

REGULAR MEETING
March 3, 2026

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

All Legislators were present. There were 19 other people present.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE:

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

MINUTES:

Chairman Dolhof declared the February 3, 2026, meeting minutes approved by general consent.

PUBLIC HEARING:

At 5:01 p.m., Chairman Dolhof opened the following public hearings: The request and recommendation of the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, for inclusion of three parcels located in the Town of Martinsburg, Town of Watson, and Town of Lewis respectively; The proposed addition of approximately 580 feet to the Lewis County OHV Trail System; Introductory Local Law No. 1-2026 “ A Local Law Permitting All-Terrain Vehicle Operation on Certain Portions of Byrons Corners Road (CR 49) in the Tonw of West Turin.”; and Introductory Local Law No. 2-2026 “ A Local Law Permitting All-Terrain Vehicle/Off-Highway Vehicle Operation on Portions of County Road 47 (Fish Creek Road) (Approximately 3.4 miles) in the Towns of West Turin & Lewis, to Connect the Existing OHV Trail System from the Trail on Tyrone D. Constantino’s Parcel to the Trail on Kevin Emerich’s Parcel.” There were no public comments at this time.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

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

Signed by: Jessica Moser
Jeffrey Nellenback
Herb Frost
Thomas Osborne
Barry Lyndaker

Dated: March 3, 2026

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Wyatt Wagner, professional peer advocate and Executive Director of Youth of Lewis County, addressed the board regarding Resolution 57-2026 and systemic concerns within the Community Services Board (CSB). Wagner highlighted a perceived lack of oversight since the departure of Pat Fralick, noting that the CSB's composition largely includes county employees and agency representatives who receive significant funding, creating potential conflicts of interest and limiting true community representation.

He raised concerns about the recent appointment of the CSB director, asserting that internal staffing decisions were structured to ensure a single candidate's eligibility, resulting in the county needing to contract with an external director to meet statutory requirements. Wagner emphasized the impact of current administrative actions on community programs, including budget reductions and structural changes that could undermine established systems of care and support for youth.

Specifically, he addressed Resolution 57-2026, which proposes shifting single point of access services away from Thrive. Wagner argued that this change could disrupt continuity of care, reduce support for vulnerable families, and shift costs to the county without achieving true savings. He called for careful consideration of conflicts of interest on the CSB and urged the board to reject Resolution 57-2026 to preserve community trust, program integrity, and support for youth in Lewis County.

Morgan Roberts, a resident of Lowville and spouse of Jamie Roberts, spoke regarding the broader impact of community services on both families and the community at large. He noted that while he is not typically involved in public matters, he felt compelled to speak due to the significance of the issue.

Roberts shared his perspective as a surgical technician and contrasted his role with the work of his spouse, emphasizing her contributions in developing and supporting the Single Point of Access (SPOA) system. He described her efforts as extending beyond service provision to creating pathways for individuals and families, helping them recognize and access available community support.

He further noted that he has heard consistent positive feedback from community members regarding her work and its impact. Roberts emphasized the importance of maintaining services that connect individuals to care and support systems within the community.

Michelle Schoen, a resident of Lowville, spoke about her personal experience working with Jamie Roberts over approximately 15 years. She described initially knowing Roberts in a professional capacity but later receiving direct support as a client while leaving a domestic situation.

Schoen emphasized the level of individualized care, noting that Roberts provided extensive time, guidance, and access to resources that she had not previously been aware of, despite being a lifelong resident of the county. She credited this support with helping her secure safe housing, regain stability, and return to full-time employment.

She further shared that the assistance she received was critical in connecting her to services that addressed serious health and safety concerns, contributing significantly to her well-being. Schoen expressed strong appreciation for Roberts' dedication and stated that the support she received had a life-changing impact.

CLERK OF THE BOARD REPORT:

I received the 2025 Annual Reports from the following departments: Human Resources & Civil Service, and Sheriff's Office.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Legislator Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee, reported that during last week's Committee meeting, Highway Superintendent John Reed delivered a presentation outlining the performance measurement framework used by the Highway Department, along with a review of the department's 2025 data.

Election Commissioners Lindsay Burriss and Ramona Carpenter followed with a presentation on the proposed Off-Cycle Election Fee Policy, emphasizing the importance of recovering associated operational costs.

The meeting concluded with a presentation from Lewis County Snowmobile Association Vice-President Michael Leviker, who reported on the 2024-2025 snowmobile crash statistics for Lewis County, noting that only 29 crashes were recorded during the season.

Legislator Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee, reported that during last week's Committee meeting, Community Development Specialist Lauryn Tabolt delivered a presentation on electricity usage and cost trends covering the period from July 2024 through January 2026. The analysis highlighted a notable increase in January, attributed primarily to higher per-kilowatt supply charges, as confirmed through bill-level comparisons between November 2025 and January 2026.

Three resolutions were requested to be brought forward for consideration at this evening's meeting by motions that were adopted. The first requests the creation of a temporary part-time Jail Cook position. The second seeks approval to amend the Thrive Wellness & Recovery agreement with Community Services, effective June 1, 2026. The third resolution proposes establishing a second Mental Health Services Coordinator position, effective immediately, with continuation

contingent upon the availability of state aid or other revenue sources to support the associated costs.

Legislator Moser, Chair of the Finance and Rules Committee, reported that during last week's Committee meeting, Information Technology Director Conner Biolsi delivered a presentation on the proposed disaster recovery capital project. The presentation addressed anticipated recovery timelines, organizational risk tolerance, and the cost considerations associated with various redundancy options, including full active redundancy, warm spares, and cold spares.

Planning & Community Development Director Casandra Buell provided a brief update on the next steps for the Lewis County Land Bank Initiative. The overview included legal requirements, incorporation tasks, potential funding avenues, and recommended board composition. Director Buell emphasized that submitting the application in March remains the immediate priority.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Legislator Nortz, legislative representative on the Hospital Board of Managers reported that the employee of the month was Jessica Nichols, and the employee of the year was John Hoppel. There was a loss of \$276,414 for the month of January compared to a budgeted loss of \$420,715. The year-to-date loss is \$276,414 versus a budgeted loss of \$420,715. He then deferred to Mr. Cayer, CEO of Lewis County Health System, to report on a recent tour of the facility by Fort Drum.

Mr. Cayer reported on recent developments and initiatives at Lewis County General Hospital. He highlighted a recent visit from Fort Drum leadership, including Colonel Elizabeth Duque, noting it was a constructive engagement that included tours of key service areas such as the surgical pavilion, operating rooms, OB/GYN services, maternity, medical-surgical units, and women's health practice. He emphasized the continued strengthening of the hospital's relationship with Fort Drum, marking the second leadership visit in six months.

Mr. Cayer reported continued growth in service lines, including an increase in maternity services, with 175 deliveries scheduled over the next six months, potentially reaching record levels. He also announced the signing of two new providers: a family practice/internal medicine physician and a family nurse practitioner to support women's health services, noting both bring regional ties to the community.

Additionally, he provided an update on the Caring Gene Career Pathways Initiative, noting its expansion across multiple departments and facilities within the health system. The program supports local students pursuing healthcare careers by covering tuition costs in exchange for employment within the system, with a focus on developing and retaining a local workforce.

Legislator Nortz reported briefly that the ridership on the Alpine Express has increased by 13% and that there will be another route added. This will add another stop, and the fact that there will be a Popeye's on base means the soldiers might be riding more often.

PUBLIC HEARING (con't):

Morgan Roberts questioned the information that Mr. Cayer had given specifically on the LPN program and if that will be designated towards just nursing or other avenues of health care like LPNs being able to do tech jobs now. Mr. Cayer responded that it would depend on what the openings are in relation to what position Lewis County Health System has open.

