

REGULAR MEETING
June 2, 2026

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ROLL CALL:

Legislator Frost, Legislator Kalamas, Legislator Moser, Legislator Lyndaker, Legislator Hanno, Legislator Leviker, Legislator Osborne, Legislator Nellenback, and Legislator Dolhof were present. Legislator Nortz was excused. There were 16 other people present.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE:

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

MINUTES:

Chairman Dolhof declared the May 5, 2026, meeting minutes approved by general consent.

RECOGNITION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S):

The Clerk of the Board read a proclamation commemorating June as Dairy Month, and Chairman Dolhof touched on the Dairy Princess program and how the pageant will take place on June 7th from 1 to 3 PM at the 3-G Firehall in Glenfield. He then invited the current Dairy Princess Zoey Staring up to accept the proclamation.

PUBLIC HEARING(S): None

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

Dated: June 2, 2026

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

PRESENTATIONS: None

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mr. Scott Doyle, resident of the Town of Denmark and Town Supervisor, addressed the Board regarding the EMS study and the recommendation that Lewis County General Hospital establish an ambulance transport service. Mr. Doyle referenced personal experiences with hospital care and his participation in meetings related to the study. While acknowledging concerns regarding patient transportation and transfer delays, he stated that he does not support the hospital assuming responsibility for ambulance transport services at this time and believes the hospital should prioritize addressing patient care and operational challenges.

Mr. Doyle expressed support for the establishment of an EMS Coordinator position to improve coordination among the hospital and EMS providers. He also raised concerns regarding the potential impacts of the proposal on taxpayers, agricultural communities, existing EMS agencies, and service coverage in certain areas of the County. Drawing on his professional management experience, he emphasized the importance of organizations focusing on their core missions and encouraged the County to address hospital-related challenges while allowing existing EMS providers to continue addressing ambulance transport needs.

CLERK OF THE BOARD REPORT:

A letter was received from Town of Lowville Highway Superintendent Tom Widrick expressing his appreciation to the Lewis County Highway Department for its assistance in responding to and replacing an unexpected culvert pipe failure on Griffith Road earlier this spring. I also received the resignation of Ms. Karen Rennie from the Lewis County Hospital Board of Managers.

Additionally, four adopted resolutions were received from other counties this month for the Board's information. The first, from Columbia County, supports the Energy Rate Relief Act and calls for lower utility costs for New Yorkers. The second, from Essex County, requests consideration of a 211 waiver for EMS personnel and urges broader state action to address EMS workforce shortages. The third, from Madison County, urges an immediate review of electric delivery charges, calls for improved cost controls and transparency, and authorizes formal complaints to the New York State Public Service Commission regarding escalating electricity costs. The fourth, from St. Lawrence County, supports proposed state legislation to amend the Vehicle and Traffic Law to increase the allowable width and weight specifications for all-terrain vehicles.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Legislator Leviker reported during last week's Committee meeting, Mr. Paul Bishop of CGR presented the results of a countywide EMS study that evaluated service delivery, staffing, operations, and funding options throughout Lewis County. The study found that Lewis County Search and Rescue currently provides the majority of EMS responses but identified ongoing challenges including workforce shortages, declining volunteer participation, rising costs, and the closure of Harrisville Rescue Squad. Recommendations included establishing a supplemental

ambulance service through Lewis County General Hospital, expanding EMT training and recruitment efforts, creating a county EMS coordinator position, and exploring sustainable funding sources to support and strengthen the county's EMS system.

Legislator Kalamas reported during last week's Committee meeting, Ms. Caitlin Lawler, Youth Services Coordinator, presented on the impacts of social media and screen use across generations as part of the Youth Bureau's Screen Acres Project. The presentation highlighted research linking increased smartphone and social media use with rising rates of anxiety, depression, loneliness, sleep disruption, and reduced social skills among youth, while also discussing concerns related to privacy, misinformation, and excessive screen time for adults. Recommendations focused on promoting digital wellness through healthy screen boundaries, mindful content consumption, responsible online behavior, and greater awareness of how social media platforms monetize user attention and personal data.

