

REGULAR MEETING
February 4, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman of the Board, Lawrence Dolhof.

Roll Call: All Legislators were present, except Legislator Osborne who had been excused. There were 18 other persons present.

Chairman Dolhof asked Legislator Kalamas for the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING:

At 5:01 p.m., Chairman Dolhof opened the public hearing on CDBG funding for community development, public infrastructure, housing, public facilities, small business, and economic development needs under program year 2025 NYS CDBG funding applications, in amounts not to exceed \$1,500,000.00. There were no public comments at this time.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Chairman Dolhof declared the January 7, 2025 meeting minutes approved by general consent.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

The Finance and Rules Committee had met and recommended to waive the rules to allow action on late resolutions.

Signed by: Thomas Osborne
Jeffrey Nellenback
Herb Frost
Vincent Nortz
Barry Lyndaker

Dated: February 4, 2025

Legislator Frost moved to accept the recommendation of the Finance & Rules Committee, seconded by Legislator Leviker, and carried.

CLERK OF THE BOARD REPORT:

An adopted resolution was received from Cortland County titled "Advocating for Reform and Increased Funding for New Yorks State's Code Blue Program." An application for correction of multiple-parcel errors was received from the Town of Leyden based on failure to apply the water re-levies for Water District 1 and 2 onto the tax rolls for the three parcels. The following applications for corrected tax roll

were submitted and approved: Town of Croghan, tax map number 057.00-01-30.100; Town of Diana, tax map number 013.14-04-14.000; Town of Lyonsdale, tax map numbers 370.00-02-07.100 and 310.00-01-01.000.

The following departments have submitted their 2024 annual reports: Buildings & Grounds; County Clerk; Board of Elections; Highway; Information Technology; Office for the Aging; Probation; Real Property Tax; Recreation Forestry & Parks; and Treasurer.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Legislator Nellenback reported that the County Manager and Clerk of the Board have started the process for renewing county insurance policies, with the hopes of having a renewal quote by March 18th. The Workers' Compensation Administrator is working on an upcoming presentation about creating a Severity Fund instead of utilizing Excess Workers' Compensation Liability, more to come on that in two weeks. Human Resources staff continue to work on implementing the Neogov system and building the Learn platform, which will allow the County to create and assign training plans, manage training records, and allow for professional development of employees.

Legislator Moroughan reported Naturally Lewis is working with Recreation, Forestry and Parks to create and post a series of survey questions to collect for analysis of the strengths of the ATV system. All snowmobile contracts have been processed and the crew groomed non-motorized trail in the commons for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing with parking available on Lowdale Road in the Town of Lyonsdale.

Legislator Moser reported that Office For the Aging Director Carla Hellinger held her first SafeTALK training, which is suicide awareness for everyone, with ten participants. The next classes will be held on April 1st and July 1st. A quest speaker joined the Advisory Council from LifeSpan of Greater Rochester and spoke about learning how to protect ourselves and resources to prevent frauds and scams.

The Jefferson and Lewis County Community Services departments have collaborated in the development of an RFP for Mobile Crisis Services. The RFP (#25-02) can be accessed via Jefferson County's PlanetBids Vendor Portal. Responses are due by 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14th.

Legislator Nortz reported that the Hospital Board of Manager met on January 29th and Mary Dunn, LPN was nominated as the December Employee of the Month. There was a loss of \$151,728 versus a budgeted gain of \$32,583 for the month of December. The Key Statistical Data on "Year to Date Actual" versus "Prior Year YTD Actual" was shared as follows: Clinic Visits increased from 56,589 in 2023 to

64,030 in 2024; Admissions increased from 792 in 2023 to 954 in 2024; Skilled Nursing Facility Patient Days increased from 43,920 in 2023 to 45,136 in 2024; Total ER Visits increased from 11,191 in 2023 to 11,550 in 2024; and Left without Being Seen decreased from 313 in 2023 to 157 in 2024.

