

## **ESC / Directors' Update**

**January 20, 2021**

**9 a.m.**

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Erik Martin, Brittni Rogers, Chief Christopher Tawes, Chief Chris Sweet, Doug Carey, Graham Gowing, Kaity Nissell, Lara McRea, Lee Napier, Larry Grove, Matt Jaeger, Scott Tinney, Marni Larson, Tom Stanton, Shad Hail, Steve Wohld, Becky Butler, Scott Smitherman, JP Anderson, Undersheriff Wes Rethwill, Eric Eisenberg, Chris Panush, Treasurer Arny Davis, Patrick Shults, Sara Heinricher, Meja Handlen, Steve Wohld, Josh Metcalf, Alison Puckett, Assessor Dianne Dorey, Andy Caldwell

Guests: Susan DeLaire, former Commissioner Edna Fund, Nic Scott, The Chronicle

Recorder: Rieva Lester

### **ESC**

Chris Panush said the consultant will be on site Jan. 21 to wrap up work on the salary study. He said the process will be presented to the commissioners for review the following week. Steve Wohld said the county is still on track for an April 1 completion.

Treasurer Arny Davis said the tax foreclosure sale will take place Jan. 21.

Commissioner Stamper shared concerns with the state Department of Fish and Wildlife's proposal to purchase TransAlta's 9,600 acres. He noted that the move would take the property off the tax rolls, noting that there would be job losses on top of that due to the mine's closure. Commissioner Stamper noted that Lewis County has spent roughly \$5 million in Distressed Counties funding on improving the TransAlta site.

Auditor Larry Grove said the Auditor's Office is gearing up for the February special election.

Undersheriff Wes Rethwill said the Sheriff's Office has not received any word about any direct threats to Lewis County in response to the presidential inauguration. Undersheriff Rethwill said the Sheriff's Office is monitoring bills going before the state Legislature.

Shad Hail said the Guardian Ad Litem program is in need of volunteers.

Steve Wohld provided an update on current remodels and moves.

### **COVID-19**

JP Anderson reminded the group that the county is not receiving or providing vaccines and that the state of Washington is determining who is eligible to receive the vaccine and who is approved to administer the vaccine. JP noted that Providence will hold a large invitation-only vaccination event at the

Fairgrounds on Jan. 24. JP stressed that Providence is determining the list of individuals who will receive the vaccine. JP discussed efforts to reach out to the Hispanic community regarding the pandemic.

## **Directors' Update**

Commissioner Stamper discussed a proclamation recognizing Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

Becky Butler discussed a notice of hearing for the Lewis County 2021 budget emergency and supplemental appropriations to and transfers within current expense and various funds. She said the hearing will be Feb. 1.

Josh Metcalf discussed a public notice regarding Lewis County seeking coverage under the Washington Department of Ecology's Construction Stormwater NPDES State Waste Discharge Permit for the Cowlitz River Public Access Point project.

Josh Metcalf discussed a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide annual wetland and stream services for projects including Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funded projects, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funded projects, and Lewis County Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) projects.

Josh Metcalf discussed the proposed acquisition of additional right of way for Borovec Road MP 0.032, Chehalis.

Rieva Lester noted that the following proposed resolution would hold: Approving a Stewardship Agreement No. 17-SA-11060300-020 Modification 4 (Four), between Lewis County and the USDA Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Undersheriff Wes Rethwill discussed acceptance of an amendment to an interlocal agreement for use of jail facilities between Lewis County Sheriff/County and the Washington State Department of Corrections.

Undersheriff Wes Rethwill discussed acceptance of an interlocal agreement for use of jail facilities between the Lewis County Sheriff's Office/County and the incorporated cities of Centralia, Napavine, Pe Ell and Winlock. Chief Sweet said the bed rates for outside entities using the Lewis County jail is \$75 per day. Chief Sweet said it costs the county roughly \$100 per day to house inmates for outside entities. Chief Sweet said he would look into the fees charged to Department of Corrections for their use of Lewis County jail facilities.

JP Anderson discussed an agreement between Lewis County and Lewis County Work Opportunities to provide Individual Employment and Community Inclusion services.

JP Anderson discussed an agreement between Lewis County and the Department of Commerce to provide Shelter Program Grant funds through the Housing Assistance Unit in the amount of \$421,287.

JP Anderson discussed an agreement between Lewis County and Bird's Eye Medical to provide COVID-19 vaccine consultation, coordination and administration.

JP Anderson discussed a professional services contract between Lewis County and ESD 113 for Student Success Navigator Program.

JP Anderson discussed Amendment A to a memorandum of understanding between Valley View Health Center and Lewis County to provide COVID-19 testing and vaccine administration.

JP Anderson discussed Amendment A to a memorandum of understanding between Northwest Pediatric Center and Lewis County to provide COVID-19 testing and vaccine administration

JP Anderson discussed a memorandum of understanding between Infection Prevention & Antimicrobial Consultants and Lewis County to provide consultation and training activities.

JP Anderson discussed Amendment B between Washington Department of Commerce and Lewis County for Washington State COVID-19 Outbreak Emergency Housing.

Rieva Lester and Eric Eisenberg discussed a resolution to amend the authority of appointed department directors of to execute certain contracts.

Commissioner Stamper discussed a resolution to appoint Edna J. Fund and Fionna Velazquez to the Southwest Washington Fair Advisory Commission.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to move one presentation, three notice items, two consent items and 13 deliberation items to the Monday, Jan. 25, 2021, BOCC Business Meeting agenda.

Commissioner Swope seconded the motion.

Motion passed 3-0.

### **Announcements / roundtable**

Chris Panush said a new COVID-19 policy has been circulated.

Doug Carey said a site survey for the new animal shelter is wrapping up. He provided updates on the McDaniels building and Juvenile.

Assessor Dianne Dorey said lots of properties are being segregated. She said her office is busier now than it has been at this time in years.

JP Anderson extended a huge thank you to staff, IT and outside community members for their efforts.

Patrick Shults said Master Gardener trainings have kicked off.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to approve a nunc pro tunc correction to Resolution 21-010.

Commissioner Swope seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

Becky Butler reminded offices and departments to continue tracking COVID-19 costs so the county can access the information if additional funding becomes available. She urged offices and departments to complete year-end activities. She discussed bills proposed at the state Legislature that could affect the county's coffers.

Suzette Smith said W-2s will be mailed around Jan. 31.

### **Wednesday Workshop**

Commissioner Stamper said he would serve as the BOCC representative for the Transportation Strategy Committee (TSC) and the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO).

Commissioner Stamper said he would serve as the alternate on Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority.

The commissioners discussed opportunities to serve on statewide boards and commissions through Washington Association of Counties (WSAC). Commissioner Swope said he'd like to apply for the housing seat, while Commissioner Pollock said she would be like to apply for the Board of Health seat.

Former Commissioner Fund discussed bills before the Legislature.

The commissioners discussed moving the BOCC Business Meeting to Tuesday afternoons instead of Monday mornings. The commissioners directed staff to work on moving the Business Meetings to Tuesday afternoons.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.