

Disability Advisory Committee Minutes

9/30/2025

The Disability Advisory Committee met at 2:30pm on September 30, 2025 at the Lewis County Historic Courthouse Election Processing room.

Committee Attendees:

Larry Grove/Auditor

Tom Stanton/Chief Deputy

Jolene Manuel/Elections Manager

Heather Sorgen/Elections Specialist

Matt Patana/Capital Infrastructure Specialist

Carolyn (Carol) Brock/Senior Center

Victoria Romero/Lewis County Accessible Recreation Program (excused absence)

Welcomed/Introductions:

Elections Manager Jolene Manuel introduced herself and asked that all attendees introduce themselves.

Approval of last meeting minutes:

Jolene went over the last minutes. There was a short discussion regarding what an AVU (Accessible Voting Unit) is and how it works. Jolene mentioned that the office now has stickers to add to the buttons to allow braille reading people access the ballot independently now. Larry motioned to approve and Matt seconded. The minutes were approved.

Facilities Updates:

Jolene mentioned that facilities has been very good about making sure the building is open election nights. Matt offered to be a backup for the office to contact if there are any issues election night. Tom explained that the Courthouse drive-up box was placed a little high. The cement slab was too tall. Facilities was able to order custom legs to replace the legs on the box, bringing it back down to ADA compliant height.

Other Business:

Jolene let the committee know that the state is now offering audible voter guides to any voter who needs it. It will be most beneficial in an election with lots of state issues as it will only include state offices and measures.

Jolene went over the new DAC Plan. Matt asked how the office usually lets people know about the AVU. Tom said there is information in all ballot packets as well as in the Local Voters' Pamphlet and on the website.

Carol asked if there were any issues with any of the ballot drop boxes. Larry said none. Matt asked if there were any plans to add in more boxes. Larry explained the law that governs ballot drop box locations and said there is no plan to add any boxes at this time. There was a short discussion regarding ballot box security. Carol said the plan looked good and covered everything.

New Business:

Larry mentioned that the bathrooms here in the courthouse are not ADA compliant. The doors do not have a button to push to open. Matt explained how to get that taken care of by facilities and promised to send the forms to Larry for submission.

Next meeting will be early September/October 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 3:06pm