Mr. Cayer reported that the year-to-date gain was \$406,417 versus a breakeven budget. Mrs. Ross shared certificates of appreciation that were presented to Lewis County Health System's Rural Health Outcomes Team and Emergency Department Team: "On behalf of the Lewis County Health System Board of Managers Quality Team, please accept this acknowledgement of the hard work and effort that your entire team put into our Stroke program. Your dedication and patient care have resulted in a Gold Metal Designation from the American Heart Association – something our entire community can be very proud of. We appreciate your care and commitment and look forward to using the Stroke Program as a model to improve care in other areas as well."

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT:

Tim Hunt reported that based on the recent Federal Government activities it is still steady hand on the throttle here in Lewis County. The plan is to continue to keep moving forward with things as usual and not react to the news cycle but only react to actual changes that come down. The county has many great department heads who are staying aware of the situation and should be able to handle most anything that comes their way.

COUNTY TREASURER REPORT:

Eric Virkler reported that the year end process is underway and due to being a modified accrual system it takes a few months to work through this process. The audit form should be in at the beginning of April and should be completed with the report filed to the state by the end of April.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTION NO. 17 - 2025
AUDITING AND ALLOWING CLAIMS

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

RESOLVED that the claims presented for payment in the total amount of \$3,400,486.79 be and each is hereby audited and allowed for the amounts claimed, and that the Clerk is authorized and directed to draw checks for the County Treasurer for the amounts claimed, in favor of each of the claimants or their assigns.

Moved by Legislator Nortz , seconded by Legislator Frost . Legislator Moser abstained due to potential conflict.

The resolution was then adopted on the 4th day of February 2025 pursuant to the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nortz, Nellenback, Kalamas, Leviker, Moroughan, Lyndaker, Frost, and Dolhof.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Osborne.

RESOLUTION NO. 18 - 2025
RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, Section 41.05 of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law (MHL) requires that, in order to be eligible for state aid, a county or the City of New York shall establish a local governmental unit (LGU) with a Director of Community Services (DCS) as its chief; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.09 of the MHL requires that each DCS candidate must have their credentials reviewed by the New York State Inter-Office Coordinating Council (IOCC) and receive approval for permanent appointment to the position; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources Director, County Manager, and members from the Lewis County Community Services Board and Board of Legislators conducted interviews of potential candidates to fill the open DCS position and recommended the review of qualifications of Anna Platz by the IOCC; and

WHEREAS, the members of the IOCC have reviewed the credentials and certified that Anna Platz has met the requirements as described in 14 NYCRR 102.6 and approves the permanent appointment to DCS;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Anna Platz of Carthage, NY as the Lewis County Director of Community Services.

Section 2. That the annual salary for the appointee to this position is hereby established at \$84,000.

Section 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan, seconded by Legislator Forst, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 19 - 2025
RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBER TO
LEWIS COUNTY ETHICS BOARD

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence L. Dolhof, Chairman of the Board of Legislators.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That pursuant to Local Law No. 5-2005 "Lewis County Ethics Law" this Board of Legislators hereby appoints Peg Nuspliger of Lyons Falls, New York, as a Democratic representative on the Lewis County Ethics Board.

Section 2. That the term of said appointment shall be effective from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

Section 3. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 20 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
COUNTY OF LEWIS OBO LEWIS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
AND BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR DESIGN AND RIGHT-OF-WAY
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND TO SEND OUT AN RFP FOR
THE CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT
- BOSHART ROAD OVER HUFUCUT CREEK -

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Highway Department desires to enter into an agreement with Barton & Loguidice (B&L), authorized on the New York State list of professional engineers with the engineering expertise for culvert repair projects, to provide design, right-of-way incidentals, right-of-way acquisition, construction support, and bid documents for the replacement project located on Boshart Road over Hufcut Creek in Lowville, NY; and