At 5:26 p.m. Chairman Dolhof closed the public hearing with no comments.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT:

Tim Hunt reviewed recent emergency incidents in Lewis County and the county's operational response to those events. Attendees recounted the Boonville church fire and the immediate cross-jurisdictional response coordinated by Bob McKenzie, including requests for a command trailer and support from Buildings and Grounds and the Highway Department. Discussion then turned to two concurrent vehicle accidents during icy conditions—one on Route 26 involving soldiers and a transport van and a second crash on I-77—which resulted in nine people transported and placed significant strain on the hospital and ambulance services; volunteer departments were noted for standing post in stations to maintain coverage during these simultaneous incidents.

A substantial portion of the meeting addressed the New Breman Church fire, where volunteers worked on scene for 72 hours in below-zero conditions and managed a rekindle while an unsafe steeple remained standing. Under a Fire Chief's direction, the Highway Department pulled and staged steeple debris, actions that led to reports to the NYS Department of Labor and DEC alleging improper asbestos transport and prompted investigations into the fire and highway departments. Hunt reiterated that the county will continue providing highway support for fires while discussing contract, insurance, and regulatory concerns for small communities. He concluded with a brief report on a Copenhagen fire where the county again assisted under the Town of Rodman Chief's direction.

COUNTY TRESURER REPORT:

Eric Virkler referenced his written report that was distributed and offered two highlights. It is the season of the year where renewals are being looked at like the premium rates of our health insurance plan. Within the next couple of weeks that discussion will be had with GKG and Ad Hoc Committee to look a possible rate increases. The second item is that there is an error in the date on the total fund balance, it should be through January 2026. He pointed out that you have to

consider the timing of the year and how our revenues and expenses are recognized in a modified accrual accounting basis. The revenue reflects all our property taxes for the year. This is how modified accrual accounting looks.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTION NO. 55 - 2026

AUDITING AND ALLOWING CLAIMS

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

RESOLVED that the claims presented for payment in the total amount of \$2,566,148.72 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 Osborne.

Legislator Moser recused herself from the vote, as several payments included therein are either made payable to her for services rendered as an assigned council or reflect vouchers she approved in that capacity.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 56 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AMENDING COMPENSATION PLAN
WITH REFERENCE TO THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Mental Health has awarded the County annual State Aid funding in the amount of \$180,432 beginning January 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, said funding is intended to increase the opportunity for Enhanced Voluntary Agreements (EVA) and to enhance the quality, oversight, and administration of the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York Mental Hygiene Law Sections 9.47 and 9.48, counties are required to administer and oversee services for individuals subject to an Assisted Outpatient Treatment order; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the AOT State Aid guidance for funding source 170-A, counties must utilize these funds to employ at least one (1) full-time employee, either directly by the county or by contract, to implement the County AOT Plan, coordinate care with AOT and EVA service providers and stakeholders, ensure collaborative agreements are in place, provide technical assistance to providers, and monitor utilization of EVA versus AOT; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Services has determined that the creation of one (1) additional full-time Mental Health Services Coordinator position filled by the county will be more cost effective and manageable to fulfill the statutory and program requirements associated with this funding; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Legislators hereby amends the Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis with reference to the Community Services Department, for the following, provided that the continuation of said additional position shall be contingent upon the availability of state aid funding, unless other revenue sources are identified to support the costs associated with the position:

<u>CREATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>RATE</u>
Mental Health Services Coordinator	Full-Time	\$58,000 - \$82,552

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Nortz, seconded by Legislator Moser, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 57 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS, OBO LEWIS COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES
AND THRIVE WELLNESS & RECOVERY, INC.**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) and NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) provides the County, through the Lewis County Community Services Department, with annual state funding to provide identified services directly and/or through contracted qualified providers; and

WHEREAS, the County and LC Community Services Department entered into a contract on January 30, 2025 with THRIVE WELLNESS & RECOVERY, INC. (THRIVE) to provide specific identified services for the benefit of Lewis County residents in need of said services with the County, compensating THRIVE with the state-aid funds received for said services in the amount of \$955,327.00, (i.e., \$887,012 from OMH and \$68,315 from OASAS). The Agreement provides for quarterly-itemized invoices and payments, and acknowledges periodic adjustment based upon any COLA adjustment provided by NYS; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement automatically renews each year unless terminated by either party in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement. The parties automatically renewed the Agreement for 2026, based upon the 2026 OMH & OASAS state-aid funding in the amount of \$957,201 (\$887,109 from OMH and \$70,092 from OASAS); and

WHEREAS, the Director of LC Community Services seeks to have the Agreement and Scope of Services therein set forth modified by eliminating THRIVE's obligation to provide OMH Single Point of Access (SPOA) services, as the LC Community Services Director intends to have said services provided by her staff; a more manageable and cost effective means of fulfilling the Department's statutory and program service requirements. In so doing, the compensation payable to THRIVE for OMH SPOA services will terminate as of June 1, 2026, and will therefore reduce the payments to THRIVE for the last two (2) quarters of 2026 by \$40,327;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a modification to the annual Agreement between the County obo the Community Services Department and THRIVE to include elimination of the OMH Single Point of

Access (SPOA) services to be provided by THRIVE effective June 1, 2026; and the reduction in compensation payable to THRIVE for the last two (2) quarters of 2026 in the amount of \$40,237.

Section 2. The County Attorney is directed to draft the modification Agreement on behalf of the County and Community Services Department with THRIVE, and to include any appropriate provisions she deems appropriate to give effect to same.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair are authorized to execute the modification Agreement together with the Director of Community Services, and any other document which may be required to give effect to this modification.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Kalamas .

Legislator Hanno emphasized the importance of ensuring that there is no lapse in services during this transition. He requested confirmation that all identified services, as well as the residents who rely on them, will continue to receive uninterrupted support. County Manager Tim Hunt responded that the County has been assured there will be no interruption in service. He noted that Community Services Director Anna Platz has spoken with the Director of Thrive, who is in agreement with the proposed course of action. County Attorney Joan McNichol added that services provided through Thrive will continue until June 1st, ensuring continuity of care.

Legislator Frost stated that he believes it is always better to be proactive rather than reactive, and noted that the State appears to be moving in this direction with how such services are administered. In his view, bringing this position under Director Platz's department will increase efficiency and support a higher level of patient care.

Legislator Lyndaker asked how long it might take a newly hired individual to become fully acclimated. County Manager Hunt responded that he did not anticipate a lengthy lead time. He explained that the position is a civil service role, requiring posting, interviews, and eventual testing, but expressed confidence that the onboarding process could proceed quickly.

Legislator Kalamas asked whether the position would be open to anyone. County Manager Hunt replied that he could not speak to the precise qualifications required. He had reviewed the posting earlier that day but had not checked whether a bachelor's degree or specific criteria were listed. He noted that all civil service positions carry certain requirements and invited Community Services Director Anna Platz to elaborate.

Director Platz stated that while she did not have the qualifications memorized, the posting includes multiple pathways—for instance, a bachelor’s degree with several years of experience in a relevant human services field, or a master’s degree with a corresponding level of experience. She confirmed that multiple qualification options exist.

Legislator Moser then noted that, assuming the individual currently performing these services meets the qualifications, nothing would prevent that person from applying for and potentially being selected for the new position. County Manager Hunt confirmed this. Legislator Moser also asked whether the action was contingent on the County receiving a grant to cover expenses. County Manager Hunt clarified that the funding source is not a grant but State aid, noting that grants are one-time allocations whereas State aid is ongoing.