Ms. Lisa Hetzner, Staff and Workforce Development Coordinator, provided an overview of Employment & Training and Lewis County WorkPlace operations, including workforce participation requirements, disability and work-status tracking, SNAP employment rules, and youth employment programs. She highlighted services available to job seekers and employers, including job placement assistance, credentialing and apprenticeship opportunities, and workforce training initiatives. Ms. Hetzner also discussed the Summer Youth Employment Program, ongoing outreach efforts, and a recently submitted grant application to support agricultural training and apprenticeship opportunities in Lewis County.

Legislator Moser reported during last week's Committee meeting, Ms. Kaylee Rhodes presented the new Lewis County Connect mobile app, which provides residents with emergency alerts, weather updates, road closure notifications, and community event information through a user-friendly platform. She reviewed current adoption metrics, highlighted planned enhancements, and encouraged residents to download the app and create user profiles to customize notifications.

Mr. Timothy Hunt provided an update on the Information Technology Department, noting that the recent departure of the IT Director has reduced staffing to three employees. The County plans to evaluate departmental needs over the coming weeks while reviewing and updating the IT Director job specification to improve recruitment and better align compensation with comparable positions.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Legislator Kalamas reported on the recent Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board meeting. He advised that Carrie Tuttle of DANC provided an overview of a proposed leachate treatment project being recommended by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). The project would involve the treatment of landfill leachate to remove heavy metals and PFAS

contaminants, with an anticipated implementation period of approximately four years.

Legislator Kalamas noted that the preliminary cost estimate for the project is approximately \$35 million, with annual operating costs estimated at \$1 million. Upon treatment, the concentrated residual material would be returned to the landfill; however, water generated through the treatment process would still require off-site transportation and disposal. Ms. Tuttle also indicated that the project could reduce revenues currently received by wastewater treatment facilities in Watertown and Ogdensburg, which presently process significant volumes of leachate. Efforts are underway to identify grant funding opportunities to offset project costs. Legislator Kalamas further reported that the DEC is not expected to provide funding for the project and that the associated costs could ultimately result in increased local landfill tipping fees.

Mr. Gerald Cayer, Chief Executive Officer of Lewis County Health System, provided an update on recent activities of the Board of Managers. He noted that the Board continues to begin its meetings with a review of the organization's vision, mission, and values, emphasizing its commitment to providing high-quality rural healthcare services and promoting integrity, compassion, accountability, respect, and excellence throughout the organization.

Mr. Cayer reported that the Board accepted the resignation of Karen Rennie with regret and recognized her service and contributions to the organization. The Board also formally approved the appointment of Jeff Hellinger as Chief Executive Officer and welcomed Dr. Scott Mitchell, a board-certified internal medicine physician who will provide services at the Beaver River Health Center, the Copenhagen clinic, and the hospital as needed. Additionally, Emily Paulson attended her first Board meeting in her new role as Chief Nursing Officer.

Mr. Cayer reviewed the hospital's financial performance for April, reporting an operating gain of \$42,264 compared to a budgeted loss of \$208,267. Patient volumes were generally in line with or exceeded budget projections, including outpatient visits, emergency department visits, and acute admissions. He also recognized several employees for outstanding service and years-of-service milestones.

Mr. Cayer reported that the recently executed grant services memorandum of understanding between Lewis County and Lewis County Health System has proven beneficial and productive. He also distributed the organization's annual Economic and Community Benefits Report, highlighting the health system's estimated \$212 million economic impact, support of approximately 900 jobs, \$16 million in tax revenue generation, and \$61 million in payroll expenditures. He noted that the health system remains the County's sole healthcare provider and

emphasized the importance of maintaining a sustainable healthcare system to ensure continued access to care for County residents.

Regarding the EMS study and ambulance transport discussions, Mr. Cayer stated that he does not support the consultant's recommendation for a hospital-operated ambulance service. Instead, he expressed support for strengthening the governance and leadership structure of Lewis County Search and Rescue through enhanced collaboration among the hospital, County government, and EMS providers. He emphasized the importance of supporting existing EMS organizations and noted that patient transfers continue to be challenging due to transportation and bed availability constraints at receiving facilities.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT:

County Manager Timothy Hunt reported that a vacancy currently exists on the Lewis County Health System Board of Managers. He encouraged legislators to identify and recommend qualified candidates for consideration and invited interested members of the public to contact their respective legislators regarding the appointment.

