

## Strategic Plan Workshop

February 10, 2021

10:08 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Erik Martin, Steve Wohld, JP Anderson, Scott Smitherman, Chris Panush, Josh Metcalf, Matt Patana, Katie Conradi, Lara McRea, Lee Napier, Tailor Albright, Mackey Smith of Tanner LLC, Kevin McDowell

Guests: Edna Fund, Frank Corbin, Larry McGee, Nic Scott, The Chronicle

Recorder: Rieva Lester

The group discussed the implementation of the Lewis County initiatives outlined in the Strategic Plan passed in 2020.

County Manager Erik Martin said he will include discussions about the Strategic Plan during his bi-monthly meetings with department directors.

Erik reviewed some of the directives:

### Economic development

- **Improve infrastructure to facilitate economic development and prepare for future needs:** Josh said the county is reaching out to cities to work on reaching common goals. He said the county also is looking at ways to coordinate funding opportunities.
- **Reduce hurdles for permitting and building:** Josh said Public Works and Community Development are working on streamlining the permitting processes. Lee Napier discussed Community Development's efforts to help the cities replicate the county's processes if they so desire.
- **Expand access to reliable, high-speed internet across the county:** Steve Wohld discussed efforts to improve internet access countywide.

### Housing and proactive growth

Erik and Lee briefly discussed the following:

- **Partner with city and county staff to assist with workload of key residential permitting and ongoing requests.**
- **Design / develop countywide growth planning model that is acceptable to smaller municipalities.**
- **Continue to streamline zoning, permitting and building processes.**

Erik said the county will reach out to other entities to see how they respond to similar situations.

### **Public Health & Social Services**

- **Identify and establish shared goals in addressing social determinants of health:** JP Anderson discussed efforts to identify and address social determinants.

### **Fiscal Sustainability & Organizational Efficiency**

- **Leverage Lean management principles to evaluate the efficiency of all departments:** Chris Panush discussed the use of Lean. He said Megan Eastman will help lead HR's efforts.
- **Codify County Manager position into County leadership structure:** Erik said the Board of County Commissioners has approved an ordinance establishing the County Manager's authority.
- **Continue to provide high-quality employee training on a regular basis (HR trainings, leadership speakers, etc.):** Erik said Chris is taking the lead on the effort.
- **Explore bonding initiative for proposed capital projects, including but not limited to a new juvenile detention facility:** Erik said the effort already is underway. Steve Wohld said funding is expected in March. He noted that the failing detention center is being remodeled instead of replaced, saving the taxpayers millions of dollars.

### **Public Safety**

- **Maintain funding level for Sheriff's Office:** Erik said further clarification will be needed.
- **Invest in the modernization of needed public safety infrastructure and equipment (radios, 911 dispatch, updating fleet of vehicles, jail, etc.):** Erik said the Combined User Committee is discussing funding. He said the county needs to identify what 911's needs are and how those needs can be paid for.

Larry McGee said the commissioners should reach out to the groups involved in the process to provide an update.

Meeting ended at 11:19 a.m.