WHEREAS, Barton & Loguidice has provided a detailed proposal dated January 8, 2025, with the professional scope of services and phases proffered for this project at a maximum compensation of \$225,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent seeks to have the Board of Legislators authorize a contract with B&L for these professional services, and to authorize an RFP for public bidding of the construction phase of the project with the assistance of B&L; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators wishes to accept such services and authorizes a contract with B&L for this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an Agreement between the County of Lewis (by and through the Lewis County Highway Department) and Barton & Loguidice to provide engineering services necessary for the design, right-of-way incidentals, right-of-way acquisition, and construction bidding phases of the culvert replacement project known as Boshart Road over Hufcut Creek in Lowville, New York, at a cost of \$225,000.00 as more fully set forth in the proposal dated January 8, 2025.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the Highway Superintendent to send out an RFP for public construction bidding of the project with the professional assistance of Barton & Loguidice.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Lewis County Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver such Agreement, any related and necessary documents or instruments, and amendments thereto pending approval by the County Attorney

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan, seconded by Legislator Nortz, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 21 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
COUNTY OF LEWIS OBO LEWIS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND
BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR DESIGN AND RIGHT-OF-WAY
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND TO SEND OUT AN RFP FOR
THE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT
- EATONVILLE ROAD OVER OTTER CREEK -

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Highway Department desires to enter into an agreement with Barton & Loguidice (B&L), to provide design, right-of-way incidentals, right-of-way acquisition, construction support, and bid documents for the replacement project located on Eatonville Road over Otter Creek in Greig, NY; and

WHEREAS, Barton & Loguidice has provided a detailed proposal dated January 8, 2025, with the professional scope of services and phases proffered for this project at a maximum compensation of \$258,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent seeks to have the Board of Legislators authorize a contract with B&L for these professional services, and to authorize an RFP for public bidding of the construction phase of the project with the assistance of B&L; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators wishes to accept such services and authorizes a contract with B&L for this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an Agreement between the County of Lewis (by and through the Lewis County Highway Department) and Barton & Loguidice to provide engineering services necessary for the design, right-of-way incidentals, right-of-way acquisition, and construction bidding phases of the bridge replacement project known as Eatonville Road over Otter Creek in Greig, New York, at a cost of \$258,000.00 as more fully set forth in the proposal dated January 8, 2025.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the Highway Superintendent to send out an RFP for public construction bidding of the project with the professional assistance of Barton & Loguidice.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Lewis County Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver such Agreement, any related

and necessary documents or instruments, and amendments thereto pending approval by the County Attorney

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Leviker, seconded by Legislator Moroughan, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 22 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN
COUNTY OF LEWIS OBO LEWIS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
AND BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR DESIGN AND RIGHT-OF-WAY
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND TO SEND OUT AN RFP FOR
THE CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT
- PINE GROVE ROAD OVER HARVEY CREEK -

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Highway Department desires to enter into an agreement with Barton & Loguidice (B&L), authorized on the New York State list of professional engineers with the engineering expertise for culvert repair projects, to provide design, right-of-way incidentals, right-of-way acquisition, and construction support, and bid documents for the replacement project located on Pine Grove Road over Harvey Creek in Watson, NY; and

WHEREAS, Barton & Loguidice has provided a detailed proposal dated January 10, 2025, with the professional scope of services and phases proffered for this project at a maximum compensation of \$177,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent seeks to have the Board of Legislators authorize a contract with B&L for these professional services, and to authorize an RFP for public bidding of the construction phase of the project with the assistance of B&L; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators wishes to accept such services and authorizes a contract with B&L for this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an Agreement between the County of Lewis (by and through the Lewis County Highway Department) and Barton & Loguidice to provide engineering services necessary for the design, right-of-way incidentals, right-of-way acquisition, and construction bidding phases of the culvert replacement project known as Pine Grove Road over Harvey Creek in Watson, New York, at a cost of \$177,000.00 as more fully set forth in the proposal dated January 10, 2025.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the Highway Superintendent to send out an RFP for public construction bidding of the project with the professional assistance of Barton & Loguidice.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Lewis County Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver such Agreement, any related and necessary documents or instruments, and amendments thereto pending approval by the County Attorney