Legislator Moser asked what savings the County would realize by making this change. County Manager Hunt explained that the County currently funds two positions within Community Services entirely through taxpayer dollars. Under the proposed arrangement, one position would be fully funded by State aid, and the other approximately 70% funded. He estimated that this would reduce the taxpayer share by just over \$40,000. Legislator Lyndaker pointed out that retirement and health benefit costs must also be considered. Hunt responded that those costs were included in his calculations, as they represent the full labor burden.

Legislator Lyndaker then moved to table the resolution and return it to committee for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Legislator Hanno.

Legislator Moser asked whether there was any time-sensitive element that would create complications. County Attorney McNichol noted that the Board had already passed Resolution 58-2026, so timing may be a factor. Chairman Dolhof asked whether Director Platz had anything further to add.

Director Platz clarified that two resolutions were being considered that evening. The first, which had already been adopted, added a second Mental Health Services Coordinator position funded entirely by State aid through new Assisted Outpatient Treatment and Enhanced Voluntary Agreement funding. The resolution currently under discussion concerned bringing in-house a service that is currently contracted to Thrive. The funds now paid to Thrive would fully support the salary of the second coordinator position, while fringe and other associated costs would be covered by existing State aid. If both resolutions were adopted, the only cost to taxpayers would be her own salary and fringe, resulting in an estimated annual savings of approximately \$70,000. Currently, the department’s personnel costs are roughly \$170,000; with both resolutions, that amount would drop to about \$100,000.

Legislator Nortz asked whether Legislator Hanno had specific concerns or whether additional information might be needed. Legislator Lyndaker stated he

wished to speak with Jamie for further insight. Legislator Hanno added that he does not fully understand Thrive's scope of involvement, although it appears Jamie performs the role capably. His priority is ensuring adequate coverage for residents.

County Manager Hunt stressed that neither resolution was directed toward any individual. The issue, he explained, is that Thrive currently operates as the Single Point of Access (SPOA) agency and refers individuals to service providers, including at times their own organization. The State has expressed concern that this arrangement lacks independence and prefers that SPOA functions be administered by an entity that is separate from the agencies receiving referrals. This concern is a primary factor behind the proposed changes. Legislator Moser asked whether Thrive's director supported the transition. County Manager Hunt confirmed that he did. County Attorney McNichol added that the Office of Mental Health also supports the change, noting that Director Platz consulted them before bringing the proposal forward.

The motion to table the resolution was defeated, with two votes in favor and eight opposed. Voting in favor were Legislators Lyndaker and Nortz; opposed were Legislators Frost, Kalamas, Moser, Hanno, Leviker, Osborne, Nellenback, and Dolhof.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026, with Legislator Lyndaker opposed.

RESOLUTION NO. 58 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHARGE BACK COSTS FOR BOARD OF ELECTIONS SERVICES IN OFF-CYCLE ELECTIONS AND ADOPTION OF PRICE LIST FOR OFF-CYCLE ELECTION COSTS

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, from time to time, elections and referenda are conducted outside the regular primary and general election calendar, including but not limited to special elections, certain local referenda, and other off-cycle events served by the Lewis County Board of Elections (the "Board of Elections"); and

WHEREAS, off-cycle elections typically require additional operational resources, including equipment, deployment, ballot design and printing, poll worker staffing and training, publication of required notices, logistics, and Tech support; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 4-136 and § 3-226 of the NY Election Law and §361-a of the NY County Law, expenses incurred by board of elections of a county are generally a charge against the county, but may be apportioned among towns, and in the case of a village election held other than at the time of the regular primary or general election, apportioned to such village; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the County of Lewis to adopt a transparent, cost-recovery price list so that municipalities, villages, districts, and other entities receiving election services from the County for off-cycle elections are informed of the itemized charges associated with conducting such elections; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Elections has prepared a Fee Schedule set forth below which establishes standardized/actual unit costs and describes the methodology for allocating direct and indirect costs for off-cycle elections; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney and County Treasurer have reviewed the Fee Schedule for consistency with applicable law and County policy, and recommend its adoption, subject to annual review with appropriate data in the event an amendment to such costs shall be considered by the Board of Legislators;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Directors hereby declares its adoption of the attached Lewis County Off-Cycle Board of Elections Cost Fee Schedule, to be applied to special elections, off-cycle referenda, and other elections served by the Board of Elections outside the normal primary and general election calendar, unless superseded by statute or agreement.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the Board of Elections to invoice and collect from the requesting municipality/jurisdiction/entity who holds an off-cycle election and seeks the services and equipment of the County Board of Elections, the following itemized costs, including direct costs (e.g., poll workers, ballots, equipment deployment) and allocable indirect costs (e.g., administrative coordination, security, and supplies), in accordance with County financial invoicing procedures:

Item	Description	Cost
Voting Machine Cart	Programming, Machine, Testing, Test Deck (50 test ballots) Audio File	\$750.00
Sign in / printing	Electronic poll books, on demand ballot printer & quick connect cabinet, programming and L&A testing	\$125.00
Ballots	Print on demand Charged per ballot	14" .50/Ballot 17" .52/Ballot 22" .56/Ballot
Privacy Booths	Minimum of three (3) required, plus one (1) ADA compliant booth	\$20.00/Booth
Delivery	Delivery, set up, pick-up	\$200.00
Support Staff	4:30pm – half hour after close of polls. Bipartisan staff requirement	\$46.16/hr.
Office, Security, and Election Day supplies	At cost to replace depleted stock	TBD
Legal Ad	At cost if published by our office	TBD
Absentee Processing	Will be paid per ballot	\$4.64/Ballot
Inspectors	Minimum of four (4), assigned by our office	\$225/Inspector

Note: Additional costs may apply for special circumstances or expedited services.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby directs that the off-cycle Fee Schedule shall be reviewed annually by the Board of Elections, and any adjustments (including CPI changes, market pricing, statutory requirements, and other supporting data for any adjustments) shall be presented to the Board of Legislators for approval no later than the first BOL meeting in December of each year, with any adopted update to take effect January 1st of the following year.

Section 4. This Resolution and Fee Schedule shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 59 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES FOR
MIGRATION TO TYLER'S EERP PLATFORM AND HOSTING TOGETHER WITH
ANNUAL SOFTWARE PROGRAMS, LICENSING, AND SERVICES**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, in 2015, the Lewis County Board of Legislators authorized a contract between the County of Lewis and Tyler Technologies, Inc. to provide comprehensive software, software licenses, Pre-Implementation Services, and Implementation Services (including data conversion) to improve productivity, efficiency, and availability in a modern, Software as a Service technological system; and

WHEREAS, the Director of IT seeks to migrate to Tyler's hosted EERP (formerly Munis) platform for a one-time fee of \$5,000.00, and with annual recurring software programs, licenses and maintenance services as set forth in their proposal dated February 10, 2026, at a cost of \$72,322.00 in the first year; the cost of which will be covered by 2026 IT budget funds and appropriation of legislative contingency funds. The annual software and license programs are subject to annual increases;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a new agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc., to provide migration to Tyler's hosted EERP platform for a one-time fee of \$5,000.00; and to provide for all software programs, licensing and maintenance services for the County's identified programs and platform at an annual cost of \$72,322.00 in the first year, and subject to annual percentage increases thereafter.

Section 2. The Lewis County Treasurer is authorized to appropriate and transfer from legislative contingency, any required funds for this contract not available in the 2026 IT budget.

