to repeal a current Traffic Ordinance which set a maximum weight limit at which vehicles may operate over a portion of Curtis Hill

Road in Lewis County, Washington. The commissioners said they would like to look at prohibiting the use of compression brakes in that area, which would require updating chapter 10.27 of county code.

Rocky Lyon discussed a resolution to ratify a contract between Lewis County Solid Waste and Puget Sound Environmental, PLLC, to support the County in completing the tasks necessary to meet compliance requirements recently promulgated by the State Legislature to implement the Landfill-Methane Emission Reduction requirements of 70A.540 RCW and WAC 173-408.

Wes Anderson discussed a resolution to approve SRFB grant agreement No. 24-1236P with the RCO for the SF Newaukum Trib at Clark Fish Passage Design, project, CMP 2336.

Wes Anderson discussed a resolution to authorize the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to sign a Local Agency Agreement and Federal Aid Project Prospectus with WSDOT for the Berwick Creek at Labree Fish Passage MP (0.359-0.559) Project, County Maintenance Project (CMP) 2001.

Geoff Soderquist discussed a resolution to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Rural Arterial Program Project Agreement for Construction Proposal between Lewis County and the County Road Administration Board for the Bunker Creek Road 3R Construction Project – CRP 2209.

Becky Butler discussed a resolution to approve additional 2025 Public Defender contracts for Superior and Juvenile Courts.

Rieva Lester discussed a resolution to amend a .09 loan agreement with the East Lewis County Public Development Authority (ELCPDA).

Mindy Brooks discussed a hearing for Ordinance 1362 to amend portions of Chapter 15 of Lewis County Code and adopt the 2021 edition of the International Code.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to move one notice item (for Ordinance 1364), two consent items, six deliberation items and one hearing to the Tuesday, May 6, 2025, BOCC Business Meeting agenda. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Wednesday Workshop

Comp Plan update - hearing date / schedule: Mindy Brooks reviewed the proposed timeline for the Comp Plan update.

LMTAAA older Americans presentation planned for May 6 Business Meeting (and potential for MMA honoree): Rieva Lester discussed upcoming presentation regarding older Americans and the potential to honor MMA fighter Julie Jacobo.

2025 Legislative Session: The commissioners said they will sign a thank you note to the region's legislators.

Expired Public Facilities District (PFD) term: The commissioners directed staff to advertise the position.

Napavine request regarding BLA for Breen property: Ryan Barrett said the topic will be discussed during the May 5 BOCC Wrap-Up.

Roundtable

Alex Murray discussed a recent training session for volunteers.

Mindy Brooks discussed an upcoming closure for a department-wide training session.

The commissioners said they would not be interested in a full closure for an upcoming Centralia Alpha Road project.

The commissioners discussed potential parameters for honoring local achievements and allowing proclamation-like presentations.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.