BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION NO. 22-315

NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING ORDINANCE 1338, WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT UNAUTHORIZED CAMPING ON COUNTY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the public health and safety concerns related to encampments have generated citizen complaints and resulted in the unsanitary disposal of garbage and solid waste; and

WHEREAS, behaviors associated with encampments have resulted in a variety of problems that include, but are not limited to: uncontained fires; damage to trees, landscaping, public lands, and other natural areas; contaminated hypodermic needles left on the ground; and biohazards such as exposed human waste; and

WHEREAS, there are threats to the health and safety of the campers themselves and to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will hold a public hearing to take public testimony about and then consider passage of proposed Ordinance 1338, which would prohibit unauthorized camping on county lands; and

WHEREAS, the hearing will take place at or after 10 a.m. Oct. 25, 2022, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room on the second floor of the historic courthouse at 351 N.W. North Street in Chehalis.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BOCC will hold a public hearing in the Commissioners' Hearing Room on the second floor of the historic courthouse at 351 N.W. North Street in Chehalis at or after 10 a.m. Oct. 25, 2022, to consider and take public testimony about proposed Ordinance 1338, which would (1) prohibit unauthorized camping on county lands and (2) add Chapter 8.60 to Lewis County Code; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Board is hereby instructed to proceed with all appropriate and necessary notifications, postings and publications as required by law.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION this 4th day of October, 2022.

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 Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair

ATTEST:

Sean D. Swope

F. Lee Grose

Sean D. Swope, Vice Chair

Rieva Lester

Rieva Lester.

Clerk of the Lewis County Board of

F. Lee Grose, Commissioner

County Commissioners

Res. 22-315

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE LEWIS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND INTENT TO ADOPT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS will hold a public hearing to adopt Ordinance 1338. The hearing will take place at or after 10 a.m. on October 25, 2022, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room on the second floor of the Historic Courthouse in Chehalis, Washington. Interested parties are encouraged to check the Commissioners' Business Meeting agenda for the Zoom log-in details. The agenda will be posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at:

https://lewiscountywa.gov/offices/commissioners/agendas-calendar/

The public hearing will consider Ordinance 1338, which would add to the Lewis County Code (LCC) Chapter 8.60, relating to encampments and camping on county-owned lands. The ordinance would prohibit camping on county-owned lands, except in areas specifically designated and posted for such purpose.

During the hearing, individuals will be invited to speak and/or provide written statements regarding the proposed changes. All individuals wishing to speak are encouraged to attend. Written comments may be submitted in advance of the hearing by emailing BOCC@lewiscountywa.gov at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing date -- please indicate "Camping Ordinance" in the subject line of the email.

Details about the proposal will be available online at the agenda link provided above. The draft is subject to change before or at the hearing. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the proposals, contact Rieva Lester at Rieva.Lester@lewiscountywa.gov or 360-740-1419 and a copy will be mailed to you.

The meeting site is barrier free. People needing special assistance or accommodations should contact Rieva Lester at 360-740-1419 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Publish in The Chronicle / Oct. 4 and Oct. 6, 2022

ORDINANCE XXXX

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF LEWIS, PROHIBITING)	ORD. XXXX
CAMPING ON COUNTY LANDS AND ADDING A CHAPTER 8.60)	
OF THE LEWIS COUNTY CODE)	

WHEREAS, the public health and safety concerns related to encampments have generated citizen complaints and resulted in the unsanitary disposal of garbage and solid waste;

WHEREAS, behaviors associated with encampments have resulted in a variety of problems that include, but are not limited to: uncontained fires; damage to trees, landscaping, public lands, and other natural areas; contaminated hypodermic needles left on the ground; and biohazards such as exposed human waste;

WHEREAS, there are threats to the health and safety of the campers themselves and to the community; and

WHEREAS, the BOCC has reviewed the below proposed ordinance at an open public hearing and it appearing to be in the best public interest;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the BOCC hereby adopts the following code provisions and amendments as follows:

1. Lewis County hereby adds an additional Chapter 8.60 of the Lewis County Code as shown below:

8.60.010 - Definitions.

For purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions apply:

- A. "Camp" means erecting a tent or shelter or arranging bedding or both, for the purpose of, or in such a way that permits, remaining overnight, or parking a trailer, camper, or other vehicle for the purpose of remaining overnight.
- B. "County property" means any County-owned real property.
- C. "Vehicle" means every device capable of being moved upon a public highway and in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway. Bicycles shall not be considered vehicles for purposes of this Chapter.

8.60.020 - Camping Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to camp on any County property, except in areas specifically designated and posted for those purposes.

8.60.030 - Violation is civil infraction.

Violation of the rules and regulations promulgated under this chapter shall be a civil infraction and the provisions of Lewis County Code Section 1.20.040 shall be applicable.

8.60.040 - Effective date.

The effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter shall be the first day of December, 2022.

AND FURTHERMORE, the code reviser may make such editorial changes to the online code as are appropriate in light of its passage.

PASSED IN REGULAR SESSION THIS	DAY OF, 2022, following a public hearing XXXXX, 2022.	
APPROVED AS TO FORM: Jonathan Meyer, Prosecutor	BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON	
By: Kevin A. McDowell, Deputy Prosecutor	Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair	
ATTEST:	Sean D. Swope, Vice Chair	
Rieva Lester, Clerk of the Board F. Lee Grose, Commissioner		

BOCC AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Resolution:

BOCC Meeting Date: Oct. 4, 2022

Suggested Wording for Agenda Item:

Agenda Type: Legal Notice

Notice of hearing regarding Ordinance 1338, which would prohibit unauthorized camping on county property

Contact: Rieva Lester

Phone: 360-740-1419

Department: BOCC - Board of County Commissioners

Description:

Hearing will take place at or after 10 a.m. Oct. 25

Approvals:

User Status PA's Office Approved

Publication Requirements:

Publications:

The Chronicle: Oct. 4 and 11, 2022

Additional Copies:

Kevin McDowell

Cover Letter To: