



Resolution Cover Sheet

This form is mandatory and must accompany each resolution.

Name of District: _____

District Address: _____

Date of Election: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

2nd Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

2nd Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Attorney for District: _____

Attorney Phone: _____ Attorney Email: _____

Type of Election (levy, bond, lid lift, sales tax, etc.): _____

Pass/Fail requirement for this measure as determined by your legal counsel: _____

Simple majority or majority 50% +1 Supermajority or 60%

Applicable statutory reference as determined by legal counsel: _____

Validation requirement as determined by your legal counsel. The minimum number of voters "required" to turnout (cast a ballot) in an excess levy or bond election.

This issue requires validation: Yes No

This form must accompany each resolution filed with Lewis County Elections. The contact person or persons should have the authority to do so and be available to answer questions.

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 24-226

SUBMIT AN AUTHORIZING PROPOSITION TO THE VOTERS OF LEWIS COUNTY TO FIX AND IMPOSE A SALES AND USE TAX OF TWO-TENTHS OF 1 PERCENT PURSUANT TO RCW 82.14.420 TO BE USED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FUNDS FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE OPERATIONS OF 911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS AND FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Revised Code of Washington 82.14.420 authorizes county legislative authorities to submit a proposition to county voters to fix and impose a sales and use tax of up to two-tenths of 1 (one) percent to provide funds associated with the maintenance and operations of emergency communications systems and facilities; and

WHEREAS, the long-term financial support of 911 communications systems is critical for the health and safety of county citizens, tourists and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County 911 Communications is the 24-hour primary public safety answering point of 911 calls and provides dispatch services to the all police, fire, EMS and other related entities in Lewis County, who are all members of an Interlocal agreement with Lewis County and each have an appointed representative on the Combined User Committee; and

WHEREAS, the appointed representatives of the Combined User Committee have met and determined that a crucial need exists to fund critical infrastructure and operations of the emergency communications center in order to provide vital public safety service to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) deems it to be in the best interest of the County and its constituents to submit such a proposition to the County voters.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED (1) There shall be submitted to the voters of Lewis County, Washington, at the next General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, a ballot proposition which, if approved by the voters, will fix and impose a sales and use tax in accordance with the terms of the Chapter 82.14.420 RCW at the rate of two-tenths of one percent of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or the value of the article used, in the case of a use tax, which tax shall be in addition to any other taxes authorized by law and which shall be collected from those persons who are taxable by the state under Chapters 82.08 and 82.12 RCW upon the occurrence of any taxable event within Lewis County, to be used solely for the purpose of providing funds for the costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping and improvements of the Lewis County 911 public safety communications systems and facilities.

(2) The Lewis County Auditor is hereby directed that the following proposition shall be placed before the voters on the November General Election Ballot:

Proposition No. _____

Lewis County, WA

Two-tenths of One Percent Sales and Use Tax for

Emergency 911 Communications Systems and Facilities

The Lewis County Board of County Commissioners adopted Resolution No. _____ concerning a proposition to increase the sales and use tax. The proposition would increase the sales and use tax within Lewis County by two-tenths of one percent for the purpose of providing funds for the costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, re-equipping and improvements of emergency communications systems and facilities.

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes ()

No ()

DONE IN OPEN SESSION this 9th day of July, 2024.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Jonathan Meyer, Prosecuting Attorney

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

David Bailey
By: David Bailey,
Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Scott J. Brummer
Scott J. Brummer, Chair

ATTEST:



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

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

Sean D. Swope
Sean D. Swope, Commissioner



RECEIVED 8/2/2024

RIVERSIDE FIRE AUTHORITY

1818 Harrison Avenue, Centralia, WA 98531 360-736-3975

Prepare · Prevent · Save · Serve

June 12, 2024

Lewis County Board of County Commissioners
351 NW North St
Chehalis, WA 98531

RE: Support of 911 Sales & Use Tax Ballot Measure

We the undersigned, write to you today in support of a ballot measure for a 911 Sales and Use tax as defined by Washington RCW 82.14.420. As defined in the RCW, "Moneys received from any tax imposed under this section must be used solely for the purpose of providing funds for costs associated with financing, design, acquisition, construction, equipping, operating, maintaining, remodeling, repairing, reequipping and improvement of emergency communication systems and facilities."

