

Update with Coroner

December 8, 2020

9:30 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, Warren McLeod, Sean Swope, Lindsey Pollock

Zoom: Claudia Yaw, Katie Conradi

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Coroner Warren McLeod provided the following updates:

YTD Cases: 810 total cases, including 3 homicides, 19 suicides, 43 accidental deaths, 5 undetermined deaths, and 28 drug overdoses. These cases resulted in 61 autopsies.

COVID-19 impact: There has been no major impact on the Coroner's Office. Warren stated that The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) does not let the actual death determination be COVID. This is only an attributing factor to the actual cause of death. The COVID death cases recorded for Lewis County came from facilities such as adult homes or care centers and not persons received through the Coroner's Office.

FTEs: Steven Wilson and Sandra Peck are now full-time employees with the Coroner's Office.

Mortuary Contract: Sticklin Funeral Chapel has decided to terminate its contract with the Lewis County Coroner's Office. The Coroner's Office has chosen to contract with Fir Lawn Funeral Chapel and Newell-Hoerling Mortuary. These services will be on a month-to-month rotation for removal and indigent cremations.

Drug Overdose Cases: 28 cases ytd. in 2020, 5 cases in 2019, 4 cases in 2018. There have been four confirmed fentanyl cases for 2020.

Meeting ended: 10:01 a.m.