

**Update with Coroner**

**January 12, 2021**

**9:30 a.m.**

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Erik Martin, Warren McLeod

Guests: Member(s) from the Chronicle

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Coroner Warren McLeod provided the following updates:

There were 810 total cases for the 2019 year.

2020 had 874 cases, including: 3 homicides, 18 suicides, 43 accidental deaths, 8 deaths that are undetermined, 1 pending death investigation. Warren said these deaths include 29 confirmed drug cases with 1 pending. Meth was the #1 cause of drug related death and Lewis County had 4 confirmed fentanyl deaths.

2021 YTD cases: 27 cases year to date, including 1 accidental death and 1 pending death that is more than likely drug related.

COVID testing of decedents resulted in 3 positive tests for the year. When there is a positive test and if they have exhibited no positive symptoms, then the cause of death is not COVID-19 related. Staff are eligible for COVID-19 vaccines as first responders.

Adjourned 9:47 a.m.