

County Manager Update

December 14, 2020

11 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, County Manager Erik Martin, Chris Panush, Janelle Lindsey, Katie Conradi, Lara McRea, Lee Napier, Becky Butler, Tammy Martin

Guests: Commissioner-elect Dr. Lindsey Pollock, Claudia Yaw

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Financial contributions to Lewis County Seniors

Becky Butler asked the commissioners to review an agreement to provide 2021 funding for the Lewis County Seniors. She said the resolution will go before the board Dec. 21.

Internal Services update

No updates.

Community Development update

Permit revenue: Erik Martin said Community Development has processed 1461 permits year to date. He said the department processed 1796 in 2019, which included multiple permits for the wind farm.

Planning Commission code change: Erik said a plat that goes through the platting process currently has two hearings: one at the hearings examiner level and then again when it gets to final plat approval. Lee Napier said a proposed change would eliminate the need for the plat to go before the Board of County Commissioners for approval, which extends the wait time for the developer.

911 update

Staffing: Erik said 911 is experiencing staffing struggles.

Chehalis Ridge: Erik outlined progress installing a radio tower on Chehalis Ridge.

Erik said the county will continue work regarding the DELTAWRX presentation regarding a proposed consolidation.

Public Works / DEM update

Road atlas: Erik said the road atlas has been revamped.

Airport update: Erik discussed a meeting with the Federal Aviation Administration that will take place later in the week.

Utilities update: Erik discussed new pumps and coating efforts at the Vader plant. He said a burglary was reported at the Vader site. Erik said the county is working on water availability requests at the Middle Fork water system.

Shorey Road: Erik said the county has identified erosion concerns along Shorey Road. He said the road could potentially have to be closed for repairs if conditions worsen.

Public Health and Social Services

On-site Septic System (OSS) planning: Erik discussed statewide changes regarding on-site septic system requirements.

Island County decision: Erik discussed a ruling regarding Public Health's requirements in response to meth labs or other contaminated buildings. He noted it appears to be yet another unfunded mandate.

Erik said there could be an effort at the state level to regionalize public health officers. He stressed the need to retain local control.

Human Resources

Erik discussed a salary survey discussion planned for the following day.

Personnel

Erik discussed the possibility of switching the commissioners to mileage stipends instead of mileage reimbursements.

Commissioner Fund suggested waiting to implementing a potential change until after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

Erik said he would revisit the topic in three months or so.

Meeting ended at 11:39 a.m.