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

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 60 -2026

**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO NEW YORK STATE ENERGY POLICIES
THAT RESULT IN EXCESSIVE UTILITY RATE INCREASES
AND URGING REFORM TO PROTECT RATEPAYERS**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, member of the Lewis County Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, the New York State Public Service Commission (“PSC”) under current state energy policies and mandates, approved multi-year rate plans for utilities that significantly increase electric and gas delivery revenues, creating undue hardship for rural residents, farms, seniors on fixed incomes, and small businesses across Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, these policies have created a severe imbalance of supply and demand by limiting energy supply primarily to green sources while simultaneously driving up demand through aggressive timelines for conversion to electrification, resulting in higher costs for consumers and businesses; and

WHEREAS, municipalities across New York State are required to comply with a statutory property tax cap of two percent (2%) per year, which limits their ability to raise revenue to offset rising costs; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable and equitable that utility rate increases be similarly capped at no more than two percent (2%) in any given year to protect residents and businesses from excessive financial burdens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby opposes current NTS energy policies that mandate aggressive timelines and costly requirements, resulting in excessive utility rate increases, and urges the Governor, the Public Service Commission (PSC), and State Legislature to reform these policies and adopt a cap limiting utility rate increases to no more than two percent (2%) annually.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board supports legislative efforts to provide oversight and protect ratepayers from excessive increases, including measures that align utility rate caps with municipal tax cap standards.

Section 3. The Board of Legislators directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of New York, the PSC, our State legislative delegation, and relevant state agencies overseeing energy policy, and any others deemed appropriate.

Section 4. The Board encourages other counties and local municipalities to join in this effort and urges Lewis County residents to submit comments to the PSC and the State Legislature advocating for energy policy reform.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Leviker , seconded by Legislator Nellenback .

Legislator Kalamas noted that he had spoken over the weekend with the owner of one of the county's largest sawmills and lumberyards. During their conversation, the owner expressed significant concern about rising electricity costs. He explained that his operations – including a kiln, a dryer, and a newly constructed building – consume a substantial amount of power. As a result, his electric bill was approximately \$11,000 in November and December, and increased to nearly \$24,000 in January and February.

Legislator Kalamas emphasized that, when examining the broader economic impacts, these increases ultimately affect homeowners. As county electricity costs rise, those expenses are passed on through taxes. As business electricity costs rise, prices increase and competitiveness declines, potentially resulting in lost business. He stated that while the resolution represents an important first step, much more analysis and groundwork are needed moving forward, adding, "I have a shovel."

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 61 -2026

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO NYS RENEWABLE ACTION THROUGH PROJECT INTERCONNECTION AND DEPLOYMENT (RAPID) ACT REGULATIONS

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, member of the Lewis County Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis supports responsible renewable energy development and the transition to clean energy while preserving the authority of local governments to regulate land use, zoning, and community character; and

WHEREAS, the Renewable Action Through Project Interconnection and Deployment (“RAPID”) Act and related regulations significantly limit municipal authority over the siting and approval of large-scale renewable energy and electric transmission projects; and

WHEREAS, these measures undermine the principle of Home Rule guaranteed by the New York State Constitution by centralizing decision-making authority at the State level and reducing meaningful local oversight, by giving ORES (the Office of Renewable Energy Siting) responsibility for project approvals; and

WHEREAS, the RAPID Act regulations impose expedited permitting timelines that risk inadequate environmental review and community input, and allow automatic approval of projects if deadlines are not met; and

WHEREAS, the Act expands eminent domain authority and permits the extinguishment of conservation easements, threatening private property rights and natural resource protections, including lands within the Adirondack and Catskill Parks; and

WHEREAS, local governments, emergency services, and residents have expressed concerns that these regulations compromise public safety, infrastructure capacity, and the economic well-being of communities; and

WHEREAS, statewide policy goals should be advanced through local government collaboration and incentives rather than mandates that preempt local authority and override comprehensive planning;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby expresses its strong opposition to the RAPID ACT regulations and process based upon their significant limitation of local municipal authority over siting and approval, and the State’s undermining of Home Rule authority guaranteed by the NYS Constitution.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators calls upon NYS to develop and advance statewide policy goals only when serious local collaboration and incentives have been undertaken so that local authority and comprehensive planning are not preempted.

Section 3. Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul, NYS Department of Public Services (ORES), the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), NYS Senator Mark Walczyk, NYS Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, and Lewis County Town Supervisors and Village Mayors, and any others deemed appropriate.

Section 4. This resolution is effective immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Nortz , and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 62 - 2026

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FORT DRUM AS
A CANDIDATE SITE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S ADVANCED
NUCLEAR MICROREACTOR INITIATIVE**

Introduced by Legislator Vincent Nortz, member of the Lewis County Board of Legislators.

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense (DoD), through the Defense Innovation Unit and the U.S. Army, has launched the *Advanced Nuclear Power for Installations (ANPI)* initiative to enhance energy resilience and mission readiness at military installations across the nation; and

WHEREAS, advanced nuclear microreactor technology provides scalable, emission-free, dispatchable, and resilient power generation with reduced reliance on fossil fuels—offering the ability to sustain critical defense infrastructure and operations under all conditions; and

WHEREAS, Fort Drum, located within Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence Counties, serves as a premier power projection platform for the U.S. Army and has been recognized by federal and military assessments as a strong candidate site for deployment of this advanced nuclear technology; and

WHEREAS, Fort Drum possesses substantial infrastructure advantages, operational control of its energy systems, and a highly skilled regional workforce capable of supporting the construction, operation, and maintenance of such technology; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators recognizes the longstanding cooperation among Fort Drum, regional partners, and federal and state agencies in advancing energy security, innovation, and resilience initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the successful deployment of advanced nuclear microreactor technology at Fort Drum would strengthen national defense capabilities, create high-quality employment opportunities, foster long-term workforce development, and enhance energy stability throughout the North Country region;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby expresses its strong support for the designation of Fort Drum as a host site under the Department of Defense's Advanced Nuclear Power for Installations (ANPI) initiative.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators stands ready to collaborate with federal, state, regional, and local partners in evaluating, advancing, and supporting the deployment of advanced nuclear energy technologies at Fort Drum.

Section 3. A certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the U.S. Department of Defense, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the New York State Department of State, the Jefferson County Board of Legislators, the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators, and Advocate Drum.

Section 4. This resolution is effective immediately.

Moved by Legislator Nortz, seconded by Legislator Hanno.

Legislator Nortz noted that Fort Drum is one of six locations under consideration for the project. The site already has much of the necessary infrastructure in place, and Fort Drum is primarily seeking support from local entities.

Legislator Kalamas added that, when the Co-Gen plant was previously in operation, it generated sufficient energy to meet all of Fort Drum's needs, with the surplus supplied to the Evans Mills area.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 63 - 2026

RESOLUTION AMENDING LEWIS COUNTY EMPLOYEE MEAL POLICY

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Employee Meal Policy establishes guidelines for meal allowances and reimbursements incurred during official County business; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to clarify and update the policy to ensure compliance and consistency with best practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Employee Meal Policy is hereby amended to state that employees must use personal funds for all meal expenses and subsequently request reimbursement through the appropriate expense form. The use of County Purchasing Cards for employee meal expenses is strictly prohibited.

Section 2. Meal allowances for travel shall include the General Services Administration (GSA) Meals & Incidental Expenses (M&IE) rates for the first and last day of travel, in addition to the standard per diem rates for overnight stays, as applicable.

Section 3. Legislative and County Manager Business Meals shall allow all reasonable expenses when accompanied by an itemized receipt, instead of set rates.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Section 5. The Clerk of the Board is directed to incorporate these amendments to the policy and distribute same to all those required to follow same.

Moved by Legislator Leviker, seconded by Legislator Nortz.

