



WE DESERVE
TO HAVE A
VOICE AGAIN
IN COUNTY GOVT.

THE CURRENT SYSTEM IS BROKEN

Poor fiscal management:

Run away spending has caused dipping into the County savings account to balance the budget.

Continued lawsuits:

Costly, unprofessional behaviors from Commissioners and bureaucrats result in lawsuits costing taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars to settle.

Lack of leadership vision:

The County does not set forth a vision for a healthy, productive, growing community and has not partnered well with key community organizations.

Incompetent management:

Problems surrounding poor management include Senior Centers, 911 Call Center, Discover Lewis County and the WSU Extension.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION

onelewiscounty.com

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What are we doing and why?

We are leading an effort designed to change Lewis County government in two important ways:

1. Increase the number of County Commissioners from three full time to five part time. This provides increased representation for our County.
2. Add a professional County Manager to oversee day-to-day operations.

This requires a change to what is called a "Home Rule" Charter County. This allows for more than three County Commissioners. We propose to adjust the role of the County Commissioners from one that is responsible for the day-to-day running of the County Manager to one that focuses on policy matters. They would be paid significantly less than today, resulting in a cost saving that would make room in the budget for an adequately paid, professional County Manager.

4 REASONS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH CHANGE IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

1. Cost Savings

We estimate that Lewis County will save **\$165,000** with this change. Part time County Commissioners would be paid \$1,000 a month plus benefits. The County Manager would be paid within a salary range of \$150,000 plus benefits. This is a more appropriate use of taxpayer dollars.

2. Better Representation

Five Part time Commissioners versus three provide better representation. This eliminates "Professional" politicians and helps us gain servant leaders that care about more than just earning a paycheck.

3. Professional Management

An appointed professional County Manager will bring stability and expertise to Lewis County government. This individual will have experience planning and administering a public budget, as well as providing direction to County department heads. A professional County Manager will have knowledge of current HR laws, reducing employee-related lawsuits.

4. Transparency

Conduct the people's business in the open instead of behind closed doors. Move Commissioner meetings to the evening when working citizens can attend.

Swing by the Chamber to sign our petition or to provide financial support to this initiative.



Centralia - Chehalis
Chamber of Commerce

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