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 23 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 1 (FOR ROW ACQUISITION) TO CONTRACT NO. D040774 BETWEEN NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND LEWIS COUNTY FOR THE TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL-AID BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PIN 775400) KNOWN AS CR 17 (WOOD BATTLE ROAD) OVER COBB CREEK

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, a Project for the Bridge Replacement known as CR 17 (Wood Battle Road) over Cobb Creek (PIN 775400; BIN 3340150) (the "Project") in the Town of Harrisburg, County of Lewis, is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs of such a program to be borne at the ratio of 80% federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, as provided for in the Agreement with NYS DOT, PE and/or ROW Incidental or ROW acquisition work performed by the municipality for the federal aid-eligible construction project covered by the agreement, the costs of such work that are approved in writing by DOT, applicable to the federal aid and Marchiselli aid construction work (excluding costs applicable to non-federally eligible or non-Marchiselli eligible project elements) shall be credited following FHWA's construction phase closeout audit of the Project costs that are eligible for federal aid and Marchiselli aid; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis advanced the Project by its commitment of 100% of the federal and non-federal share of project costs. NYSDOT now requires Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to increase the Right-of-Way Acquisition phase, a cost from \$8,000.00 to \$16,000.00 thereby increasing the local 20% cost from \$1,600.00 to \$3,200.00 with credit to the County for its prior advance of \$1,600.00 toward this phase; and

WHEREAS, the project requires the acquisition of real property and the County requests NYS DOT Real Estate Office to perform these services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Legislators to execute Supplemental Agreement No. 1 to the Agreement with NYS DOT for Bridge Contract No. D040774, known as CR 17 (Wood Battle Road) over Cobb Creek, PIN 775400/BIN3340150, to increase funding for the Right-of-Way (ROW) Acquisition phase.

Section 2. The total additional ROW Acquisition Phase cost of \$8,000.00 is hereby appropriated, with the additional local share cost of \$1,600,00, hereby authorized to be made and advanced to cover the cost of participation in the ROW acquisition phase of the project. The following accounts shall be recognized to facilitate the funding of this project:

Increase Revenue:

H0512000 345970 Federal	\$6,400.00
H0512000 350310 Local	\$1,600.00
Project HAT	

Increase Expense:

H0512000 499900	\$8,000.00
Project HAT	

Section 3. In the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceed the amount appropriated, the Chair shall convene the Lewis County Board of Legislators as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount upon notification from the NYS DOT.

Section 4. The Chair of the Lewis County Board of Legislators, or in his absence, the Vice-Chair of the Board, is authorized to execute Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for ROW acquisition and all necessary agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests with the NYSDOT in connection with this Project.

Section 5. A certified copy of this Resolution shall be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project.

Section 6. The within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Moroughan , and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 24 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF LEWIS
TO BE NAMED THE LEAD AGENCY OF THE
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA) PROCESS
FOR THE CAPITAL BRIDGE PROJECT KNOWN AS
BAILEY ROAD OVER INDEPENDENCE RIVER

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators on behalf of the Lewis County Highway Department has sought to replace the bridge located at Bailey Road over Independence River; and

WHEREAS, the Project has been classified as a “Type 1 Action” defined by the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) in 6 NYCRR Part 617.0 due to the bridge being National Register Eligible based on the pattern of features common to Pratt Half-hip Truss bridge types; and