Legislator Lyndaker moved to amend section 3 of this resolution to clarify that the legislators and the county manager pay for their own meals in the county within the county borders, seconded by Legislator Kalamas and adopted.

The resolution, as amended, was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 64 - 2026

**RESOLUTION TO SET 2ND PUBLIC HEARING FOR LEWIS COUNTY
MICROENTERPRISE PROGRAM CDBG PROJECT #636M544-24 ADMINISTERED
BY NATURALLY LEWIS (LEWIS COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION)**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, All recipients of NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds must meet the citizen participation requirements at 24 CFR 570.486 and New York State's Citizen Participation Plan, as amended, which require recipients to follow a citizen participation plan for one public hearing prior to the submission of an application for funding, and one public hearing, if awarded to be held during the administration of the grant to solicit comments on the effectiveness of the program's administration; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators duly held a public hearing on the 3rd day of January, 2023, regarding community development, economic development, public infrastructure, housing, and other possible development activities in preparation of a CDBG Application (Project # 636ME544-24) to be administered by Naturally Lewis; and

WHEREAS, the County, through Naturally Lewis, Lewis County Development Corporation, as the sub-recipient, received an award of \$300,000 in Lewis County Microenterprise Program funds, and the Board of Legislators of Lewis County seeks to hold a second public hearing to provide residents with the opportunity to offer any comments on the accomplishments of the Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes a public hearing to be held and set for April 7th, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lewis County Courthouse, Board of Legislators Chambers, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York, 13367 to provide residents of Lewis County with the opportunity to offer any comments on the accomplishments of the current CDBG Project # 636ME544-24 Lewis County Microenterprise Program.

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 65 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AWARDING BID AND AUTHORIZING CONTRACT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND BRONZE CONTRACTING, LLC
FOR THE DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF A BUILDING LOCATED AT
5508 ST RT 26 IN THE TOWN OF TURIN**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and Community Development Department, in consultation with the Purchasing Department, sent out an RFP for the demolition and removal of a condemned structure located at 5508 St Rt 26 in the Town of Turin, as part of the recently awarded CDBG Imminent Threat Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, 8 bid proposals were opened on February 5, 2026 at 10:30 am. Planning Department staff and the Purchasing Director carefully reviewed the bid submissions and assessed the criteria. After careful consideration and review, this team recommends that the Board of Legislators award the bid and contract to Bronze Contracting, LLC, the lowest qualified bidder, to complete the RFP Tasks at a cost not to exceed \$32,200.00; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to accept this recommendation and award the bid and contract to Bronze Contracting, LLC for this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators awards the bid to and authorizes an agreement with Bronze Contracting, LLC to complete the scope of work outlined in the demolition and removal RFP at a cost not to exceed \$32,200.00, as more fully set forth in their bid proposal.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver said Agreement and any extensions or modifications thereto, upon review and approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The Treasurer is directed to pay for these services from the appropriated funds in the CDBG Imminent Threat Grant Award account.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 66 - 2026

**RESOLUTION DECLARING COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM
CONSTABLEVILLE COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT AS TYPE II ACTION WITH NO
SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis submitted an application in March, 2025 for the NYS ESD County Infrastructure Grant Program funding to complete roadway and complete streets improvements in the Village of Constableville; and

WHEREAS, in July 2025, the County of Lewis received notice that an award in the amount of \$500,000 towards complete street and roadway upgrades in the Village of Constableville; and

WHEREAS, this project is subject to environmental review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, upon review, the County has determined that the project constitutes a Type II action under 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(5), specifically involving the repaving of existing highways without the addition of new travel lanes; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and Community Development and the County Attorney have recommended that the Board conclude that the project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and that no further review under SEQRA is required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby determines that the proposed roadway and complete streets improvements in Constableville funded by the NYS ESD Country Infrastructure Grant Program constitute as a Type II action as defined by the regulations promulgated under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) of the State of New York; that the project will not have significant impacts upon the environment; and that there is no further procedure required under SEQRA.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Move by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 67 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INCLUSION OF CERTAIN AGRICULTURALLY VIABLE LAND INTO A CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION DETERMINATION

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, 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 predominantly viable agricultural land within a Certified Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning Department received three (3) applications for inclusion of properties into Agricultural District # 6. These parcels are located in the Town of Martinsburg, Tax Map Parcel No. 210.00-02-10.100 owned by John H Ingham III and Penny Ingham (approximately 91.2 acres); Town of Watson, Tax Map Parcel No. 214.00-01-11.210 owned by John Young (approximately 8.6 acres); and Town of Lewis, Tax Map Parcel No. 416.00-01-18.200 owned by Dennis Poff and Alexandria Heitzman (approximately 13 acres); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Department duly forwarded the applications to the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, who reviewed the applications for inclusion of these properties and submitted their recommendation to the Lewis County Board of Legislators, noting that the properties should be placed into the certified agricultural district; and

WHEREAS, the new Short Environmental Assessment Form, as agreed upon with NYSDAM, has been prepared by the Planning and Community Development staff on behalf of the County of Lewis Board of Legislators as the Lead Agent for this Ag inclusion property for the determination that the inclusion of the identified parcels will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators, in accordance with Chapter 303b of the Laws of 2003 amending NYS Agricultural and Markets Law, conducted a public hearing to consider the request and recommendations of the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board and Planning Department on March 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators, having held the public hearing and having heard any statements or comments from the public on the request and recommendations of the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department and Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection

Board, seeks to adopt the recommendations of the Director of Planning and Community Development and declare a negative environmental impact for each parcel, and place these properties into the certified agricultural district;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Board to execute the Short Environmental Assessment Forms prepared by the Planning and Community Development Department, declaring that these Actions and Applications will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators adopts the recommendations of the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board and Planning and Community Development Department, and places the following parcels of land located in the Town of Martinsburg, Tax Map Parcel No. 210.00-02-10.100 owned by John H Ingham III and Penny Ingham (approximately 91.2 acres); Town of Watson, Tax Map Parcel No. 214.00-01-11.210 owned by John Young (approximately 8.6 acres); and Town of Lewis, Tax Map Parcel No. 416.00-01-18.200 owned by Dennis Poff and Alexandria Heitzman (approximately 13 acres) into Agricultural District #6.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice Chair is authorized to execute any other documents to give effect to this resolution, upon review and approval of the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 68 - 2026

**RESOLUTION REGARDING SEQRA REVIEW OF THE ADDITION
OF 580 FEET OF NEW TRAIL INTO THE LEWIS COUNTY TRAIL
SYSTEM AND DECLARING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

(Jeffrey G. Nellenback Irrevocable Trust Property)

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators has determined that the development of a county-wide trail system that can effectively and safely accommodate Off-Highway Vehicles (“OHV’s”) and multi-use trails, (as defined in Local Law No. 3-2019) is in the public interest and will enhance the recreational use of the natural resources available in the County, as well as encourage tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators conducted an extensive evaluation of the potential environmental impacts associated with the development of a county-wide ATV and multi-use trail system pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York, as amended, and Title 6, Part 617 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (“NYCRR”) implementing Article 8 (collectively referred to hereinafter as “SEQRA”); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the procedures outlined in 6 NYCRR § 617.9, the Board of Legislators caused to be prepared a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (“DGEIS”) and a Final GEIS (collectively the “GEIS”); on January 9, 2009, the Board of Legislators issued a written Statement of Findings setting forth the Board’s conclusions and determinations, based upon the facts and analysis contained in the GEIS; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators formally established the Lewis County Trail System by adopting Local Law No. 2 – 2009, “**A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING THE LEWIS COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM**”, as subsequently amended and re-stated in Local Law No. 3-2019, “**A LOCAL LAW AMENDING LOCAL LAW NO. 2-2009 AND RE-ESTABLISHING THE LEWIS COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM**” (herein, “Local Law”); and

