

## BOCC Wrap-Up / County Manager Update

September 22, 2025

9:02 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Mindy Brooks, Alex Murray, David Bailey, Becky Butler, Gabe Anzelini, Matt Patana, Violet Barboza, Eric Eisenberg, Geoff Soderquist, Graham Gowing, Kirsty Ward, Sarah Hensley, Sherri Dokken, Tom Stanton, Natalie Kamieniecki, Undersheriff Kevin Engelbertson, Lynn Richard, Grace Jimenez, Caroline Garibay, Liz Hill

Guest(s): Unnamed guest, Emmett O'Connell

Recorder: Rieva Lester

**Public comment:** None.

Executive session: At 9:03 a.m., Commissioner Brummer announced that the Board would be going into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) until 9:18 a.m. to discuss six topics:

- Tort claim Taylor
- McPeak litigation
- Benson litigation
- Etienne v. Ferguson
- Orthodox Church v. Ferguson
- Workers' comp claim

Executive session ended at 9:18 a.m. Commissioner Brummer noted that no decisions had been made.

**Commissioner Pollock made a motion to direct staff to draft a press release regarding the Benson litigation as discussed in executive session. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

**Commissioner Pollock made a motion to direct staff to move forward with the surety bond in response to the workers' comp claim as discussed in executive session. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.**

**Business Meeting agenda:** Commissioner Pollock made motion, and Commissioner Swope seconded, to add to the Sept. 23, 2025, BOCC Business Meeting minutes from the Sept. 16, 2025, Business Meeting as well as the following:

- **Resolution 25-270:** Notice of Public Hearing for a Traffic Ordinance fixing the maximum speed at which vehicles may be operated over certain roads in Lewis County, Washington: defining offenses, and providing penalties for the violation thereof.
- **Resolution 25-271:** Lewis County preliminary budget for 2026, and notice of public meeting thereon.
- **Resolution 25-272:** Approval of warrants / payroll.

- **Resolution 25-273:** Approve prepayment of Tyler ongoing contract due to newly implemented Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5814, which expands the scope of the retail sales tax for payments made after October 1, 2025. The commissioners directed staff to:
  - Update the resolution to include the full balance of the contract.
  - Reach out to Tyler to ensure Tyler allows prepayment.
  - Ask Tyler for additional savings for prepayment.
  - Ensure the contract includes assurances for any non-deliverables.
- **Resolution 25-274:** Approve lease of 2015 NE Kresky Ave to The Salvation Army to operate a night-by-night homeless shelter and setting terms for the maintenance of rent paid thereunder.
- **Ordinance 1367:** Adopt Volumes 1, 2, 3 and 5 of the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.

Motion passed 3-0.

**Promissory notes:** Becky Butler said the county is looking into revamping the use of promissory notes for indigent defense as allowed under RCW 10.101.020. The commissioners directed staff to reinstate the use of promissory notes.

**Fair and Garlic Fest:** Fionna Velazquez recapped the success of the SW Washington Fair and Washington State Garlic Fest.

**Animal shelter options:** Meja Handlen provided options regarding the future of the animal shelter, including transferring oversight to the Sheriff's Office, a nonprofit or a for-profit entity. The commissioners directed staff to develop an RFP to outsource oversight for services.

**Water lab modernization update:** Meja Handlen

**Minute folders:** Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve minutes from the week of Aug. 25, 2025. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

**Correspondence:** The commissioners discussed correspondence regarding striping Tillicum. Geoff Soderquist discussed the county policies under which the area falls as well as the liabilities associated with deviating from county policy.

Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.