WHEREAS, the bridge replacement project constitutes a Type I action, requires a Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF), and a coordinated review of the project with other interested agencies who could serve as lead agency; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Lewis County Highway Department to assume the role of Lead Agency for the purpose of conducting a SEQRA process for the project; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators on behalf of the Lewis County Highway Department seeks to authorize and sign Part 1 of a Full Environmental Assessment Form (FEAF) that has been completed, reviewed by the Lewis County Board of Legislators and will be circulated by Barton & Loguidice, DPC, to all interested and involved Agencies for purposes of establishing the Lewis County Highway Department as the “Lead Agency” in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617.6(b);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators on behalf of the Lewis County Highway Department hereby declares its intent to authorize the Lewis County Highway Superintendent to act as lead agency for the purpose of SEQRA review concerning the Capital Bridge Project known as Bailey Road over Independence River and all actions related thereto.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the Lewis County Highway Superintendent to execute the appropriate forms and Part 1 under the FEAF SEQRA application.

Section 3. Barton & Loguidice on behalf of the County shall send the signed Part 1 of the FEAF and associated site figure to the attached list of “Interested Involved Agencies” under cover of a “Notice of Intent to Establish Lead Agency” letter for the purpose of establishing Lead Agency status under the SEQRA.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Leviker, Seconded by Legislator Moroughan, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 25 - 2025
RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING MEMBER TO
LEWIS COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL
BOARD OF MANAGERS

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That pursuant to Section 127 of the General Municipal Law, the Board of Legislators hereby re-appoints John Lehman of Croghan, NY 13327, as a member of the Board of Managers of the Lewis County General Hospital.

Section 2. That the term of said appointment shall commence January 1, 2025 and expire on December 31, 2029.

Section 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Kalamas, seconded by Legislator Nortz, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 26 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BID AWARD AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND LOGICAL OPERATIONS, INC. FOR INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY TRAINING SERVICES

Introduced by Legislator Thomas A. Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Information Technology Director recently sent out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to qualified vendors to provide live (remote or in-person) training sessions or boot camps for the Information Technology Department to better service and secure County assets; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the procedures set forth in the RFP, on December 13, 2024, the County opened twelve (12) bids duly received; and

WHEREAS, the IT Director and Purchasing Director reviewed the bid proposals, considered the pricing responses, and recommend that the lowest bidder, Logical Operations, Inc., of Rochester, New York be awarded a contract for IT Training Services at an amount not to exceed \$27,010.00 and to be completed by December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to award the bid and authorize an Agreement with Logical Operations, Inc. in accordance with its bid proposal in response to the County's RFP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby awards the bid to and authorizes an agreement with Logical Operations, Inc., located at 1150 University Ave, Suite 20, Rochester, NY 14607 to provide live training sessions or boot camps for the Information Technology Department in accordance with the specifications set forth in the RFP.

Section 2. The agreement shall provide for such services to commence upon execution of the Agreement and to end December 31, 2025, at a cost not to exceed \$27,010.00, payable from the New York State Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity grant.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, as may be approved by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 27 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO REQUEST NYS HOME RULE LEGISLATION
TO CONTINUE SALES TAX INCREASE

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence L. Dolhof, Chairman of the Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, Tax Law §1210 (36), as added by Chapter 47 of the Laws of 2004 and as further amended by Chapter 251 of the Laws of 2011, authorized and empowered the County of Lewis to adopt and amend local laws, ordinances or resolutions imposing an additional one percent (1%) sales and compensating use tax for the period ending November 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 197-2020, the Board of Legislators implemented such additional sales tax, which pursuant to §1210 (36) of the Tax Law, will expire on November 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, such additional sales tax revenue has enabled the Board of Legislators to mitigate the need for increased property taxes and the County of Lewis continues to experience such budgetary pressures as would justify an extension of the time in which it may impose such additional sales tax.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Legislators hereby finds and determines that:

- a) The Board of Legislators has worked diligently over the last several years to cut expenses in its budget wherever possible to contain both short term and long term expenses and reduce the burdens placed upon the local taxpayer. Despite such efforts, the Board finds that it must also look to increase revenues, if and when possible.
- b) That the Board is anticipating significant increases in capital expenditures over the next few years in order to repair, replace, and in some cases upgrade its infrastructure. The County is also anticipating other community projects to benefit the residents, businesses and visitors to the County which will require financial investment .
- c) That an increase of the allowable sales tax imposed by the County of Lewis of one percent (1%) will enhance County revenues while spreading the burden thereof over a greater portion of the populace, and therefore reduce the budgetary pressures that are placed upon the real property tax warrant.

