



PUBLIC MEETING

May 8, 2025
MINUTES

The Lewis and Clark Board of County Commissioners Public Meeting was held on Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 9:00 AM in Commission Chambers, Rm 330.

Roll Call

Chair Candace Payne and Commissioner Andy Hunthausen were present. Commissioner Rolfe was out of the office. Others who attended all or a portion of the meeting included Roger Baltz, Nicho Hash, Karie Frydenlund, Connor Fitzpatrick, Marni Bentley, Tom Rygg, Jackie Rygg, Leonard Cloninger, Card Cloninger, Thomas Manninen, Kevin Croft, and Brandi Spangler, Recording Secretary. Absent: Commissioner Tom Rolfe.

Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone recited the pledge.

Consent Action Items

- a. Vendor Claims Report for Week Ending May 9, 2025. (Marni Bentley)
- b. Resolution 2025-31 Ordering a Refund of Taxes/Fees/Assessments Paid by Haley M & Caleb M Feuerstein in the Amount of \$183.44. (Karie Frydenlund)
- c. Public Meeting Minutes for April 17, 24, 2025. (Brandi Spangler)

[1:43] Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, reported on consent action items 2a-2c and recommended approval.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Chair Payne. The motion Passed on a 2- 0 vote.

Action Items

Resolution 2025-32 Ordering the Cancellation of Delinquent Property Taxes on Mobile Home or Housetrailer. (Karie Frydenlund)

[4:13] Karie Frydenlund, Property Tax Division Administrator, presented a resolution ordering the cancellation of delinquent property taxes on mobile home or house trailer of a deceased

individual with no surviving family to pay the taxes. Staff recommends approval of the resolution, to waive delinquent taxes dating back to 2019 in the amount of \$1,405.59.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Chair Payne.
The motion Passed on a 2- 0 vote.

Declaring Fire District Candidates Elected By Acclamation. (Connor Fitzpatrick)

[8:29] Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented Board Appointments to be elected by acclamation for Fire Districts. Staff recommends electing Quinton Mergenthaler to a two-year term to the Eastgate Volunteer Fire District; Anna Baker to a one-year term to the West Valley Fire Rescue District; Anthony Emacio to a three-year term to the Augusta Volunteer Fire District; Beau Dellwo to a three-year term to the Augusta Volunteer Fire District; John P Pavsek to a three-year term to the Birdseye Rural Fire District; Brad O'Shea to a three-year term to the Birdseye Rural Fire District; Vincent Williams to a three-year term to the East Helena Valley Volunteer Fire District; Wayne Noem to a three -year term to the East Helena Valley Volunteer Fire District; Amy Thorngren to a three-year term to the Eastgate Volunteer Fire Department; Ralph White to a three-year term, to the Eastgate Volunteer Fire Department; William Cyr to a three-year term to the Lincoln Fire District, David Clague to a three-year term to the West Valley Fire Rescue District; Jim Dusenberry to a three-year term to the West Valley Fire Rescue District; Russell bean to a three-year term to the Augusta Fire Service Area; Arthur Thompson to a three-year term to the Wolf Creek/Craig Fire Service Area; and Jason Crocker to a three-year term to the Wolf Creek/Craig Fire Service Area.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Chair Payne.
The motion Passed on a 2- 0 vote.

Board Appointment - Fire Districts. (Connor Fitzpatrick)

[14:04] Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented appointments to Fire Districts where the elections were cancelled due to the number of candidates being equal to or less than the number of positions to be filled. Staff recommends Michaelene Brown to a three-year term as the Baxendale Volunteer Fire District trustee and Gary Baker to a three-year term as a Marysville Rural Fire District Trustee.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Chair Payne.
The motion Passed on a 2- 0 vote.

Board Appointments - Hospital District. (Connor Fitzpatrick)

[17:22] Connor Fitzpatrick, Elections Supervisor, presented appointments to the Lincoln Hospital District where the elections were cancelled due to the number of candidates being equal to or less than the number of positions to be filled. Staff recommends George Brent Anderson and Kirstin Birkholz to three-year terms each as the Lincoln Hospital District Trustees.

No public comment was received.

A motion to Approve was made by Commissioner Hunthausen and seconded by Chair Payne.
The motion Passed on a 2- 0 vote.

Board Appointments. (Roger Baltz)

[20:22] Roger Baltz, Chief Administrative Officer, presented board appointments to the Lincoln Cemetery District and recommended the Commissioners consider the candidates for partial terms that will expire January 1, 2027.

No public comment was received.

Commissioner Hunthausen made a motion to appoint Toni Eckert and Sandra Winters to partial terms that will expire January 1, 2027. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Payne. The motion Passed on a 3-0 vote.

Public comment on any public matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not on the agenda above.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

[25:16] Tom Rygg, Bridge Creek Estates, wishes the Commission to take action against a property that is a "blight" that is being used as a campground. He believes there are open cases against the property for health hazards. He has a petition signed by 77 residents in the area for Judge Menahan to reopen the estate. No owner exists for the property and is over ran by squatters. He provided the petition to the Commissioners.

[31:50] Leonard Cloninger, East of the encampment, has watched the events take place for the last several years. Most alarming is strange smells and smoke coming onto his property and hoses going through the property to the canal.

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:35am.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Candace Payne, Chair


Tom Rolfe, Vice Chair


Andy Hunthausen, Member

ATTEST:


Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Board