

Update with County Manager

September 2, 2020

9:02 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, County Manager Erik Martin, Lara McRea, Becky Butler, Steve Wohld, Lee Napier, Doyle Sanford, Graham Gowing, Alison Puckett

Guest: Frank Corbin

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Budget

Erik said the BOCC office budget will be reviewed the following week.

Codified County Manager Authority

Erik said the topic will be discussed during the Sept. 9 Directors' Update.

Benaroya update

Erik said the county's contractors are working on Mickelsen Parkway and that Benaroya is working on grading its industrial site and likely will announce a tenant soon.

Erik said the city of Winlock has applied to the .09 committee to receive additional .09 funding to help with its sewer work.

Community Development update

Building inspector: Lee Napier asked for approval for Community Development to hire a building inspector, noting that two building inspector positions currently are frozen and that the county is anticipating the 2021 retirement of a building inspector. Lee said the position will be revenue neutral. She discussed certification requirements for the position. Doyle Sanford discussed the potential position and the selection process.

All three commissioners approved unfreezing the building inspector position and directed Lee to advertise the position.

Permit review: Graham Gowing provided an overview of permits issued year to date.

Winlock Industrial Park permitting: Lee said Winlock and the county executed an interlocal indicating the county will perform permitting in the Urban Growth Area. Lee said the county has issued two grading permits: one for the Mickelsen Parkway project and the other for the Benaroya site. She said additional permit revenue is expected to increase over the year.

Erik Martin said Winlock has hired a new planner. Lee said county staff has fielded some questions from the new planner.

Eagle Cliff update: Lee said Eagle Cliff has completed its H and H study, which appears to allow it to expand into the floodway. However, she said, Eagle Cliff has not yet completed the next steps: the master site plan review, the flood development permit and the DNR's SM6 document. Commissioner Stamper said neighbors have concerns about the pit's hours of operation. Lee said the gravel pit can operate in the area the DNR has permitted but cannot operate outside the area. Commissioner Stamper directed Community Development to reach out to the DNR.

Notice of Violation (NOV) letters: Lee discussed standard language used on the NOV form letters, for which, she said, she had learned Commissioner Stamper had voiced concern: "A civil citation in the amount of two hundred fifty-seven dollars may be issued for each and every day the violation continues beyond the date set for correction by the Lewis County Health Department and/or Community Development. If Lewis County files a citation or complaint, you will be afforded an opportunity to be heard by a court of competent jurisdiction." Lee said the standard language was developed years and years ago.

Erik Martin said the language can be reviewed with Code Enforcement and the Prosecutor's Office.

Commissioner Fund said she would like email addresses added to the standard form letter.

Public Health and Social Services

Fiscal manager: Erik said PHSS has identified a potential hire. He noted that the BOCC approved the new position using CRF funding. He said PHSS is looking at extending the position using other grant funds and savings realized through retirements, etc.

COVID-19: Erik discussed new allocations announced by Commerce.

Flu shots: Erik asked if the county would be interested in contracting to have flu shots offered on-site to county employees.

Commissioner Fund asked what the county's response is or will be regarding potential COVID-19 compliance violations. Erik said he and JP Anderson will meet with Commissioner Fund to discuss the county's role.

Erik discussed the COVID-19 update planned for the following day.

Erik said Risk Pool has some concerns about proposed distance-learning pods for county employees' school-age children. Erik directed Steve Wohld to have Tawni Shepherd reach out to the Risk Pool. Steve discussed workers' comp issues linked to county employment. Erik said one of the counties in the state has a claim regarding a COVID-19 death.

Public Works / DEM update

Solid Waste transfer station proposal: Erik said an outside entity is interested in providing a presentation regarding a cold-waste-to-energy conversion project. Commissioner Fund said the county has been approached by roughly five similar groups over the past several years. The commissioners said they would be open to a presentation.

Middle Fork water update: Erik said the system had another leak. Erik said two of the District 5 commissioners have resigned. He noted that Virgil Fox has not yet resigned, as needed to complete the dissolution process.

911 update

Feasibility study update: Erik said the contractor is in the information-gathering stage. Commissioner Stamper directed Erik to set up an interview between DELTAWRX and Commissioner Jackson.

Commissioner Stamper said he and Josh Metcalf are going to develop an information sheet about the proposal regarding the potential expansion of the Toledo airport.

Commissioner Stamper said he would meet with Sen. Braun regarding the Department of Fish and Wildlife's Columbia River policy revision the following week.

The commissioners reviewed their calendars.

Commissioner Jackson left at 10:29 a.m.

Meeting ended at 10:34 a.m.