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**NOTICE**

**TO:** Members of the Lewis County Human Services Committee

**FROM:** Cassandra Moser, Clerk of the Board

**DATE:** April 23, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Human Services Committee Meeting

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The Lewis County Human Services Committee will hold its regular meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 1:45 p.m. in the Legislative Board Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Lewis County Courthouse, Lowville, New York.

Attached is a list of agenda items for the meeting which will be live-streamed on the Lewis County YouTube channel at: [Lewis County - YouTube](#).

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cc:	Community Services	Public Health
	Lewis County Health System	Sheriff
	Office for the Aging	Social Services/Youth Bureau
	Probation	Veterans' Service Agency

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA – April 28, 2026**

**Call to Order:**

- Legislator Tom Kalamas, Chair.

**Roll Call:**

- Clerk of the Board records attendance.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Motion to approve minutes from March 31, 2026.

**Presentations / Discussion Items:**

- Advocate Drum – Dave Zembiec, Advocate Drum Chair (15 minutes)
- Next Move NY – Ben Cruz, Next Move NY Program Administrator (15 minutes)

**Draft Resolutions:**

1. Authorizing the creation of a Lewis County Health System Stabilization Reserve to support the financial stability of the Lewis County Health System. The reserve will be used to address unexpected financial needs, including deficits, intergovernmental transfer payments, and other liabilities. The County Treasurer is authorized to establish the reserve and make an initial transfer of \$1.5 million from the 2026 budget. Future funding additions require legislative approval, and withdrawals are permitted either through the approved annual budget or by separate legislative resolution.
2. Authorizing an agreement between the Lewis County Public Health Agency and Beaver River Central School to provide preschool tuition-based special education services for children with disabilities, as required under New York State Education Law. The agreement will run from September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027, with automatic annual renewals unless terminated with 90 days' notice. Costs will be based on state-approved rates and the number of children served.
3. Amending the Lewis County Compensation Plan to address staffing needs within the Sheriff's Office. It abolishes one full-time Chief Deputy position and one part-time Civil Clerk position and creates one full-time Jail Nurse position to improve medical staffing at the correctional facility and ensure compliance with state regulations. The change is cost-neutral and effective retroactively from February 27, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

4. Authorizing the transfer of \$8,000 in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds from the Dislocated Workers program to the Adult program for Program Year 2025, covering the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027, in accordance with guidance from the New York State Department of Labor.

**Unfinished Business:**

**New Business:**

**Executive Session:**

**Adjournment:**

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Additional Information

- If any committee member has inquiries regarding agenda items, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_ - 2026**

**RESOLUTION TO CREATE HEALTH SYSTEM STABILIZATION RESERVE**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, Lewis County Health System (LCHS) is an entity of the County of Lewis and ultimately the taxpayers of Lewis County are responsible to ensure the continued operation of the facility; and

WHEREAS, the County and the Health System understand the complexity of health care financing, including the Medicaid Supplement Payments, Intergovernmental Transfers and other inconsistencies of health care operations; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the County, the Health System and our citizens and taxpayers to have a financial stable and successful health system, and a dedicated reserve to set aside funds to manage deficits, unexpected costs, or other circumstances could provide assurance for consistent financial stability;

WHEREAS, the County Legislators and the Health System Board of Managers are in support of creating a Health System Stabilization Reserve;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes the creation of a general fund balance reserve to be titled Lewis County Health System Stabilization Reserve. The Reserve will be created by the County Treasurer and use of the funds is allowed to meet unexpected financial needs of the Health System to include, but not be limited to, payments of Intergovernmental Transfer requests, financial deficits, or other unexpected liabilities the Health System is unable to absorb.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators' approval is required to add additional funds to the reserve. Withdrawals from the reserve that are included in the annual budget of the County are allowed with the authority of the County Treasurer. Withdrawals not included within an annual budget must be approved by Legislative Resolution.

Section 3. The County Treasurer is authorized to make an initial transfer of \$1,500,000 into the Health System Stabilization reserve which consists of funding that was included within the 2026 County Budget.

Section 4. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator \_\_, seconded by Legislator \_\_, and adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

DRAFT

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_ - 2026**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
LEWIS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY AND BEAVER RIVER CENTRAL  
SCHOOL FOR PRESCHOOL TUITION-BASED SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4410 of the New York State Education Law, Lewis County Public Health ("Public Health") is tasked with providing certain Preschool Tuition-Based Services for children with disabilities defined in the Program; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Education requires a contract between the County and the Agency(s) who will be providing such services under the Program; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the program is dependent on the number of children assigned to contracted providers, with rates set and approved by New York State Education Department; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to approve and authorize said agreement with Beaver River Central School;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an agreement with Beaver River Central School, 9508 Artz Road, Beaver Falls, NY 13620, to provide services to the Preschool Tuition-Based Special Education Program for children with special education and health care needs.

Section 2. The agreement period begins September 1, 2026 and runs through August 31, 2027, and shall automatically renew each year unless the contract is terminated by either party, upon ninety (90) days prior written notice; at a cost in accordance with the rates set forth by the State Education Department dependent on the number of children assigned to contracted providers.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, and any amendments thereto, upon review and approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator \_\_, seconded by Legislator \_\_, and adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_ - 2026**

**RESOLUTION AMENDING COMPENSATION PLAN  
WITH REFERENCE TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the New York State Commission of Correction establishes minimum standards for the provision of medical services in local correctional facilities which require adequate and consistent medical staffing to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of incarcerated individuals; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office is responsible for maintaining compliance with all applicable state regulations, including requirements related to administering the Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) program for individuals with substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has identified ongoing challenges in securing sufficient nursing coverage to meet operational needs, regulatory requirements, and continuity of care obligations; and

WHEREAS, insufficient staffing levels create operational strain, increase overtime costs, and present potential compliance risks with state mandates; and

WHEREAS, the addition of one (1) full-time Jail Nurse position will enhance the facility's ability to meet required standards and ensure continuity of medical services; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has determined that two (2) vacant positions within the Sheriff's Office will remain unfilled and can be eliminated to offset the cost of a new Jail Nurse position;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Legislators hereby amends the Compensation Plan of the County of Lewis with reference to the Sheriff's Office, effective and retroactive to February 27, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for the following:

<u>ABOLISH</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>HOURLY RATE</u>
Chief Deputy	Full-Time	\$29.81 - \$42.43
Civil Clerk	Part-Time	\$29.62 - \$34.09
<u>CREATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>HOURLY RATE</u>
Jail Nurse	Full-Time	\$35.44 - \$40.00

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator \_\_, seconded by Legislator \_\_, and adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

DRAFT

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_ - 2026**

**RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS FOR  
WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The following funds are authorized to be transferred for Program Year 2025 for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027 per the Notice of Obligational Authority (NOA#PY-25-4) dated March 27, 2026 through the New York State Department of Labor:

From:

CD629100 499900 Dislocated Workers \$8,000.00

To:

CD629200 499900 Adult \$8,000.00

Section 2. That the within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator \_\_, seconded by Legislator \_\_, and adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.