The current funding model relies solely on fees gathered from user agencies; those agencies themselves are faced with financial burdens that hamper their own operations. Furthermore, it is not in the best interest in the long-term for 911 to be reliant solely on user agency funding. As a necessary and vital public service, 911 to the extent possible should be independently funded to ensure ongoing stable operations.

We recognize that it is ultimately up to the will of the people of Lewis County to support this initiative; but we do ask that the Board of County Commissioners for Lewis County support presenting the option to the public. We support the proposition of 2/10th of one percent option for the sales tax.

RFA BOFC Position 1

RFA BOFC Position 2

RFA BOFC Position 3

RFA BOFC Position 4

RFA BOFC Position 5

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Stations at Centralia · Hanaford Valley · Seminary Hill · Cooks Hill
Lincoln Creek · Independence · Garrard Creek

www.riversidefire.net

Citizens for Lewis County 911 PAC

Letter of Support for 911 Ballot Measure

Submitted by Anthony Mixer, President, CLC911

To the Board of County Commissioners,

Greetings, and thank you for taking the time to hear from our organization on proposing a ballot measure to add a 2/10 of 1% sales and use tax increase to fund Lewis County's 911 dispatch center.

This is a much needed proposal. Our community is heavily reliant on making sure that they will receive help when dialing 9-1-1, and the communications systems used for dispatch must be upgraded with the latest technology to keep them up to date. Staffing levels need to be increased to maintain a good functioning work environment as well.

Our first responders recognized these needs and have dialed 9-1-1 to the community asking for help. I believe we will respond accordingly with this proposal and we are asking for the community's support. I will once again remind people that this does not affect your property taxes, and that a sales and use tax increase actually allows for visitors to also contribute, and some visitors may end up using our 911 resources should they ever be in distress.

We realize that in 2023, this similar measure failed to pass by about 400 votes. This was due to not getting the word out about this measure, and it was an odd number year election. (Odd years tend to see lower voter turnout than even number years.) It is also a presidential election year, so voter turnout will be high. Our Citizens for Lewis County 911 PAC will take up the task of pushing for voter engagement with the measure, and using media and advertising resources to ask voters to vote yes for 911. I am fully confident that Lewis County voters will say yes to this proposal.

I want to thank the Lewis County Commissioners for listening to our request and giving consideration to supporting our emergency services.

Sincerely,
Anthony Mixer
President, Citizens for Lewis County 911

admin@lcfpd5.com
PO Box 259, Napavine, WA 98565
Phone: 360-262-3320
FAX: 360-262-3893



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COMMISSIONERS:
Sam Patrick, Chair
Sandra White
Mike Goodwillie

Gregg Peterson, Fire Chief
Chief5100@lcfpd5.com

June 14, 2024

To the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners,

In support of the numerous first responders in Lewis County including law enforcement, fire services, ambulance personnel and our 911 dispatchers, we the undersigned of:

Lewis County Fire District #5

are in support of the proposed 2/10's of 1% sales and use tax and would like to see it placed in front of the voters in the upcoming general election in November of 2024. This was unanimously agreed to at our regularly scheduled meeting on June 14, 2024.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Patrick', written over a horizontal line.

Sam Patrick
Fire Commissioner, Board Chair

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'Sandra White', written over a horizontal line.

Sandra White
Fire Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Goodwillie', written over a horizontal line.

Mike Goodwillie
Fire Commissioner

RECEIVED 8/2/2024

Cowlitz County-Lewis County Fire Protection District #20

June 12, 2024

To the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners,

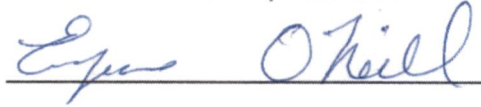
In support of the numerous first responders in Lewis County including law enforcement, fire services, ambulance personnel and our 911 dispatchers, we the undersigned of:

Cowlitz-Lewis Fire District #20

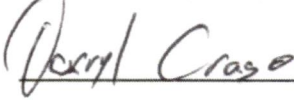
are in support of the proposed 2/10's of 1% sales and use tax and would like to see it placed in front of the voters in the upcoming general election in November of 2024. This was unanimously agreed to at our regularly scheduled meeting on June 12, 2024.