WHEREAS, the Local Law and the 2009 Statement of Findings contemplate future amendments to the Trail System through the addition of trails and/or the opening of interconnecting roads, and set forth procedures for making such amendments, and in particular, the procedures for amending the GEIS in compliance with SEQRA prior to amending the Trail System; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Recreation, Forestry and Parks has presented the Board of Legislators with a request to add a proposed addition of 580 feet to be

added to the Lewis County Trail System. The proposed trail is located in the Town of Lewis, Tax Map Parcel: 388.00-02-12.100, owned by Jeffery G. Nellenback Irrevocable Trust; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence, the Board of Legislators caused a site-specific environmental review of the proposed property, pursuant to Section 8.2 of the Statement of Findings; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators received a report from the Soil and Water Conservation District detailing its investigations, findings, and conclusion of no significant environmental impact with respect to the trail on these properties. With the assistance from County staff and counsel, the Board has reviewed the same and compared it with the GEIS and Statement of Findings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators has reviewed the Report from Soil and Water Conservation District and concludes that there is no significant environmental impact in adding this trail, on the identified parcels located in the Town of Lewis to the Lewis County Trail System.

Section 2. Based upon its review and analysis of the data contained in the Report and the Specific Environmental Review and Assessment Statement pertaining to the trail on the properties, the Board of Legislators hereby finds and determines that:

- a. The Report adequately sets forth the relevant and material facts necessary for the Board of Legislators to make a decision;
- b. The Report adequately describes the consultant's investigations and analysis as to any significant adverse impacts and necessary mitigations for the specific site;
- c. The Report's findings are consistent with the criteria identified and set forth in the GEIS and the Statement of Findings;
- d. The investigation and analysis of the described trail on Parcel No. 388.00-02-12.100 does not reveal any environmental impacts that were either not addressed or were not adequately addressed in the GEIS and the Statement of Findings.

Section 3. As a consequence of these determinations, the Board of Legislators hereby finds and declares that the addition of 580 feet of trail identified as Parcel No. 388.00-02-12.100 in the Town of Lewis, to the Lewis County Trail System, will not result in a significant environmental impact.

Section 4. The Board of Legislators further finds and declares that pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617.10(d), a Supplemental Findings Statement need not be filed, and

no further action need be taken with regard to the County's environmental review of the site herein identified and therefore, the Board has completed its lead agency responsibilities under SEQRA with regard to this trail addition.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Osborne , seconded by Legislator Frost .

Legislator Nellenback recused himself as it was his property. Legislator Lyndaker was opposed.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 69 - 2026

**RESOLUTION TO ADD 580 FEET OF
NEW TRAIL TO THE LEWIS COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM**

(Jeffrey G. Nellenback Irrevocable Trust Property)

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators has heretofore determined that the development of a county-wide trail system that can effectively and safely accommodate Off-Highway Vehicles (“OHV’s”), (as defined in Local Law No. 3-2019) is in the public interest and will enhance the recreational use of the natural resources available in the County, as well as encourage tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators formally established the Lewis County Trail System (herein “Trail System”) by adopting Local Law No. 2 – 2009, **“A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING THE LEWIS COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM”**, as subsequently amended and re-stated in Local Law No. 3-2019, **“A LOCAL LAW AMENDING LOCAL LAW NO. 2-2009 AND RE-ESTABLISHING THE LEWIS COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM”** (herein, “Local Law”); and

WHEREAS, the Local Law and the Statement of Findings contemplate future amendments to the Trail System through the addition of trails and/or the opening of interconnecting roads and set forth procedures for making such amendments, including a SEQRA review of any proposed addition to the Trail System; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Recreation, Forestry and Parks has presented the Board of Legislators with a request to add a proposed addition of 580 feet of trail in the Town of Lewis, Tax Map Parcel: 388.00-02-12.100 owned by the Jeffery G. Nellenback Irrevocable Trust the Lewis County OHV Trail System; and

WHEREAS, the Board has completed its review under SEQRA with respect to the properties and trails identified above, and based upon an investigation and analysis conducted by the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District, found and determined that adding this property and trail to the Lewis County Trail System will not result in a significant environmental impact;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the trail located on the following property in the Town of Lewis, identified as Parcel No. 388.00-02-12.100, owned by Jeffrey G. Nellenback Irrevocable Trust as more fully described in the Statement prepared by the Lewis County Soil and Water

Conservation District, is to be incorporated into and made a part of the Lewis County Trail System.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the addition of 580 feet of trail to the Lewis County OHV Trail System and authorizes amendment of the maps of the Lewis County Trail System as the same is published on the Lewis County website and elsewhere, to include the trail described herein, together with such other and further actions as may be necessary to administer and maintain such trail consistent with the Lewis County OHV Trail Plan, the GEIS and Statement of Findings, and Local Law No. 3-2019.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Osborne , seconded by Legislator Leviker .

Legislator Nellenback recused himself as it was his property. Legislator Lyndaker was opposed.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 70 - 2026

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND OTHERWISE TREATING
LOCAL LAW NO. 1 – 2026, COUNTY OF LEWIS**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, a resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Legislators on February 3, 2026, directing that a public hearing be held by said Board on March 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Board Room of the Courthouse, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York 13367, to hear all interested parties on a proposed Local Law entitled “A LOCAL LAW PERMITTING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE OPERATION ON CERTAIN PORTIONS OF BYRONS CORNERS ROAD (CR 49) IN THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN”; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing to add a part of County Road Route 49 to the trail system was duly advertised in the *Watertown Daily Times*, the official newspaper designated by the County, on February 24, 2026, and posted on the bulletin board of the Lewis County Courthouse, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York, at least five (5) days prior to such public hearing; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held at such location and time, and with all parties in attendance permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to make certain determinations based upon the information heretofore submitted to the Board as well as received during the public hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. This Local Law (Introductory No. 1-2026), County of Lewis, entitled “A LOCAL LAW PERMITTING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE OPERATION ON CERTAIN PORTIONS OF BYRONS CORNERS ROAD (CR 49) IN THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN”; be and the same hereby is designated as Local Law No. 1- 2026, County of Lewis.

Section 2. Local Law No. 1-2026, County of Lewis, with designation stated above, be and the same is hereby enacted, waiving any and all defects and informalities in the adoption thereof and shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser , and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

AYES: Kalamas, Hanno, Nellenback, Frost, Moser, Nortz, Leviker, Osborne, and Dolhof.