Mr. Hunt also provided an update on the recently adopted New York State Budget, noting that County staff are continuing to analyze its impacts. He reported that the budget includes an additional \$50 million in Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) funding, which will benefit local highway operations. However, no relief was provided for increased Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative costs. Mr. Hunt further advised that changes to Tier 6 retirement provisions are expected to have fiscal implications for the County, and staff are continuing to evaluate the budgetary impact.

Mr. Hunt concluded his report by referencing a recent meeting held with Jake Moser and invited Mr. Moser to provide additional information regarding that discussion.

Mr. Moser reported on the recent meeting he attended with County Manager Timothy Hunt at Fort Drum regarding the potential establishment of a Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) office on the installation. He noted that Fort Drum leadership has expressed strong interest in providing DMV services on post and that Lewis County agreed to participate in preliminary conversations to better understand the scope and level of commitment associated with the proposal.

Mr. Moser stated that Fort Drum representatives provided an overview of potential office locations and discussed the needs of active-duty military personnel and civilian contractors working on the installation. He emphasized that any consideration of a Lewis County-operated DMV presence at Fort Drum would be contingent upon ensuring that the service does not create a financial burden for County taxpayers. Preliminary discussions indicated that Fort Drum may be willing

to provide support for facility, equipment, and administrative needs; however, additional information and cost analysis are still being gathered.

Mr. Moser further noted that the proposal could strengthen the County's ongoing partnership with Fort Drum and enhance services available to military personnel and civilian employees, including Lewis County residents who work on the installation. He acknowledged the efforts of Lewis County Planning and Community Development staff in developing relationships with Fort Drum and related transportation needs, which helped facilitate the discussion. Mr. Moser concluded by noting that the proposal remains in the exploratory stages but that Fort Drum representatives expressed a long-term commitment to the initiative, indicating that support for the concept extends beyond current installation leadership.

COUNTY TREASURER REPORT: None

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTION NO. 130 – 2026

AUDITING AND ALLOWING CLAIMS

Introduced by Legislator Jeffrey Nellenback, Vice-Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

RESOLVED that the claims presented for payment in the total amount of \$2,339,421.60 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 Nellenback, seconded by Legislator Frost,

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 2nd day of June, 2026, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

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

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Nortz.

RESOLUTION NO. 131 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND NCC SYSTEMS FOR FIRE ALARM INSPECTIONS
AT THE COURTHOUSE, PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING, AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT GARAGE**

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

WHEREAS, the Buildings & Grounds Department requires fire alarm inspection services for the Courthouse, Public Safety Building, and Emergency Management garage in order to maintain inspection and monitoring of those county facilities; and

WHEREAS, NCC Systems, 25646 NYS Rt 3, Watertown, NY 13601, has proposed to continue fire alarm inspection services for the county's buildings at the Courthouse, Public Safety Building and Emergency Management garage, for an additional three-year period, from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028, at a total cost of \$9,755.00 (\$3,300.00 in 2026, \$3,585.00 in 2027, and \$3,870.00 in 2028), to be paid from the Buildings and Grounds Department's Professional Services budget line; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to authorize this renewal agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves a renewal agreement with NCC Systems for fire alarm inspection services at the Courthouse, Public Safety Building, and Emergency Management garage, for a three-year period, from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028, at a total cost not to exceed \$9,755.00 (\$3,300.00 in 2026, \$3,585.00 in 2027, and \$3,870.00 in 2028).

Section 2. The payment for said services shall be from the Buildings & Grounds Professional Services budget line.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators, together with the Director of Buildings & Grounds, is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, upon such form as may be approved by the County Attorney.

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

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 132 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AWARDING BID AND AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
COUNTY OF LEWIS AND RYNOCOATINGS LLC TO PROVIDE SEALING AND
STRIPING OF VARIOUS COUNTY PARKING LOTS**

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

WHEREAS, the Buildings & Grounds Department sent out an RFP for sealing and striping services for various County parking lots located at the Highway garage, Outdoor Services, DMV, DSS/Human Services, and Public Safety buildings; and

