

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 21-296

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SALARIES FOR
ELECTED OFFICIALS

WHEREAS, RCW 36.17.020 authorizes the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) as the County legislative authority to establish the salaries of the elected officials of the County; and

WHEREAS, Resolution 16-234 set the salary of the Sheriff to be compensated a salary 5 percent greater than the salary paid to the Undersheriff of Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the BOCC established the Lewis County Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials ("LC Salary Commission") via Resolution 01-317 on September 10, 2001, and reconvened the Salary Commission via Resolution 19-152 on May 20, 2019, in accordance with RCW 36.17.024; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution 19-152, the BOCC directed the LC Salary Commission to set salaries for the three Commissioner positions and to review and provide recommendations regarding the salaries for the elected positions of Auditor, Assessor, Clerk, Coroner, Prosecuting Attorney and Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution No. 20-377, the BOCC set the salaries for the elected offices of Auditor, Assessor, Clerk, Coroner, Prosecuting Attorney and Treasurer at the recommendation of the LC Salary Commission on October 26, 2020, to be effective October 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the salaries of Lewis County elected officials should be fair and representative of the responsibilities of the office and should be in proper relation among elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County elected officials are not included on a wage matrix and do not receive annual step increases such as those received by union-represented employees; and

WHEREAS, the BOCC seeks to create a relationship between the salaries of the elected positions of Auditor, Assessor, Clerk, Coroner, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff and Treasurer in Lewis County and the salary of a Superior Court Judge, which is set by the Washington Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials; and

WHEREAS, per RCW 36.17.020, the State of Washington contributes an amount equal to one-half of the salary of a Superior Court Judge toward the salary of the elected Prosecuting Attorney; and

WHEREAS, effective on July 1, 2021, the Washington Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials adopted the 2021-2022 Salary Schedule for Washington State Elected Officials of the Executive, Judicial and Legislative Branches of Government, which increases the salary for a Superior Court Judge to \$199,675, effective July 1, 2021, and to \$203,169 effective July 1, 2022.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that effective immediately, the BOCC (1) removes the offices Auditor, Assessor, Clerk, Coroner, Prosecuting Attorney and Treasurer from the LC Salary Commission’s review and (2) rescinds Resolution 16-234, which tied the Sheriff’s salary to that of the Undersheriff; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BOCC ties the annual salary for certain Lewis County elected positions to a percentage of the salary for a Superior Court Judge as follows in TABLE “A” and makes those salaries effective September 1, 2021

TABLE "A" ELECTED OFFICIAL	ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARY ESTABLISHED AS A PERCENT OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE'S SALARY (EFFECTIVE 9/1/2021)
Assessor	45.5%
Auditor	45.5%
Clerk	45.5%
Coroner	45.5%
Prosecuting Attorney	95.0%
Sheriff	68.0%
Treasurer	45.5%

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any increases to salaries for the elected positions of Assessor, Auditor, Clerk, Coroner, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff and Treasurer, based on increases to the salary of a Superior Court Judge per the Washington Citizens’ Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials in subsequent years (2022 and beyond) shall become effective January 1 of the following year and shall be ratified by the Board of County Commissioners during the budget approval process each year. (e.g. The BOCC will review and ratify those Lewis County Elected Official Salaries increases tied to a 2022 Superior Court Judge salary increase during the 2023 budget review and approval process, for adoption and implementation on January 1, 2023); and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the BOCC shall entrust the LC Salary Commission, per RCW 36.17.024, to set salaries for the Lewis County Commissioners; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that effective immediately, this resolution repeals and replaces Resolutions 16-234 and 20-377 and all prior salary determination practices for the elected positions of Assessor, Auditor, Clerk, Coroner, Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff and Treasurer.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION this 10th day of August, 2021.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Jonathan Meyer, Prosecuting Attorney

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Kevin A. McDowell
By: Kevin A. McDowell,
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Gary Stamper
Gary Stamper, Chair

ATTEST:



Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM
Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Vice Chair

Rieva Lester
Rieva Lester,
Clerk of the Lewis County Board of
County Commissioners

Sean D. Swope
Sean D. Swope, Commissioner