

BOCC Wrap-Up

March 14, 2022

Time

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Grose, County Manager Erik Martin, Steve Wohld, JP Anderson, Becky Butler, Chris Panush, Austin Majors, Doug Carey, Alison Puckett, Graham Gowing, Meja Handlen, Lee Npier, Lara McRea, Semere Huckleberry

Guests: Nic Scott, Pat Saldana

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Investments, including those for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): Rodney Reynolds said the county has \$7.2 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding and \$7.7 million in capital facilities funding invested in LGIP and a couple money market accounts, earning 26 basis points. He said the county could consider reinvesting those in other funds (similar to refinancing a mortgage) to achieve 182 basis points, which would yield higher returns.

Arny Davis said there are ways the county could address any immediate cash needs, if any cropped up.

Rodney explained the costs and fees – including staff time – associated with refinancing.

The commissioners said they'd like to explore investment opportunities and further discuss the matter March 16.

Legislative Update: Commissioner Pollock said changes to watch include a PERS 1 increase. She said she would forward WASC's legislative update, which she said is expected within the next few days.

Request to use Fairgrounds for storage: The commissioners said they are in support of allowing the use of the fairgrounds for storage, as requested by U.S. Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler's office.

Rural clean energy: The commissioners discussed energy opportunities.

Letter of support for Port of Chehalis culvert project: The commissioners said they would sign the letter of support.

Calendars: The commissioners discussed their calendars.

Minutes: Commissioner Grose made a motion to approve minutes for the week of Feb. 21, 2022. Commissioner Swope seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Announcements / new business: Becky Butler provided a read-ahead regarding the March 16 ARPA meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:29 a.m.