WHEREAS, bids were opened on April 9, 2026. Rynocoatings LLC, 507 Cleveland Blvd, Fayetteville, NY 13066-1109, submitted a bid proposal to provide sealing and striping of various County parking lots for a total amount of \$66,215.10, (\$23,540.20 for the Highway garage, \$8,165.00 for Outdoor Services, \$10,112.30 for DMV, \$5,798.60 for DSS/Human Services, and \$18,599.00 for PSB), for the period from June 8, 2026 through September 28, 2026; the lowest qualified bidder; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to award the bid and authorize an agreement with Ryoncoatings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby awards the bid and authorizes an agreement with Rynocoatings LLC for sealing and striping of various County parking lots for the Buildings & Grounds Department, at a total cost not to exceed \$66,215.10, consisting of \$23,540.20 for the Highway garage, \$8,165.00 for Outdoor Services, \$10,112.30 for the Department of Motor Vehicles, \$5,798.60 for the Department of Social Services, and \$18,599.00 for the Public Safety Building, for the period from June 8, 2026 through September 28, 2026.

Section 2. The cost of said agreement shall be paid from the Buildings and Grounds Professional Services account.

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 as may be approved 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 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 133 - 2026

RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS Community Services

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

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The following appropriation is hereby approved within the Community Services accounts to reflect the receipt of additional State Aid from the Office of Mental Health and contract changes with THRIVE. The Treasurer is hereby authorized to make all necessary budgetary adjustments as follows:

Decrease Revenue:

A0431900 334903 Thrive Revenue	\$39,743.00
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Decrease Expenditure:

A0431900 422800 Thrive Expense	\$39,743.00
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Increase Revenues:

A0432200 334922 ARC Revenue	\$182.00
A0432400 334922 NRCIL Revenue	\$5,057.00
A0433500 334922 LC Com Serv Revenue	\$159,393.00

Increase Expenditures:

A0 432200 422800 ARC Expense	\$182.00
A0432400 422800 NRCIL Expense	\$5,057.00
A0433500 110100 LC Com Serv Personnel Expense	\$85,563.00
A0433500 801000 LC Com Serv Retire Exp	\$5,609.00
A0433500 803000 LC Com Serv FICA	\$3,460.00
A0433500 804000 LC Com Serv Workers Comp	\$235.00
A0433500 806000 LC Com Serv Health Ins	\$11,913.00
A0433500 807000 LC Com Serv Dental Ins	\$613.00
A0433500 220100 LC Com Serv Office Furn	\$5,000.00
A0433500 221701 LC Com Serv IT Capital	\$2,000.00
A0433500 440700 LC Com Serv Supplies	\$1,000.00
A0433500 450100 LC Com Serv Education and Training	\$2,000.00
A0433500 450700 LC Com Serv Travel	\$2,000.00
A0433500 490900 LC Com Serv Misc Exp	\$40,000.00

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 134 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 1 BETWEEN
LEWIS COUNTY OBO LEWIS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND
BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR CONSTRUCTION, C/I & C/S FOR THE CULVERT
REPLACEMENT PROJECT KOTEL ROAD OVER SOUTH BRANCH OF CRYSTAL
CREEK (PIN 775454)**

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

WHEREAS, Lewis County entered into an Agreement with Barton & Loguidice (B&L) on December 21, 2023, to provide Preliminary Engineering/Design Phase of the Culvert Replacement on Kotel Road over South Branch of Crystal Creek (PIN 775454) in the Town of Watson, County of Lewis at a cost of \$180,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Highway Department (hereinafter "Highway Department") desires to enter into Supplemental Agreement No. 1 with B&L for additional engineering for the Construction, C/I and C/S phase of the project at an additional cost of \$153,000.00 as set forth in Supplemental Agreement No. 1; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize such services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes Supplemental Agreement No. 1 between the County of Lewis and Barton & Loguidice to provide additional engineering services for the Construction, C/I, & C/S Phase regarding the culvert replacement project identified as Kotel Road over South Branch of Crystal Creek (PIN 775454).