Section 2. Therefore, the Lewis County Board of Legislators respectfully requests that the New York State Legislature pass such necessary and appropriate "Home Rule Legislation" as would allow the County of Lewis to impose an additional

one percent (1%) local sales tax for the period beginning December 1, 2025 and ending November 30, 2027.

Section 3. That the Board of Legislators respectfully requests that the New York State Legislature adopt such Home Rule Legislation at its earliest convenience to allow the Lewis County Board of Legislators sufficient time to plan for the 2026 budget year.

Section 4. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Nortz , seconded by Legislator Moroughan .

Chairman Dolhof briefly explained that this is not a new tax. It is the same one percent tax increase that the county has had for the last 20 years. The State will not make this additional one percent permanent, so the county has to renew it every two years.

The resolutions was then adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 28 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEWIS COUNTY TO APPLY FOR 2025 NEW YORK
STATE EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT
PROGRAM FUNDS

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis, by and through the Planning and Community Development Department, desires to apply for 50% of project costs, up to \$500,000, relative to road and complete street infrastructure improvements in several Lewis County villages; and

WHEREAS, the County Infrastructure Grant Program supports county-led infrastructure projects across the state that contribute to placemaking, support the creation of housing, and encourage visitation and tourism; and

WHEREAS, to apply for funding, the County would need to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) form to determine eligibility for the project and, once eligibility is confirmed, an application will be developed for submission on the NYS CFA Portal; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Planning and Community Development Department to submit the Letter of Intent and online application to Empire State Development for up to \$500,000 in 2025 County Infrastructure Improvement Grant Program funding, with the 50% required match provided by Lewis County, for road and complete street infrastructure improvement projects in several Lewis County villages.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Legislators be and the same is hereby authorized to sign and have the Planning Department submit the Letter of Intent, application. If awarded, the Board authorizes the Chair or Vice-Chair to accept the funding, sign contract documents, and appropriate the funding to the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department or Lewis County Highway Department.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Move by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 29 - 2025
RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING WITH REFERENCE TO
INCLUSION OF AGRICULTURALLY VIABLE LAND INTO THE CERTIFIED
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT # 6

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Osborne, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators, in accordance with § 303-b of the Agricultural and Markets Law, designated November 15th to December 15th as the annual thirty (30) day review period in which a landowner may submit requests for inclusion of predominately viable agricultural land within a Certified Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning Department received one (1) application for inclusion of properties into Agricultural District # 6. This parcel is located in the Town of Greig, Tax Map Parcel No. 291.00-02-23.110 owned by William and Millie McLaughlin, (approximately 163.4 acres); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Department duly forwarded the application to the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, who is verifying that the parcel proposed is “viable agricultural land,” and will meet the eligibility requirements for inclusion into a Certified Agricultural District. Once approved by the AFPB, the Planning Department report to the Lewis County Board of Legislators with a recommendation for or against inclusion; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 303-b of the Laws of 2003 amending NYS Agricultural and Markets Law, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to set the public hearing to consider this request;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby sets a public hearing to be held on March 4th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment to consider the request and recommendations of the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, for inclusion of the parcel located in the Town of Greig, Tax Map Parcel No. 291.00-02-23.110 owned by William and Millie McLaughlin, (approximately 163.4 acres).

Section 2. The hearing will be held at the Board’s regular meeting at the Courthouse Building, 7660 N. State Street, Lowville, NY 13367, Second Floor Legislative Chamber, on Tuesday, March 4th, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Written comments received via email, mail or hand delivery on or before Monday, March 3rd, 2025 by 4:00 p.m. to the Clerk of the Board at cassandramoser@lewiscounty.ny.gov or at 7660 North State Street, Lowville, NY 13367 will be read into the record prior to any action by the Board.

