

BOCC Wrap-Up

March 15, 2021

9 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Erik Martin, Eric Eisenberg, Becky Butler, John Abplanalp, Chris Panush, Katie Conradi, Steve Wohld, Undersheriff Wes Rethwill, Taylor Albright, Lee Napier, Casey Mauermann, Josh Metcalf, Bill Teitzel joined at 9:30 a.m., Meja Handlen, Matt Jaeger (10 a.m.)

Guests: Claudia Yaw, Peter Lahmann, Nic Scott, Frank Corbin, Edna J. Fund,

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to add to the March 16, 2021, BOCC Business Meeting agenda Resolution 21-103: Failure to execute contract for the Material Purchase Re-Bid of Rock for the 2021 3R Program and award to second-lowest bidder.

Commissioner Swope seconded.

Motion passed 3-0.

Juvenile personnel authorization form

Shad Hail said Juvenile Detention Center Manager Chuck West will retire soon. Shad said he would like permission to hire the successor before Chuck retires, providing a two-month overlap to allow for training.

The commissioners approved Shad's request.

Proposed Ordinance 1324

Eric Eisenberg said the commissioners have three options to consider in regards to proposed Ordinance 1324:

- Whether to pass an ordinance for controlled substances.
- Whether to classify the possession of controlled substances as a felony or as a misdemeanor.
- Whether to apply the ordinance countywide (or apply it to unincorporated areas only).

If applying the ordinance countywide, Eric said, the commissioners could include an opt-out provision for the incorporated cities.

Commissioner Pollock asked if the county could pass an emergency 90-day day ordinance for a gross misdemeanor. Eric said the commissioners could include a sunset provision.

Eric discussed the penalty differences between felonies and misdemeanors.

Bill Teitzel joined at 9:30 a.m.

Eric said one-tenth of 1 percent funding could potentially pay for Drug Court for individuals with misdemeanor offenses.

The commissioners said they would like the draft ordinance to apply countywide with an opt-out provision for the incorporated cities and town.

Eric further outlined how other jurisdictions could address the provisions of the county's ordinance.

The commissioners said they would like the draft to identify possession of a controlled substance as a felony with a note on the legal notice that indicates that the county would like the public to weigh in. Eric said he would include a 90-day sunset clause in the ordinance.

Undersheriff Wes Rethwill said his office would attend the March 16 PA Update.

Blakeslee Junction

Erik Martin said he has shared with the commissioners information about the Blakeslee Junction property. He said the property is valued at under \$5,000 and that Washington Department of Transportation would sell it as-is.

Erik said the commissioners could discuss the price during executive session.

Public Information Officer (PIO)

Commissioner Swope said he would like the county to hire a PIO.

Erik noted that communications has been his next goal.

Commissioner Pollock said the BOCC should follow the same process as other electeds and directors regarding using the budget process for the budget request.

Erik said he will reach out to the county's consultant to create an analysis.

Becky Butler said there may be American Rescue Funds funding to help offset the costs.

OpenGov software

Becky said OpenGov has provided two contract options:

- Five-year upfront contract, which would save roughly \$20,000 but would require extra work.
- Five-year term with implementation costs paid in the first year.

The commissioners directed Becky to move forward with the prepay option.

Memo from District Court

Commissioner Swope said he will reach out to the judges regarding the security concern. Commissioner Stamper said he would reach out to Mayor Mortensen regarding District Court's concerns.

Twin Transit letter of support

Commissioner Swope said he would reach out to Twin Transit to gather information about the group's request for a letter of support regarding grants for which it is applying.

Meeting ended at 10:08 a.m.