Section 2. The term of the Agreement is from April 27, 2026, through December 31, 2027, for the additional amount not to exceed \$153,000.00 (with 100% reimbursable with BridgeNY Culvert Funding), for a total cost of \$333,000.00 to Barton & Loguidice for this project.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, 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 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 135 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTERFUND LOAN FINANCING
AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN COUNTY OF LEWIS AND
LEWIS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FOR
COUNTY MACHINERY EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**

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

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Highway Department purchases various heavy duty machinery equipment and vehicles on an annual basis under its capital equipment plan; and

WHEREAS, in order to save on financial institution interest payments and legal fees incurred under bonds and lease-to-own agreements, in 2022 the Board of Legislators authorized an interfund loan from Fund Balance to the County Machinery Fund for 2023 Highway Department machinery and heavy equipment purchases in accordance with its capital equipment plan. An MOU was executed to provide for repayment of this loan within five years at no interest, and with annual installments toward the balance owing; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer, Highway Superintendent and Purchasing Director seek to have the Board of Legislators authorize a 2026 interfund loan of up to \$514,980.00 from General Fund to the County Machinery Fund for the Highway Department's purchase of multiple items of machinery and other heavy equipment in 2026 under its capital equipment plan; and

WHEREAS, the list of machinery and equipment anticipated and planned by the Lewis County Highway Department for purchase in 2026, with estimated net costs is as follows, with these items having been included in the approved 2026 Capital Plan:

2026 CAT Skid Steer	\$122,205.00
2026 Viking Plow	\$218,200.00
2026 Western Star Cab & Chassis	\$174,575.00

The Highway Superintendent anticipates applying the proceeds from the sale of the equipment being replaced to the costs of these items; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Highways requests that the Board authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$514,980.00 from the County's General Fund to the County Machinery Fund for the purpose of providing funds for the machinery and equipment purchases scheduled or required in 2026 for highway operations and maintenance

responsibilities in accordance with the same terms and conditions under an additional MOU; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a Memorandum of Understanding between the Lewis County Highway Department and the County of Lewis wherein the County agrees to advance the sum of up to \$514,980.00 from the General Fund to the County Machinery Fund for the purpose of the Highway Department's purchase of machinery and equipment scheduled in 2026 under its capital project plan, in consideration of the Highway Superintendent's agreement to repay the County for the funds advanced, with no interest, payable in annual installments over a five (5) year period.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Treasurer to transfer the amount of \$514,980.00 from the General Fund using fund balance, to the County Machinery Fund for the above-described purposes upon full execution of the MOU.

Section 3. That the Chair of the Board of Legislators or the Vice-Chair, and the Superintendent of Highways are hereby authorized to execute and deliver such Agreement upon such form as may be approved by the County Attorney.

Section 4. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Leviker, seconded by Legislator Frost.

Legislator Lyndaker inquired about the current balance of the Equipment Fund, noting that the information was not included in the Treasurer's monthly report. Chairman Dolhof stated that the balance would be obtained and provided at a later date.

Legislator Lyndaker also questioned whether additional equipment replacements were anticipated during the current five-year period and expressed concern regarding the practice of loaning funds from the General Fund to support equipment purchases. County Manager Hunt explained that, rather than borrowing from a financial institution, the County advances funds from the General Fund to the Highway Department, which then repays the amount through annual budgeted payments over a five-year period, resulting in interest savings for the County.

Legislator Lyndaker further commented that some equipment appeared to be sold prematurely, citing a skid steer with fewer than 200 operating hours. County Manager Hunt acknowledged the observation but noted that the equipment was sold for more than its original purchase price, demonstrating the effectiveness of the County's equipment replacement program.

The resolution was then adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026. Legislator Lyndaker was opposed.

RESOLUTION NO. 136 - 2026

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE NEW YORK STATE HOST COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM TO INCREASE ANNUAL FEES, ESTABLISH RETROACTIVE APPLICATION, AND DIRECT INCORPORATION OF NYSERDA PARTICIPATION INTO COUNTY RENEWABLE ENERGY LAWS

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

WHEREAS, Legislators Thomas Kalamas and Herb Frost brought forth as co-sponsors of this Resolution to the Finance and Rules Committee for support and referral by the Committee to the full Board of Legislators; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC), in response to the Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act (April 2020), adopted a Host Community Benefit Program by Order dated February 11, 2021, requiring owners of solar electric generating facilities of 25 megawatts or greater to pay an annual fee of \$500 per megawatt for the first ten years of operation, with revenues distributed to residential customers of the host municipalities in the form of annual electric utility bill credits; and