Section 3. At least five (5) days notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Court House, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the County.

Moved by Legislator Kalamas , seconded by Legislator Nortz , and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 30 - 2025
RESOLUTION AWARDED BID AND AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND SNO. ENGINEERING, INC. d/b/a SE GROUP FOR
DESIGN SERVICES AND A WINTER RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR NON-
MOTORIZED FORMS OF RECREATION

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 136-2024, the Board of Legislators accepted an award of \$125,000.00 from NYS DEC on behalf of the Recreation, Forestry & Parks Department to develop a winter recreational trail development plan with the Adirondack Park Board; and

WHEREAS, the County seeks to develop a winter recreation plan for non-motorized forms of recreation on the County's 1,181.5 acres of land in the Adirondack Park to stimulate economic and community development, and to provide a safe space for residents and visitors to recreate; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation, Forestry, and Parks Department sent out a Request for Proposals to qualified and experienced design/engineering firms to provide professional services for the development of a Master Plan for winter recreation activities in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the County received one (1) bid in response, on January 5, 2025, with the Director of Recreation, Forestry, and recommends that the Board award the bid to Sno. Engineering, Inc. d/b/a SE Group, Salt Lake City, Utah, at a cost of \$101,720.00; the only bidder in accordance with the specifications and scope of work set forth in the RFP; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to award the bid to SE Group and authorizes an agreement for the specified services to be provided in accordance with the RFP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby awards the bid and authorizes an Agreement with Sno. Engineering, Inc. d/b/a SE Group, 2180 South 1300, Suite 430 Salt Lake City, UT 84106, to provide professional design and consultation services in completing a Winter Recreation Master Plan in accordance with the specifications and scope of services outlined in the RFP.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes said agreement to include all conditions and requirements set forth in the RFP, at a cost of \$101,720.00 for all tasks and scope of a final version of the Master Plan.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver said Agreement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan, seconded by Legislator Nellenback, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 31 - 2025
RESOLUTION AMENDING COMPENSATION PLAN
WITH REFERENCE TO THE RECREATION, FORESTRY, AND PARKS AND
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS

Introduced by Legislator Andrea Moroughan, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County Manager and Human Resources Director are conducting reviews of all positions vacated through attrition to identify opportunities for efficiency and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, upon review of a vacancy in the Recreation, Forestry, and Parks Department with the needs of the department and County as a whole, the recommendation is to create a shared position to also support the Highway Department;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby amends the 2025 Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis with reference to the Recreation, Forestry, and Parks and Highway Departments as follows:

<u>ABOLISH</u> Administrative Assistant	<u>STATUS</u> Full-time	<u>DEPARTMENT</u> Rec., Forestry, Parks
<u>CREATE</u> Senior Account Clerk	<u>STATUS</u> Full-time	<u>DEPARTMENT</u> Rec., Forestry, Parks Highway

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Leviker , seconded by Legislator Moroughan , and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 32 - 2025
RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO
REGION 6 FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BOARD

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence L. Dolhof, Chairman of the Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, Title 5, Section 11-0501 of the NYS Environmental Conservation Law established a Fish and Wildlife Management Practices Cooperative Program, which includes the commissioning of a Regional Fish and Wildlife Management Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby re-appoints Jacqueline Mahoney of Castorland, as a member of the Region 6 Fish and Wildlife Management Board, as the Lewis County Landowner's Representative.

Section 2. That the term of said appointment shall be effective from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026.

Section 3. That the Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Wendy Moser of Glenfield, to fulfill the unexpired term of Wayne Kwasniewski, as a member of the Region 6 Fish and Wildlife Management Board, as the Lewis County Sportsmen's Representative.