Paul Jensen
Fire Commissioner, Board Chair



Eugene O'Neill
Fire Commissioner



Darryl Crago
Fire Commissioner

Dated this 12th day of June, 2024

"SAFEGUARDING OUR NEIGHBORS"

P.O. Box 194 – Vader, WA 98593 – cowlitzlewisfd20@centurylink.net
Office (360) 295-0906 - Fax (360) 295-0907



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WINLOCK FIRE & RESCUE

Commissioners: Ray Shipman • Grant Kistler • Randy Pennington
Fire Chief: Richard Underdahl • Secretary: Amy Archer

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

To the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners,

In support of the numerous first responders in Lewis County including law enforcement, fire services, ambulance personnel and our 911 dispatchers, we the undersigned of:

Lewis County Fire District #15 – Winlock Fire & Rescue

are in support of the proposed 2/10's of 1% sales and use tax and would like to see it placed in front of the voters in the upcoming general election in November of 2024. This was unanimously agreed to at our regularly scheduled meeting on June 11th, 2024.

Ray Shipman
Fire Commissioner, Board Chair

Dated this 11th day of June, 2024

BOCC AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

RECEIVED 8/2/2024

Resolution:

BOCC Meeting Date: July 9, 2024

Suggested Wording for Agenda Item:

Agenda Type: Deliberation

Submit an authorizing proposition to the voters of Lewis County to fix and impose a Sales and Use tax of two-tenths of 1 percent pursuant to RCW 82.14.420 to be used solely for the purpose of providing funds for costs associated with the operations of 911 emergency communications systems and facilities

Contact: Jennifer Libby-Jones

Phone: 3607403394

Department: COMM - 911

Description:

Submitting a request to authorize the addition of a Sales and Use tax pursuant to Chapter 82.14.420 RCW to the November 2024 ballot to fund the operations of the Lewis County 911 emergency communications systems and facilities

Approvals:

Publication Requirements:

Publications:

User	Status
PA's Office	Approved

Additional Copies:

Cover Letter To:

Election Date: November 5, 2024
Name of Submitting Jurisdiction: Lewis County
Contact Name: Jennifer Libby-Jones
Daytime Contact Phone Number: (360) 740-3394

PROPOSITION NO. _____
(Sales and Use Tax for Emergency Communication Systems and Facilities)

LEWIS COUNTY BALLOT ISSUE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Lewis County is placing a measure on the November general election ballot which, if approved by the voters, will fix and impose a sales and use tax to be used by 911 Communications in accordance with the terms of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 82.14.420 at the rate of two-tenths of one percent (0.2%).

Lewis County 911 Communications is the 24-hour primary public safety answering point of 911 calls and provides dispatch services to all police, fire, EMS and other related entities in Lewis County, who are all members of an interlocal agreement with Lewis County. The current funding model relies predominately on fees gathered from user agencies. The basic dispatch needs are currently maintained at minimal levels. However, the ability to fund replacement infrastructure and equipment and improvements is not attainable by the current funding model.

RCW 82.14.420 authorizes Lewis County to submit a proposition to county voters to fix and impose a sales and use tax of up to 0.2% to provide funding which must be used for the maintenance and operations of emergency communications systems and facilities.

If approved by the voters, the sales and use tax would provide Lewis County 911 Communications with an independent funding source and reduce reliance on user agencies. The independent funding source would stabilize funding for existing operations, allow for the replacement of outdated infrastructure and equipment, and allow for the implementation of new technologies ensuring the best possible 911 services to the people of Lewis County.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Auditor's Office
FROM: David E. Bailey, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
RE: Approval of Ballot Language and Explanatory Statement / Emergency 911
DATE: August 6, 2024

Our office has reviewed the proposed levy for the Lewis County Emergency 911 Communications Systems and Facilities to impose a 0.2% sales tax. The ballot language and explanatory statement are impartial, written in clear and concise language, avoid the use of legal and technical terms whenever possible, and do not exceed statutory word limits.

Our office approves as to form.