

## **Directors' Update**

**September 9, 2020**

**9 a.m.**

Present: Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, Becky Butler, Matt Patana, Josh Metcalf, Tawni Shepherd, Megan Eastman, Doug Carey, Taylor Albright, Kaity Nissell, Katie Conradi, Lee Napier, Scott Smitherman, Janelle Lindsey, Suzette Smith, Alison Puckett, Meja Handlen, Patrick Shults, Lara McRea, JP Anderson, Grace Jimenez, Sara Sons, County Manager Erik Martin (9:22 a.m.), Gary Fredricks

Guests: Frank Corbin, Claudia Yaw, Dr. Lindsey Pollock

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Josh Metcalf discussed a notice of hearing regarding a franchise to City of Winlock to install, construct, operate, and maintain water line facilities in Lewis County rights of way.

Becky Butler discussed a notice of hearing regarding Lewis County 2020 budget emergency and supplemental appropriations to and transfers within current expense and various funds.

Doug Carey discussed a call for bids to provide 2 jail isolation cells.

Josh Metcalf discussed a call for bids for six new Sheriff patrol vehicles.

Rieva Lester noted that the Theo. Hoss Road vacation should be a notice item.

Josh Metcalf discussed the proposed vacation of a portion of the Theo. Hoss Road No. 132.

Josh Metcalf discussed a revision of the existing Organization Chart of the Lewis County Public Works Department.

Tawni Shepherd discussed a resolution to approve defense and indemnification for Sheriff Robert Snaza and his marital community and for Joseph Solberg and his marital community, if any.

Meja Handlen discussed the following resolutions:

- Agreement between Lewis County and The Salvation Army to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Eviction Rental Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$546,330.
- Agreement between Lewis County and Equity Institute to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Eviction Rental Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$96,025.
- Agreement between Lewis County and Housing Resource Center to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Eviction Rental Assistance Program Grant in the amount of \$87,893.
- Agreement between Lewis County and Hope Alliance to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Emergency Solutions COVID19 Grant in the amount of \$79,573.
- Agreement between Lewis County and The Salvation Army to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Emergency Solutions COVID19 Grant in the amount of \$48,471.

- Agreement between Lewis County and Compass Career Solutions to provide inclusion services funding in the amount of \$65,000.
- Agreement between Lewis County and Reliable Enterprises to provide funds through the housing assistance unit Emergency Solutions COVID19 Grant in the amount of \$56,112.
- Agreement between Lewis County and Morningside to provide funds through DDA in the amount of \$302,200.
- Agreement between Lewis County and Reliable Enterprises to provide funds through DDA in the amount of \$278,051.

Josh Metcalf discussed a hearing to approve a franchise to Cardinal FG Company to install, construct, operate and maintain natural gas facilities in Lewis County road rights of way.

Josh Metcalf discussed a hearing to approve a franchise to Cardinal FG Company to install, construct, operate and maintain water line facilities in Lewis County road rights of way.

Commissioner Jackson made a motion to move five notice items, two consent items, 11 deliberation items and two hearings to the Monday, Sept. 14, 2020, BOCC agenda.

Commissioner Fund seconded the motion.

Motion passed 2-0.

## **COVID-19**

JP Anderson noted that the county has seen an uptick in COVID-19 cases.

JP discussed an education forum planned for Sept. 10 as well as plans to hire a consultant to help schools work toward reopening safely.

Erik Martin further discussed the education forum planned for Sept. 10.

Becky Butler discussed additional coronavirus funding being made available for Public Health and Social Services specifically as well as the county in general.

## **Wednesday Workshop**

Erik Martin said some lands in Oregon have been released for harvest in response to the northern spotted owl lawsuit. Erik said Eric Eisenberg has recommended Lewis County submit comment regarding the need to ease conservation rules in Washington as well. Erik said the comments are due in October.

## **Roundtable**

Commissioner Jackson discussed the upcoming education forum along with concerns surrounding virtual learning.

Matt Jaeger said the WSU hotspot equipment has arrived. He discussed increased security.

Josh Metcalf said he and Commissioner Stamper attended the previous night's Toledo City Council meeting to provide facts and clarification regarding the county's efforts surrounding the Toledo airport.

Erik Martin reminded the group to respond to his question about diversity. He also discussed professional development training available.

Matt Patana discussed staffing issues linked to the closure of the Boys and Girls Club. Matt also discussed the upcoming seasonal closure of county parks. He discussed painting projects taking place at the fairgrounds, as well as construction of the Blue Restroom.

Becky Butler discussed the Sept. 28 budget amendment hearing. She said preliminary budgets are due Sept. 14. Becky said property tax projections are still in the works.

JP Anderson announced that the department's new fiscal manager started Sept. 8. He discussed air quality concerns related to wildfires across the state and nation.

Doug Carey said the county's Capital Facilities Plan has been forwarded on to the Planning Commission. He said he is working with the Treasurer about refunding existing bonds.

Megan Eastman discussed work HR is doing to field questions about FMLA and other leave. She said applications are rolling in for the HR director position.

Gary Fredricks said WSU Extension continues to broadcast classes.

Lee Napier said Community Development will have a late add for Sept. 14: a ban on recreational fires that took effect Sept. 8.

Meeting ended at 10:22 a.m.