Section 4. That the term of said appointment shall be effective from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Section 3. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Nortz, seconded by Legislator Leviker, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 33 - 2025
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF BID AND PURCHASE OF A 2025
CAN-AM DEFENDER MAX LIMITED CREW CAB SIDE-BY-SIDE UTV

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Department on behalf of the Sheriff's Department submitted an RFP to purchase a 2025 Can-Am Defender Max Limited Crew Cab Side-by-Side UTV. One bid was received in response by CJ Motorsports of 8711 Industrial Drive, Boonville NY 13309 in the amount of \$32,310.99 for a 2025 HD10 Defender Limited Maxx UTV; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to authorize acceptance of this bid and purchase of said vehicle;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves and authorizes acceptance of the bid from CJ Motorsports for the 2025 HD10 Defender Limited Max UTV with a 1-year warranty at a total price, including delivery, of \$32,310.99 to be used by the Sheriff's Department for UTV/ATV trails through Lewis County, payable from the Sheriff's Department's approved 2025 budget.

Section 2. The Chair, or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver any approval or purchase agreement required, upon review of the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 34 - 2025
STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence Dolhof, Chairman of the Lewis County Board of Legislators.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Lewis hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by this official to the Clerk of this body:

Title	Name	Standard Work Day	Term Begins/Ends	Days/Month
Appointed Officials				
Election Commissioner	Lindsay Burriss	8	1/1/2025-12/31/2026	21.67
Election Commissioner	Ann M. Nortz	8	1/1/2025-12/31/2026	21.67
Deputy Election Commissioner	Devin Kogut	7.5	1/1/2025-12/31/2026	23.52

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost. Legislator Nortz abstained due to a potential conflict.

The resolution was then adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 35 - 2025
RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO
TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD

Introduced by Legislator Lawrence L. Dolhof, Chairman of the Board of Legislators.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints the following individuals as members of the Lewis County Traffic Safety Board:

Amy Green, Lowville Academy Central School Transportation Supervisor, Lowville NY
Andrew Krokowski, South Lewis Central School Transportation Department, Turin NY
Donald Cook, Pinckney Highway Superintendent, Pinckney NY
Matthew Morrow, Lewis County STOP-DWI Coordinator, Lowville NY
John Reed, Lewis County Highway Superintendent, Lowville NY
Jackie Mahoney, Lewis County Recreation, Forestry & Parks Director, Lowville NY

Section 2. That the term of said appointments shall be for three years, effective from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027.

Section 3. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moroughan , seconded by Legislator Leviker , and adopted on the 4th day of February 2025.

OTHER BUSINESS:

County Attorney Joan McNichol reported on union negotiations. She and Human Resources Director Caitlyn Smith have engaged with a mediator for the Road Patrol Unit. They have had one session so far with another one scheduled next week. They did request assignment of a mediator with the Corrections Officers and Dispatch Unit. There will be one last attempt to negotiate before the mediator is assigned.

County Manager Tim Hunt reminded that the NYSAC Conference is coming up at the end of February and there is one spot left for anyone wanting to attend.

Tim Hunt went on to give a brief update on the potential Hydrostor project. The Hydrostor Company is hoping to come to Lewis County either in the Town of Croghan or Town of Watson looking to build an energy storage facility, not a battery farm, but it uses compressed air instead. The project is estimated at \$2 billion and takes 5 years to build, with 700 construction jobs, and 40 full-time jobs once it is up and running. This is in the very early stages with many things to learn. This storage process only stores the energy for 8 hours, and cycles through 2 to 3 times a day. The compressor that creates the electricity to put back on the grid is only as loud as a normal conversation from the fence line. There is a mine shaft that will be 8 feet wide and 2,000 feet down leading into a cavern the size of a football field. Legislator Nortz asked if this was proven technology or something new, Tim Hunt responded that this company has a facility in Canada and California, but it is new technology. The process is 61% efficient.

Chairman Dolhof closed the public hearing at 5:33 p.m. with no public comment.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Legislator Moroughan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 p.m., seconded by Legislator Nellenback, and carried.