

Coroner Update

April 20, 2021

1 p.m.

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

Guest: Nic Scott

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Coroner Warren McLeod said Lewis County has had 293 deaths year to date. He said the county didn't reach that level until May 4 the previous year. He said 2021 year-to-date case totals are roughly two to three weeks ahead of 2020 totals, which were two to three weeks ahead of 2019 totals.

Of those, Warren said the breakdowns were as follows:

- 0 homicides
- 3 suicides
- 6 accidental, of which 3 are drug-related
- 2 undetermined
- 4 pending, of which 2 are likely overdoses

Warren provided an update on two positions added to his office for 2021. He said efficiencies have improved dramatically as a result: response times, customer service, phone staffing, etc.

Warren discussed the training and certification needed to become a Deputy Coroner. He said local requirements include 80 hours of in-house training, 40 hours of classroom training, 20 hours of administration, four hours of ride-along training with the Sheriff's Office and 14 hours of field training. He also outlined requirements for national certification.

Meeting ended at 1:28 p.m.