

BOCC Wrap-Up / COVID-19

April 24, 2020

3:02 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper (remotely), Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson (remotely), County Manager Erik Martin (remotely), Candy Hallom, Andy Caldwell, Amber Smith (remotely), Eric Eisenberg (remotely), Josh Metcalf (remotely), Scott Smitherman (remotely), Steve Wohld (remotely), Larry McGee (remotely), and Lee Napier (remotely).

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Erik Martin talked about Governor Inslee's new information and guidelines that contractors will need to do to get back to work. Lee Napier gave recommendations based on Governor Inslee's Phase 1 construction proclamation. As permits are prepared, they will be issued. Currently they are mailing out permits to customers, but can coordinate drop off/pick up if necessary.

Steve Wohld discussed projects the county is working on to prepare for the eventual reopening of county buildings. They are working on ordering line coordination poles and distancing stickers for offices that will open to the public.

Erik Martin has been communicating with Thurston and Cowlitz County managers to compare processes and reopening best-practice ideas.

Erik Martin said the county has learned of three new cases today. A person in their 40s and two people in their 70s. He said the county's total is 28 confirmed cases with three fatalities.

Andy Caldwell discussed a plan to reach out to adult care facilities. Lewis County has 28 facilities that have 6 or less adults in their care. The Department of Emergency Management is making kits that include surgical masks, reusable cloth masks, goggles, and gloves. He is also helping them so they are aware as to how to re-new their supplies as needed.

State Emergency Management will not seek reimbursement until the middle of May.

Larry McGee stressed social distancing. He said SBA loans will probably last 4-12 hrs. J.P. Anderson and Larry McGee said they are working on toolkits for businesses for a healthy business environment.

Meja Handlen said Lewis County had 17 people on Wednesday and 13 people on Thursday stay at the congregate housing facilities at the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Fund said there have been numerous communications from people requesting to open the county. She also mentioned that all the superintendents from Lewis County got together. School Superintendents from Lewis County are asking for broadband. The schools are helping students with Chromebooks, but online capabilities are a struggle for continuing education. They are asking for PUD to help out. State Public Works Board was granted \$25 million. \$17 million slated to be processed after the WAC is out to help with broadband targeted towards unserved areas.

Josh Metcalf shared the EOC call information about updates for festivals/events. Morton's Loggers Jubilee, Toledo Cheese Days, Packwood Flea Market and the Napavine Funtime Festival are still up for debate to remain on schedule. Winlock Egg Days has been canceled, Chehalis Fest is canceled and Vader May Day is canceled.

Commissioner Stamper asked about getting a message to the county festivals/events for suggestions and guidelines. Erik Martin said to schedule another meeting with Public Health for some specifics.

Meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.