NAYS: Lyndaker

ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 71 - 2026

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND OTHERWISE TREATING
LOCAL LAW NO. 2 – 2026, COUNTY OF LEWIS**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, a resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Legislators on February 3, 2026, directing that a public hearing be held by said Board on March 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Board Room of the Courthouse, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York 13367, to hear all interested parties on a proposed Local Law entitled “A LOCAL LAW PERMITTING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE/OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE OPERATION ON PORTIONS OF COUNTY ROAD 47 (FISH CREEK ROAD) (APPROXIMATELY 3.4 MILES) IN THE TOWNS OF WEST TURIN & LEWIS, TO CONNECT THE EXISTING OHV TRAIL SYSTEM FROM THE TRAIL ON TYRONE D. CONSTANTINO’S PARCEL TO THE TRAIL ON KEVIN EMERICH’S PARCEL”; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing to add a part of County Road Route 47 to the trail system was duly advertised in the *Watertown Daily Times*, the official newspaper designated by the County, on February 24, 2026, and posted on the bulletin board of the Lewis County Courthouse, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York, at least five (5) days prior to such public hearing; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held at such location and time, and with all parties in attendance permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to make certain determinations based upon the information heretofore submitted to the Board as well as received during the public hearing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. This Local Law (Introductory No. 2-2026), County of Lewis, entitled “A LOCAL LAW PERMITTING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE/OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE OPERATION ON PORTIONS OF COUNTY ROAD 47 (FISH CREEK ROAD) (APPROXIMATELY 3.4 MILES) IN THE TOWNS OF WEST TURIN & LEWIS, TO CONNECT THE EXISTING OHV TRAIL SYSTEM FROM THE TRAIL ON TYRONE D. CONSTANTINO’S PARCEL TO THE TRAIL ON KEVIN EMERICH’S PARCEL”, be and the same hereby is designated as Local Law No. 2- 2026, County of Lewis.

Section 2. Local Law No. 2-2026, County of Lewis, with designation stated above, be and the same is hereby enacted, waiving any and all defects and informalities in the adoption thereof and shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser .

Legislator Lyndaker questioned if Kevin Emmerich's land is the Hideaway. Forestry Parks & Recreation Director Jackie Mahoney clarified that it was. Legislator Lyndaker stated that the county was opening a bar parking lot as part of the trail system, Jackie clarified that the trail was next to the parking lot not through it.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

AYES: Moser, Nortz, Frost, Leviker, Hanno, Nellenback, Osborne, Kalamas, and Dolhof.

NAYS: Lyndaker.

ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 72 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AMENDING COMPENSATION PLAN
WITH REFERENCE TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, due to an unforeseen leave of absence the Sheriff's Office requires additional support in the jail kitchen; and

WHEREAS, a previous, retired Jail Cook is available to return to assist with kitchen duties during this absence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Legislators hereby amends the Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis with reference to the Sheriff's Office, effective and retroactive to February 27, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for the following:

<u>CREATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>HOURLY RATE</u>
Jail Cook	Temporary	\$22.01

Section 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 73 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ANNUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF JEFFERSON AND COUNTY OF LEWIS FOR ACTIVITIES UNDER WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (“WIOA”)

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, Jefferson and Lewis Counties are designated as a multi-jurisdictional workforce development area under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), and seek to have the area be known as the “JEFFERSON - LEWIS LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AREA” by designation of its respective Chief Elected Officials; and

WHEREAS, the WIOA provides for the Chief Elected Officials of each County to be designated its respective Board’s Executive authorized to enter into an agreement to organize and implement activities pursuant WIOA, and as proposed by the Governor of the State of New York for the purpose of administering WIOA in Jefferson and Lewis Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize such designation and Chief Elected Officials Agreement pursuant to WIOA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an Agreement with the designated Executive of Jefferson County for purposes of administering WIOA; and any agreements to organize and implement workforce development in the Jefferson-Lewis areas pursuant to WIOA.

Section 2. The term of this Agreement shall be from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

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

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 74 - 2026

RESOLUTION APPROVING CORRECTION OF TAX BILL

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee

WHEREAS, pursuant to the franchise agreements between Time Warner Cable, TCI, and the Towns of Croghan, Denmark, Diana, Greig, Lewis, Leyden, Lowville, Lyonsdale, Martinsburg, New Bremen, Watson, and West Turin, the named companies are allowed to deduct from taxes the franchise paid to the Towns;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The following payments and adjustments are accepted as follows:

		Amount Paid:	Charge to Town:
Croghan	538.00-08-00.000	475.10	156.19
	538.00-05-06.000	511.71	123.31
	538.00-08-06.000	4605.37	1109.84
Denmark	552.00-03-00.000	425.71	104.50
	552.00-05-00.000	18.40	10.00
Diana	552.00-05-08.000	1712.46	759.73
Greig	542.02-07-09.000	4888.16	1872.06
Lewis	550.00-10-11.000	196.90	165.40
Leyden	550.00-07-12.000	631.75	190.36
	550.00-10-12.000	311.15	93.76
	550.00-07-00.000	67.64	24.31
Lowville	550.00-05-00.000	951.64	277.83
	550.00-05-13.000	4857.71	1112.59
Lyonsdale	550.00-07-00.000	45.29	20.52
	550.00-07-00.000	273.34	123.84
Martinsburg	542.02-05-15.000	1540.14	604.02
New Bremen	552.00-08-00.000	8.90	4.49
	542.05-08-05.000	133.30	47.52
	552.00-08-02.000	2338.67	631.27
Watson	542.02-08-21.000	2349.28	1462.90
	542.02-07-21.000	3570.92	2223.61
	542.02-05-21.000	3476.93	2165.09
West Turin	550.00-07-00.000	64.89	37.85
	550.00-07-00.000	125.47	73.19
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$33,580.83	\$13,394.18

Section 2. The County Treasurer is hereby directed to adjust, apportion, and charge back said amounts in the manner prescribed by law. The amount to charge the Towns is \$13,394.18.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 75 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENTS TO
LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU BY-LAWS**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Youth Bureau (LCYB) reviews its By-Laws periodically, with the last revisions to same having been approved by the LC Board of Legislators on December 3, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the LCYB reviewed the By-Laws and propose two (2) changes to the current by-laws, to wit: 1) an addition to Article V to provide for failure to attend 50% of meetings in one membership year to result in removal of membership and resignation from the Board; and 2) additions to Article VIII to include Youth Board Members expectations to contribute time and expertise through meeting attendance, to monitor one funded program per year, and to volunteer and attend YB hosted events; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the LCYB seeks to have the Board of Legislators approve and adopt these proposed changes to the By-Laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves and adopts the proposed changes to the Lewis County Youth Bureau By-Laws in Article V and Article VIII, which have been reviewed by the YB and recommended for approval by the Board of Legislators.

Section 2. The LCYB Director is to make the proposed changes, note the adoption of same by the LC Board of Legislators effective on this date, and submit a copy of same to the Clerk of the Board.

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

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 76 - 2026

**APPOINTING JENNIFER RICH AS A MEMBER TO
LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU ADVISORY BOARD**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board was established to advise and assist in the development, coordination, and evaluation of youth programs and services within the County; and

WHEREAS, there has been a vacancy on the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board since the beginning of July 2025; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Rich of Watertown, New York, has been recommended by the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board for appointment to fill the vacancy and to be reappointed to serve a two-year term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Jennifer Rich of Watertown, New York, as a member of the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board to fill the current vacancy and to serve a two-year term.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective March 3, 2026 through June 30, 2026; and thereafter from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Jennifer Rich for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Jennifer Rich and to the Director of the Youth Bureau.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 77 - 2026

**APPOINTING LISA HETZNER AS A MEMBER TO
LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU ADVISORY BOARD**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board was established to advise and assist in the development, coordination, and evaluation of youth programs and services within the County; and