WHEREAS, the current fee structure provides limited relief to host communities and does not adequately offset the cumulative increases in utility rates or the economic burden placed upon residential and business ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, residential and commercial customers have experienced electricity rate increases reaching as high as sixty-one percent (61%), materially impacting household budgets, business operations, and local economic sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), through the use of public funds, participates in the development of large-scale renewable energy facilities—including solar, wind, battery energy storage systems (BESS), geothermal systems, compressed air and compressed gas storage technologies, and similar projects—by providing financial support through Renewable Energy Standard (RES) solicitations, representing direct public investment in such facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is equitable and in the public interest that taxpayer-supported contributions through NYSEDA be reflected in stronger and more comprehensive community benefits within the Host Community Benefit framework;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby supports and requests that the New York State Legislature and the Public Service Commission amend the Host Community Benefit Program Order adopted in 2021 for renewable energy facilities and projects to:

- Increase the annual facility fee from \$500 per megawatt to \$3,500 per megawatt; and
- Apply this revised fee retroactively to all qualifying renewable energy projects of 25 megawatts or greater that commenced operation within the five years preceding the effective date of the amendment; and
- Extend the fee requirement from the current 10-year term to the full operational life of each applicable project.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators further urges that a portion of the increased fee revenue be allocated to NYSERDA, reflecting the public's financial participation in these projects, and that NYSERDA direct such revenues to and for expanded community bill-credit programs within host municipalities.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators supports adopting the following policy for inclusion in municipal renewable energy zoning and local siting regulations:

- Any renewable energy project of 25 megawatts or greater sited within a municipality and receiving NYSERDA financial support shall be required to contribute to a permanent Community Benefit Fund administered by the local utility, to be used to supplement electric bill credits and investment in local infrastructure, energy affordability programs for low-income residents, and community resilience initiatives; and to be revisited every 5 years to adjust for any increases.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Section 5. The Clerk of the Board is directed to forward certified copies of this Resolution to the Governor of the State of New York, the Chair and Secretary of the NYS Public Service Commission, Majority and Minority leaders of the NYS State Senate and Assembly, the President and CEO of NYSERDA, NYSAC Executive Director, and Lewis County local municipalities, and any others deemed appropriate by the Chairman of the Board.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Kalamas .

Legislator Kalamas explained that the resolution was developed in response to concerns regarding the limited direct financial benefit that residents receive from large-scale renewable energy projects. Using the proposed solar project in the Towns of Wilna and Croghan as an example, he noted that while the project would provide a substantial community benefit payment, the resulting savings to individual ratepayers would be minimal when distributed across the affected populations. Legislator Kalamas stated that the intent of the resolution is to encourage greater

investment of project-related funds, including available state incentives and grants, into measures that provide more meaningful and direct electric bill savings for local homeowners.

The resolution was then adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 137 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF CDBG PROJECT FUNDS
(GRANT NO. 636CP518-25)**

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

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis applied for Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") funds to finance a Vacant and Blighted Property Inventory and was awarded \$50,000.00 for same under Grant No. 636CP518-25; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators previously appointed the Director of Planning and Community Development as the Certifying Officer for this CDBG Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby directs the Treasurer to appropriate the funds in the amount of \$48,500.00, and establish the following budget lines for the CDBG Vacant and Blighted Property Inventory Project (Project No. 636CP518-25):

Expense:

A0802000 495027 NYS CDBG Vacant & Blighted Prp	\$48,500.00
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Revenue:

A0802000 339027 NYS CDBG Vacant & Blighted Prp	\$48,500.00
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Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 138 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A NYS DOS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE AND FLOOD
RISK REDUCTION GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION**

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

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department has been assisting various municipalities, non-profits, and public partners with mitigation efforts related to the 2024 flooding event; and

