

BOCC Wrap-Up

March 20, 2023

9 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, County Manager Erik Martin, Steve Wohld, Mindy Brooks, Lee Napier, Meja Handlen, Becky Butler, Undersheriff Wes Rethwill, Josh Metcalf, Nic Scott, Sara Sons, Justia Madrigal, Eric Eisenberg, Daleyn Coleman, Amber Smith, Doug Carey, Javier Mejia, Sara Bumgardner, Tom Stanton

Guest(s): John Christian, Bill Serrahn

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Public comment: None.

2023 legislative session: Josh Weiss said the economic forecast is expected later in the day. Josh said the cut-off to get bills out of committee is March 29.

Troy Nichols said the Senate budget has been released.

Josh said the Ways and Means Committee will review the following in the coming days:

- HB 1267 to expand the timeline for .09 (Distressed Counties).
- HB 1789 regarding the DNR carbon offsets. The commissioners agreed to continue in opposition.

The group also discussed SB 1515, HB 1756 and 1572.

Sheriff's Jail Captain salary request: Undersheriff Wes Rethwill requested the commissioners amend Resolution 14-211 to address the salary for the Sheriff's Jail Captain by adjusting the salary percentages between ranks. The commissioners said they would approve the request via resolution.

Requests for letters of support:

- **Public Health and Social Services request to send a letter to the legislators requesting additional appropriation for Developmental Disability Administration (DDA):** Sara Sons noted that the county has lost a provider due to underfunding of the DDA. The commissioners agreed to send letters to the House and Senate committee leaders.
- **Twin Transit request for a letter of support regarding its effort to secure Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs funding from the Department of Ecology.** The commissioners said they would revisit the topic March 22.

Identify Associate Development Organization (ADO): The commissioners agreed to designate the Economic Alliance as the county's ADO.

Approval of minutes for the week of March 6, 2023: The commissioners agreed to delay the approval of the week's minute folder.

Packwood Subarea Plan update: Mindy Brooks said Community Development would like to begin providing updates regarding the Planning Commission's work. She said some topics, such as the YMCA, are quasi-judicial and cannot be discussed. Mindy said she would like to issue a press release regarding the Planning Commission's move to continue its hearing on three topics to 6 p.m. March 28. Mindy and Commissioner Brummer noted that the Planning Commission is discussing short-term rentals. Commissioner Brummer stressed that the public needs to be reminded that the Planning Commission is an advisory body and that the commissioners are the policy makers.

Long-range plan: Commissioner Pollock discussed updates she'd like to see in the long-range plan. County Manager Erik Martin said to forward updates – including those regarding the grain terminal – to him for inclusion.

Calendars: Commissioner Pollock discussed an upcoming high-speed internet meeting planned for April in Boistfort. She said she'd like staff to create a press release for the event.

Meeting ended at 10:15 a.m.