

BOCC Wrap-Up / COVID-19 meeting

April 7, 2020

2:34 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Fund (remotely), Commissioner Jackson, County Manager Erik Martin (remotely), Amber Smith (remotely), Lee Napier (remotely), Megan Eastman (remotely), Scott Smitherman (remotely), Steve Walton (remotely), Steve Wohld (remotely), Candace Hallom, Commissioner Stamper (by phone at 2:37 p.m.)

Guests: Frank Corbin (remotely), Dr. Lindsey Pollock (remotely), various other members of the public and press (remotely)

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Erik Martin said the county remains at 16 confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Erik discussed plans to address congregate and non-congregate housing. He said the identified plan is estimated to cost roughly \$2 million. He said the project costs would be reimbursed through FEMA.

Erik said Andy Caldwell is working to secure N95 masks and that the Sheriff's Office has purchased some masks for deputies. Erik said the county has received some lower-priority requests, such as bleach wipes, hand soap and Tyvek suits, and that those will be distributed to area agencies.

Erik said he signed a new policy regarding COVID-19 earlier in the day.

The commissioners discussed their calendars. Commissioner Stamper and Commissioner Fund said they would prefer to hold the Directors' Update meeting later in the day, and they moved the COVID-19 meetings to 3 p.m. weekdays.

Commissioner Fund said Lewis County Together is launching a collaborative effort to help area businesses and residents.

Commissioner Jackson said most of the county's road projects will move forward as planned. He said the Cousins Road project has been stalled due to a drop in gas taxes.

Commissioner Jackson outlined expenses the county already has spent on COVID-19:

- COVID-19-related labor: \$60,000 in the first half of March
- IT: \$60,000 for supplies
- Emergency Management: \$80,000
- Sheriff's Office: couple thousand for masks.

Commissioner Jackson said the county has spent more than \$250,000 so far in response to COVID-19.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.