

## **Directors' Update**

**May 5, 2021**

**9:02 a.m.**

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Erik Martin, Matt Jaeger, JP Anderson, Becky Butler, Josh Metcalf, Chris Panush, Matt Patana, Andy Caldwell, Taylor Albright, Alison Puckett, Katie Conradi, Lara McRea, Lee Napier, Patrick Shults, Scott Smitherman, Sherri Dokken, Suzette Smith, Susie Palmateer

Guests: Claudia Yaw, Nic Scott, Susan DeLaire, Edna J. Fund

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Commissioner Stamper discussed four proclamations:

- Honoring the 2021 District 4 Fastpitch Champs: The Adna Pirates
- Recognizing May 16-22, 2021, as Public Works Week.
- Recognizing May 15 as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week of May 9-15, 2021, as National Police Week.
- Recognizing May 16-21, 2021, as EMS Week.

Becky Butler discussed a notice for a hearing regarding Lewis County 2021 budget appropriations for the American Rescue Plan Act Fund No. 1420.

Andy Caldwell discussed a resolution to approve a Professional Services Agreement for the 2021-2022 Law and Justice Center Security Services between PPC Solutions and Lewis County.

Josh Metcalf discussed the proposed acquisition of additional right of way for Centralia Alpha Road Improvement Project.

Josh Metcalf discussed a hearing regarding the proposed acquisition he proposed vacation of a portion of John W. Berry Road No. 293.

Josh Metcalf discussed a hearing regarding the proposed vacation of a portion of W.F. Cole Road No. 700.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to move four presentations, one notice item, two consent items, two deliberation items and two hearings to the Tuesday, May 11, 2021, BOCC agenda.

Commissioner Swope seconded the motion.

Motion passed 3-0.

## **COVID-19**

JP Anderson said the county had 104 new COVID-19 cases – and zero congregate care outbreaks – the previous week. He said 21.6 percent of Lewis County residents have been fully vaccinated. The commissioners approved JP’s request to streamline Health’s weekly update.

Andy Caldwell said the county is working with Bird’s Eye to wrap up Fairgrounds drive-through vaccination clinics at the end of May. He said interest in Johnson & Johnson mobile clinics is growing while interest in drive-through clinics appears to be waning.

JP said Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) oversee requirements for student athletes.

JP suggested updates to the county’s work-from-home policy. He said a Seattle group has reached out about holding a weeklong free health clinic locally, possibly in East Lewis County. JP discussed possibly supplying sanitation stations for the Packwood Flea Market. JP said Ed Mund will be retiring soon.

## **Announcements**

Becky Butler discussed work to improve budgeting interfaces for the public. She urged offices and departments to begin 2022 budget work. She said she’d like each office and department to identify a point person for grant outreach efforts. Becky said Munis upgrades will take place over the summer.

Matt Patana said the county has reopened South County Park. He said the county is working with Toledo for an MOU for water. He said the county is working with a veterans group for help at the park. Matt said the county has one more opening for a parks aid. Matt discussed other new hires.

Patrick Shults discussed a bill regarding wildfires that has been sent to the governor’s desk.

## **Wednesday Workshop**

The commissioners directed staff to draft a resolution to add Commissioner Stamper to – and remove Commissioner Pollock from – the Lewis County Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (LCORT) Advisory Committee.

## **COVID-19**

State Department of Health Medical Branch Surge Director Wayne Clifford discussed an isolation center the state has created at the Lakeview Hotel in Centralia to house travelers and work-release inmates who must isolate due to COVID-19.

Wayne said Department of Corrections (DOC) inmates are not supposed to leave the premises. He said leaving the premises could result in the individuals being returned to prison. However, he noted that the department cannot detain people.

Commissioner Swope noted that the state did not reach out to Centralia or Lewis County about plans to create the Lakeview isolation center.

Commissioner Pollock said the county already is struggling to meet the state's hospital bed requirements. She asked what the state would do with individuals needing hospital care. She noted that those patients would count against the county's metrics.

Wayne said the state is staffing Lakeview with two DOC staff members during the day and one at night.

Commissioner Pollock asked whether the Lakeview area's zoning supports a correctional facility or medical facility.

Commissioner Swope asked for a copy of the group's Standard Operating Procedures as well as information about what criteria is used to determine eligibility.

Commissioner Stamper asked if the state contacted the Sheriff's Department. Wayne said the state contacted the Centralia Police Chief.

Commissioner Pollock said the local Board of Health has jurisdiction as it is the local health jurisdiction.

Wayne said the facility is set to open May 7.

JP requested Wayne provide by May 6:

- A written plan detailing would take place in the event of a walk-off.
- Details about how the center will look.

Commissioner Stamper said the state needs to reach out to Sheriff's Office about the center since issues with any walk-offs who leave city limits would need to be addressed by the Sheriff's Office.

Meeting ended at 10:26 a.m.