WHEREAS, the New York State DOS Community Resilience and Flood Risk Reduction Grant Program is offering a grant to improve waterfront and watershed resiliency with a minimum project request submission of \$150,000 and a required match of 10%; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department wishes to develop, with the input and collaboration of various public and private partners, a NYS DOS Community Resilience and Flood Risk Reduction Grant Program Application in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000 to improve watershed resiliency through the construction of multiple retention structures in the Village of Lowville and adjacent portions of the Town of Lowville; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County, in collaboration with several public and private partners, would work with those partners to split the 10% match requirement for projects applicable to each host location;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the submission of an application to the New York State Department of State (NYS DOS) Community Resilience and Flood Risk Reduction Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000 to improve watershed resiliency through the construction of multiple retention structures in the Village of Lowville and adjacent portions of the Town of Lowville, and further authorizes the County to contribute a portion of the required 10% local match associated with the grant.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Legislators, be and the same, is hereby authorized to sign and submit the application and, if awarded, to accept and appropriate the funding, sign contract documents along with any non-financial amendments thereto upon such terms acceptable to the County Attorney.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 139 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A THREE-YEAR RENEWAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND 9280-0366 QUEBEC INC. (DBA TRANSIT) FOR THE TRANSIT ROYALE BUS TRACKING APP FOR THE LEWIS COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

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

WHEREAS, the Planning & Community Development Department has been renewing annual agreements for the Transit Royale app which provides real time bus schedules, trip planning, and bus tracking for users of the Lewis County Public Transportation System with 5% annual renewal increases which is funded under the federal CARES/5311 transit funding ; and

WHEREAS, Royale's parent company, 9280-0366 Quebec Inc. (dba Transit), has proposed a renewal to provide such services for a three-year period, from July 19, 2026 through July 18, 2029, at a total cost of \$27,500.00 (\$9,166.67 annually); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to authorize this agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves a three-year renewal agreement between the County of Lewis and 9280-0366 Quebec Inc. (dba Transit) for provision of its Transit Royale app for users of the Lewis County Public Transportation System, from July 19, 2026 through July 18, 2029, at a cost not to exceed \$27,500.00, to be paid under the Planning & Community Development Department's federal CARES/5311 transportation funding account.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators, together with the Director, is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, upon such form as may be approved by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 140 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A NYS EFC GREEN RESILIENCY
GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION**

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

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department has been assisting various municipalities, non-profits, and public partners with mitigation efforts related to the 2024 flooding event; and

WHEREAS, the New York State EFC Green Resiliency Grant Program is offering a grant for eligible projects that improve water quality and mitigate the effects of extreme weather, with a minimum request of \$1,000,000 and a maximum request of \$10,000,000, and a 10% match; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department wishes to develop, with the input and collaboration of various public and private partners, a NYS EFC Green Resiliency Grant Program Application in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to mitigate future flooding events through the construction of multiple retention structures in the Village of Lowville; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County, in collaboration with several public and private partners, would work with the partners to split the 10% match requirement on the projects applicable to each host location;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the submission of an application to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYS EFC) Green Resiliency Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000 to support the construction of multiple stormwater retention structures in the Village of Lowville and adjacent portions of the Town of Lowville, intended to mitigate future flooding, and further authorizes the County to contribute a portion of the required 10% local match associated with the grant.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Legislators, be and the same, is hereby authorized to sign and submit the application and, if awarded, to accept and appropriate the funding, sign contract documents along with any non-financial amendments thereto upon such terms acceptable to the County Attorney.

Section 3. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 2nd day of June 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 141 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION FOR NYS DHSES PSAP
GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING**

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

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis, by and through the Lewis County Sheriff Department, desires to apply for a NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) PSAP grant to enhance and sustain the County's 911 operations; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County can apply for up to \$359,466.00, with no match required; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to authorize this application, and if awarded funds, to authorize agreements and appropriate the funds;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Lewis County Sheriff Department to submit a NYS DHSES PSAP Grant application for up to \$359,466.00.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators be and the same is hereby authorized to electronically sign and submit the application and any documents required under the application.

Section 3. In the event the County is awarded grant funds, the Board of Legislators hereby authorizes acceptance of the award, authorizes the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to execute any grant agreement and other documents required to accept the award, upon review and approval of the County Attorney, and directs the Treasurer to appropriate the awarded funds into appropriate 911 accounts.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 142 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION FOR NYS DHSES SICG
GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING**

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

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis, by and through the Lewis County Sheriff Department, desires to apply for a NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) SICG Grant to improve the interoperability and operability of the County's communication systems; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County can apply for up to \$1,146,942.00, with no match required; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to authorize this application, and if awarded funds, to authorize agreements and appropriate the funds;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Lewis County Sheriff Department to submit a NYS DHSES SICG Grant application for up to \$1,146,942.00.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators be and the same is hereby authorized to electronically sign and submit the application and any documents required under the application.

