

ESC / Directors' Update

February 17, 2021

9 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Erik Martin, Chris Panush, Megan Eastman, Becky Butler, Matt Patana, Steve Wohld, Tim Fife, Bill Wamsley, Doug Carey, Graham Gowing, Lara McRea, Lee Napier, Larry Grove, Megan Sibbert, Marni Larson, Sara Heinricher, Scott Tinney, Scott Smitherman, Shad Hail, Brittni Rogers, Tom Stanton, Wes Rethwill, Arny Davis, Matt Jaeger, Suzette Smith, Katie Conradi, Dianne Dorey, JP Anderson (9:27 a.m.), Andy Caldwell, Allison Puckett

Guests: Edna Fund, Glenda Forga, Greg Balter, Nic Scott, Susan DeLaire

Recorder: Rieva Lester

ESC

Creation of Records Manager position: County Manager Erik Martin discussed the proposed creation of a countywide records manager, who would help streamline records management, help create policies, . He noted that the PA's Office has discussed the need for the position.

Internal Services Chief Steve Wohld said the proposed position would be housed under Risk and noted that the position would be an internal rates position that would affect internal rates.

Assessor Dianne Dorey asked how it would affect her office. Steve and Erik discussed the responsibilities the position would assume.

Treasurer Arny Davis asked if the work could be contracted out. Steve said he will look into it.

Commissioner Swope suggested reaching out to see how other counties handle the task.

Legislative session update – review of bills the state Legislature is considering, including SB 5122 re: juvenile jurisdiction ages: Shad Hail said the proposed bill would change the age of those considered juveniles to the age of 20 instead of 18, creating significant cost increases for housing, security, staffing, etc.

Dianne said the county should ask the state to reimburse it for additional duties the state has tasked county assessors with.

Edna Fund discussed other bills before the state Legislature.

Commissioner Swope encouraged participants to support proposed bill 1263.

OpenGov: Budget Services Administrator Becky Butler discussed OpenGov, a software tool that would provide budget information in a “dashboard” format.

Salary Survey update: Megan Eastman said she has reached out to Directors and Electeds regarding proposed placements on the new salary schedule.

TransAlta / WFDW: Commissioner Swope said the deadline for public comment has moved to Feb. 19 and that Lewis County Prosecuting Attorney Jonathan Meyer has asked the WFDW further extend the deadline.

Announcements

Arny Davis said tax statements have been delayed until Feb. 26.

Andy Caldwell discussed updates to continuity of operations plans.

Undersheriff Wes Rethwill discussed 20-plus proposed bills the Sheriff’s Office is monitoring.

Directors’ Update

Tim Fife discussed a notice of hearing regarding a franchise to Wiltel Communications LLC to install, construct, operate, and maintain telecommunications facilities in Lewis County rights of way.

Tim Fife discussed a notice of hearing regarding a franchise to City of Winlock to install, construct, operate, and maintain water and sewer line facilities in Lewis County rights of way.

Scott Smitherman discussed a resolution to approve a SECO county coordinator professional development (CPD) contract SFY2021.

JP Anderson discussed a resolution to approve an agreement between Lewis County and United Way to provide COVID-19 vaccine administration.

JP Anderson discussed a resolution to approve an agreement between Lewis County and Housing Resource Center to provide funds for emergency shelter services in the amount of \$263,288.

Chris Panush discussed a resolution to approve a collective bargaining agreement between Lewis County and the Corrections Deputies for calendar years 2020-2022. Undersheriff Wes Rethwill thanked HR for its efforts.

Commissioner Stamper left at 10 a.m.

Tim Fife discussed Resolution 21-042A regarding a correction to previously-passed Resolution 21-042.

Tim Fife discussed a resolution listing the bid(s) received and contractor(s) selected for the 2021 Rock Purchase Rebid.

Tim Fife discussed a resolution to ratify a consultant supplement over \$50,000 for an active Public Works project.

Tim Fife discussed a resolution to ratify a consultant agreement and approving a supplement over \$50,000 for an active Public Works project.

Tim Fife discussed the proposed vacation of a portion of W.F. Cole Road No. 700.

Tim Fife discussed a resolution to accept offers to purchase surplus property located off Independence Road near Rochester, Wash.

Rieva Lester discussed a resolution to appoint members to the Distressed Counties (.09) Fund / Rural Economic Development Public Facilities Advisory Committee.

Rieva Lester discussed a resolution to adopt changes to the regular public meeting schedule of the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners.

Tim Fife discussed a resolution to list the bid(s) received and contractor selected for the Stowell MP 0.57 Bridge Scour Repair Project, Federal Aid Project No. BHOS-2021(055), F.A. Agreement No. TA-6339, County Road Project No. 2159K.

Becky Butler discussed a hearing for the Lewis County 2020 budget, emergency and supplemental appropriations to and transfers within current expense and other funds.

Commissioner Swope made a motion to move two notice items, two consent items, 13 deliberation items and one hearing to the Monday, Feb. 22, 2021, BOCC agenda.

Commissioner Pollock seconded the motion.

Motion passed 2-0.

COVID-19

JP Anderson discussed recent downward trends in COVID-19 cases locally and statewide. He noted that all counties across the state have moved to Phase II.

JP said second-dose vaccinations were received across Lewis County but that zero first-dose vaccinations were received.

JP discussed the launch of a local effort to assist in targeted delivery of COVID-19 vaccines. He said a phone number will be released soon.

JP discussed proposed bill 1152, which would regionalize the oversight of local public health.

Becky said it appears the state will contract with FEMA to provide funding to counties across the state.

Announcements

Chris Panush said county jobs will now be listed on the Governmentjobs.com website in addition to the county website.

Meeting ended at 10:36 a.m.