

Update with Sheriff

December 8, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, Sheriff Snaza, Dusty Breen, Kevin Engelbertson, Chris Sweet, Wes Rethwill, Becky Butler, Erik Martin

Guest: Lindsey Pollock, Sean Swope

Zoom: Claudia Yaw, Katie Conradi

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Chief Engelbertson provided updates on the use of recently acquired equipment. The equipment ended up being invaluable for the incident. There are two support positions open. Testing for Sheriff Support will be February 3, 2021.

Chief Sweet talked about the staffing issues within the jail. There are currently 5 openings. There are a few people in background with the hopes they will be able to continue to the academy. Two deputies will be graduating soon. The camera system for the arraignment area with the courts is almost completed. This is a huge safety upgrade. This allows the inmate to stay in the jail, but still have their court appearance. The intake expansion is expected to begin soon.

Chief Breen said there are currently no vacancies with the Operations Bureau. Two deputies recently graduated from the academy, and two are attending the academy remotely with a January graduation. The Sheriff's Office has received just over 15,000 calls for service this year.

Sheriff Snaza thanked the out-going Commissioners for their support, service, and dedication to Lewis County. Sheriff Snaza said the Lewis County Sheriff's in not in the position to shut down business establishments or closing churches. He addressed the letter that was sent to the Governor's Office. He feels that 1 in 6 establishments will be out of business by the end of 2020 and there will be more to come. Sheriff Snaza hopes the Governor will understand that people and families are hurting. As by law, he will make decisions as necessary case by case. He said he would attend the Legislative Roundtable to address his concerns.

Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC) is contributing to strict regulations that will be coming down through the Criminal Justice Training Center (CJTC). Sheriff Snaza encourages the legislative members to read the bills and be supportive of law enforcement.

Shop with a Cop is taking place December 10, 2020.

Meeting ended: 10:30 a.m.