Section 3. In the event the County is awarded grant funds, the Board of Legislators authorizes acceptance of the award, authorizes the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to execute any grant agreement and other documents required to accept the award, upon review and approval of the County Attorney; and directs the Treasurer to appropriate the awarded funds into appropriate 911 accounts.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 143 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEWIS
AND VENESKY & COMPANY FOR EVOLVING TECHNOLOGY FOR THE DSS
ACCOUNTING UNIT**

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

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Department of Social Services seeks to enter into an agreement for evolving technology for the DSS Accounting Unit in order to support its accounting operations; and

WHEREAS, Venesky & Company, 6114 State Route 31, Cicero, NY 13039, will provide evolving technology services with detailed scope of work for the DSS Accounting Unit for a one-time payment in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00 for the period from June 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027. Starting January 1, 2028 there will be a \$4,000.00 annual cost for the Track with JACK (TWJ) System; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators seeks to authorize this agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an agreement with Venesky & Company to provide evolving technology for the DSS Accounting Unit, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00, for the period June 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027. Commencing January 1, 2028, there will be an annual cost of \$4,000.00 for the Track with JACK (TWJ) time allocation system, inclusive of end user licenses and cloud services as set forth in the Agreement.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators, be and the same is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, upon such form as may be approved by the County Attorney.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 144 - 2026

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE HAW CAPITAL PROJECT ACCOUNTS

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

WHEREAS, the Bridge Project known as Crofoot Hill Rd Bridge NY has been completed and no further financial activity is anticipated; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Treasurer has recommended the closure of the associated capital project accounts and the reconciliation and reallocation of any remaining balances;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Lewis County Treasurer to close the following capital project accounts and make the necessary budgetary adjustments:

HAW – Crofoot Hill Rd Bridge NY

Increase Revenue:

H0513000 328910 TOWN	\$1,061,718.76
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Decrease Revenue:

H0512000 335910 NYS	\$1,000,000.00
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Increase Expense:

H0512000 499900 CONTRACT	\$61,718.76
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No cash to appropriate

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 145 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONSULTING AGREEMENT RENEWAL
BETWEEN LEWIS COUNTY AND GILROY, KERNAN & GILROY, INC. ("GKG") FOR
HEALTH BENEFIT PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION**

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

WHEREAS, Lewis County ("County") wishes to continue the services of Gilroy, Kernan & Gilroy, Inc. ("GKG"), to provide strategic health benefit planning, design, funding, administration and meetings with county government teams and employees; and

WHEREAS, the cost of these services are \$155,000.00 annually, with a pro-rated cost of \$129,167.00 for the initial period of June 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize the renewal agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes a renewal agreement with Gilroy, Kernan & Gilroy, Inc., effective June 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027, at a cost not to exceed \$129,167.00, with annual renewals at a cost not exceed \$155,000.00.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver such Agreement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Frost, and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 146 - 2026

**APPOINTING LONNY SNYDER 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 November 2025; and

WHEREAS, Lonny Snyder 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 Lonny Snyder of Lowville, New York, as a member of the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board to serve a two-year term.

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

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Lonny Snyder for his 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 Lonny Snyder 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 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 147 - 2026

**APPOINTING MEGAN MAROLF 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; and

WHEREAS, Megan Marolf of Copenhagen, 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 Megan Marolf of Copenhagen, New York, as a member of the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board to serve a two-year term.

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

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Megan Marolf 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 Megan Marolf 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 2nd day of June, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 148 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING SARAH ELGALLAD TO THE
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, the participation of student representatives provides valuable perspective and insight to the Youth Bureau Advisory Board, ensuring that the interests and needs of young people in the community are effectively represented; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Elgallad of Lowville Academy & Central School, has been recommended by the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board to serve as a student representative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Sarah Elgallad of Lowville Academy & Central School as a student representative on the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 2. The term of this appointment shall be effective June 3, 2026 and shall terminate either on the date of her high school graduation or upon ceasing to be a full-time high school student, whichever occurs first.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Sarah Elgallad 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 Sarah Elgallad and to the Director of the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Frost , and adopted on the 2nd day of June, 2026.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Legislator Kalamas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:41 p.m., seconded by Legislator Frost, and carried.