WHEREAS, there has been a long standing vacancy on the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Lisa Hetzner of Lowville, New York, has been recommended by the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board for appointment to fill the vacancy and to be reappointed to serve a two-year term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Lisa Hetzner of Lowville, New York, as a member of the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board to fill the current vacancy and to serve a two-year term.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective March 3, 2026 through June 30, 2026; and thereafter from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Lisa Hetzner for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Lisa Hetzner and to the Director of the Youth Bureau.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 78 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF THE
LEWIS COUNTY LAND BANK CORPORATION**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, Article 16 of the New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, known as the “Land Bank Act,” authorizes foreclosing governmental units to create not-for-profit land bank corporations for the purpose of acquiring, managing, and redeveloping such properties in a manner that promotes public health, safety, welfare, and economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County is a designated foreclosing governmental unit (FGU) under New York State law and is eligible to sponsor the creation of a land bank; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators recognizes the growing need to address vacant, abandoned, and tax-delinquent properties that contribute to blight, reduced property values, and economic decline in communities throughout Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the NYS Land Bank Act, the Lewis County Legislature deems it appropriate and necessary to establish a land bank in Lewis County, to effectively decrease the number of tax-delinquent properties, revitalize communities within Lewis County, and increase tax rolls for the benefit of all citizens, provide pro-active tools to mitigate costs, spur investment and improve property values; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Lewis County Legislature that the not-for-profit corporation established herein operate in a community-centric, collaborative manner, utilizing information gathered from Lewis County residents and subject matter experts alike; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Lewis County Legislature that the Lewis County Land Bank Corporation’s operations, policies and procedures encourage diverse affordable housing options for a broad mix of income levels, provide for sufficient commercial opportunities, preserve green space and public safety and facilitate infrastructure development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the formation of the Lewis County Land Bank Corporation, a Type C not-for-profit land

bank pursuant to Sections 402 and 1603 of the New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators designates itself, through this resolution, as the sponsor of the Lewis County Land Bank Corporation and affirms that Lewis County is acting as the foreclosing governmental unit.

Section 3. The Directors of the Corporation shall create capital-generating and revenue-sharing programs designed to provide the assets necessary for the successful start-up and continued operation of the corporation.

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall consist of 11 members, all appointed by the Lewis County Legislature. One member designated to serve is the County Manager, with the remaining ten representing from each Legislative District, with nominations for these seats made by the active Legislator of the respective district.

Section 5. The said members shall be residents, or have their primary place of business within Lewis County, and shall represent areas of expertise including, but not limited to: the building industry, architectural/planning and/or design industry, green space development, financial services, property management, municipal affairs, buildings and codes, real estate, building demolition industry, downtown and mixed-use redevelopment and retrofits, and historical renovation services.

Section 6. The following individuals are hereby appointed by the Lewis County Legislature as initial members of the Board of Directors:

Timothy Hunt, Lewis County Manager, for an initial term of one year;
Patrick Looby, District 1, for an initial term of one year;
Jonathan Beller, District 2, for an initial term of one year;
“**TBD**”, District 3, for an initial term of two years;
Jared Martin, District 4, for an initial term of two years;
Eric Virkler, District 5, for an initial term of two years;
Mary Misek, District 6, for an initial term of two years;
Dan Szalach, District 7, for an initial term of three years
Ryan Salmon, District 8, for an initial term of three years
Ashley Waite, District 9, for an initial term of three years
and Jerry King, District 10, for an initial term of three years

Section 7. All members of the Board of Directors shall serve at the pleasure of the Legislature and are subject to the Lewis County Code of Ethics.

Section 8. All successors to the initial Directors shall be appointed by the same authority and in the same manner as the initial Directors, for a term of three years, except that the filling of vacancies shall be for the remainder of the term of the vacant Director.

Section 9. The Lewis County Land Bank Corporation shall prioritize:

- a. The removal of blighted, unsafe, or functionally obsolete structures in rural landscapes, with a focus on reclaiming land for resilient and attractive housing, complementary commercial/industrial development, open space, recreation, habitat restoration, and other community-beneficial uses;
- b. The provision of affordable, workforce, multifamily, and socioeconomically diverse housing, the increase of the supply of such housing, and the reduction of the shortage of such housing in Lewis County;
- c. The preservation and restoration of productive farmland, including orchards and other agricultural productivity suitable for Lewis County; and
- d. The preservation, improvement, and redevelopment of the historically commercial and mixed-use areas of the villages and hamlets in Lewis County, including the development and redevelopment of mixed uses, parks, recreation and public arts in traditional downtowns and “Main Street” areas in its acquisition and return of properties to productive use and any associated programs and financial, technical, or administrative support.

Section 10. The Board of Directors shall submit an annual written report to the Clerk of the Legislature, on or before July 1st of each year following the enactment of this Resolution, outlining the action taken by the Lewis County Land Bank Corporation during the preceding 12 months.

Section 11. The County Attorney is requested to assist with the development of the applicable and necessary documentation to accomplish the objectives as set forth in this Resolution.

Section 12. The Chair of the Legislature is authorized to execute the documentation necessary for incorporation of the “Lewis County Land Bank Corporation” with the State of New York and to execute and file such other documents necessary to establish said Land Bank, including, but not limited to, other management, operating and administrative contracts or agreements, which shall all be subject to the separate prior approval of the Lewis County Legislature.

Section 13. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the filing of a Certificate of Incorporation with the New York State Department of State, and directs County staff to take all necessary steps to complete the organizational process, including the development and establishment of bylaws, and the pursuit of applicable funding opportunities; and

Section 14. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Nellenback .

Legislator Moser moved to amend section 6, line 6 of this resolution to remove “TBD” and list Kim Vogt as the District 3 member for an initial term of two years, seconded by Legislator Nortz and carried.

The resolution, as amended, was then adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 79 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING TENTATIVE AGREEMENT AND FINAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND LOCAL 825 OF THE CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, INC. (SHERIFF EMPLOYEES UNIT # 7250-03)

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the collective bargaining agreement between the County of Lewis and Local 825 of the Civil Service Employee's Association ("CSEA") for the County's Sheriff's Employees Unit expired on December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the negotiating teams for the County of Lewis and CSEA, with the assistance of a mediator assigned by the Public Employee Relations Board (PERB), reached a Tentative Agreement for a three-year successor Collective Bargaining Agreement covering the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, said Tentative Agreement was not ratified by the CSEA Sheriff's Unit membership unit upon a vote conducted in August and September 2025; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, the CSEA negotiating team, through its Labor Relations Specialist, presented an amended Tentative Agreement providing for a two-year successor agreement covering the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026, including compensation provisions effective August 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the County has been advised that the amended Tentative Agreement was ratified by a vote of the CSEA Sheriff's Unit membership;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby ratifies the Tentative Agreement dated February 25, 2026, and accepted by the CSEA Local 825 for the County's Sheriff's Employees on March 3, 2026.

Section 2. The Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators be and the same is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver a final collective bargaining agreement between the County of Lewis and the Civil Service Employee's Association (Sheriff's Employees Unit #7250-03) based upon the terms of the Tentative Agreement dated February 25, 2026, for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026, including compensation provisions effective August 1, 2025, upon such form as may be approved by the County Attorney.

Section 3. A fully executed copy of the Collective Bargaining Agreement shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Legislators.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Kalamas, seconded by Legislator Hanno, and adopted on the 3rd day of March, 2026.

OTHER BUSINESS:

At 5:56 p.m. Legislator Leviker moved to enter executive session pertaining to the employment of a particular person, seconded by Legislator Hanno, and carried. The County Attorney, County Manager, County Treasurer, and Clerk of the Board were invited to stay.

At 6:18 p.m. Legislator Nortz moved to enter regular session, seconded by Legislator Frost, and carried.

County Attorney Joan McNichol announced her intention to resign from her position in the summer, likely in June. She indicated her commitment to assisting with a smooth transition, including efforts to identify and support a successor. Ms. McNichol also expressed her appreciation for the support and collaboration she has received from the Legislature throughout her tenure.

Chairman Dolhof moved to authorize an agreement with Pracademic Partners to assist with finding viable candidates for the impending vacancy for County Attorney at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.00 with the funds being taken from the Contingency account, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and carried.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Legislator Frost moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hanno, and carried.