

Directors' Update

April 8, 2026

9 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Ryan Barrett, Becky Butler, Alex Murray, Mindy Brooks, Angie Hodge, Matt Patana, Kimberly Edminster, Wes Anderson, Fionna Velazquez, Jeff Landrum, Meja Handlen, Casey Mauermann, Gabe Anzelini, Graham Gowing, Kristen Wecker, Natalie Kamieniecki, Sarah Hensley, outside counsel Matt Cockrell, Sam Allen

Guest(s): Unnamed guest

Recorders: Rieva Lester and Tammy Martin

Public comment: None.

Executive session: At 9:01 a.m., Commissioner Pollock announced that the Board would be going into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) until 9:15 a.m. to discuss the following three topics:

- Centralia landfill mediation (with outside counsel joining)
- Flanagan tort claim
- Southwest Washington Fair carnival contract

At 9:15 a.m., Commissioner Pollock extended executive session until 9:18 a.m.

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

Commissioner Swope made a motion to approve the settlement authority regarding Allianz and the Centralia Landfill mediation as discussed in executive session. Commissioner Pollock seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Resolutions

Kimberly Edminster discussed a resolution regarding the proposed vacation of an undeveloped right of way, being a continuation of Washington Street in Mineral.

Wes Anderson discussed the publication of 2025 County Forces road construction projects and costs.

Becky Butler discussed a resolution to approve Indigent Defense contract with Sarah McFadden for Juvenile Court through December 31, 2026, for conflict cases as needed.

HELD: Wes Anderson discussed a resolution to approve Master Interlocal Agreements between Lewis County and municipalities in Lewis County and authorize signatures thereon.

Matt Patana discussed a resolution to execute a contract with the State Department of Commerce to fund the "Historic Museum Restoration and Preservation" project.

Angie Hodge discussed a resolution to appoint Dale E. Lund to the Lewis County Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials (Salary Commission).

Angie Hodge discussed a resolution to approve Lewis County contributions for Non-Bargaining Unit (NBU) Employees approved to receive health and welfare benefits through the Washington Teamsters Welfare Trust (WTWT).

Rieva Lester discussed a resolution to appoint James Owen and Theodore Gilbert to the East Lewis County Public Development Authority (ELCPDA) Board of Directors.

Mindy Brooks discussed a hearing to adopt Ordinance 1375 to amend Title 15, Building and Construction, of the Lewis County Code, and adopt the Lewis County Rainwater Catchment Policy.

Commissioner Swope made a motion to move two notice items, two consent items, five deliberation items – excluding the master interlocal agreements – and one hearing to the Tuesday, April 14, 2026, BOCC Business Meeting agenda. Commissioner Pollock seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

Rieva Lester left and Tammy Martin took over as recorder at 9:26 a.m.

Department representatives provided updates, including:

- Becky Butler said acquisition may be an option for LATCF funds. She said workforce budget plans will be sent out shortly.
- Goeff Soderquist said Public Works is working on staffing.
- Angie Hodge said the NeoGov project is wrapping up and a new jobs board will be posted soon.
- Alex Murray said there is a train show at the Fairgrounds. He said heating is being upgraded at the Blue Pavilion and there is a landscape agreement in works.
- Wes Anderson said the Ceres Hill bridge repair is going well, the Meade Hill project is in progress and the Bishop Road project is out for bid.
- Matt Patana said the parking lot was re-stripped, which should help with parking. He said there will be a shutdown of the L& J building next weekend as the heating system is updated.
- Meja Handlen said there is a 5K run coming up and that George Dodd is sponsoring a team.

Rieva Lester returned and resumed recorder duties at 9:34 a.m.

At 9:35 a.m., Commissioner Pollock recessed the meeting until 9:37 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 9:39 a.m.

Wednesday Workshop

Rainwater catchment: Meja Handlen, Mindy Brooks and Jeff Landrum reviewed the rainwater catchment policy / ordinance, for which a hearing is scheduled for April 14.

The commissioners discussed the possibility of waivers or policies that would extend to new construction in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.