

## BOCC Wrap-Up / County Manager Update

April 14, 2025

9:02 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, County Manager Ryan Barrett, Becky Butler, Amanda Price, Angie Hodge, Geoff Soderquist, David Bailey, Mindy Brooks, Tom Stanton, Meja Handlen, Graham Gowing, Linda Mastin, Rudy Rodriguez, Sherri Dokken

Guest(s): Emily Hernandez, unnamed guests

Recorder: Rieva Lester

**Public comment:** None.

**2025 Legislative Session updates:** Josh Weiss and Troy Nichols provided updates on bills moving through the Legislature. They discussed a recent move to provide benefits for striking workers.

**Executive session:** At 9:10 a.m., Commissioner Brummer announced that the Board would be going into executive session until 9:25 a.m. to discuss a workers' comp claim under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and the Kresky building under RCW 42.30.110(1)(c).

- At 9:25 a.m., Commissioner Brummer extended executive session until 9:30 a.m.
- At 9:30 a.m., Commissioner Brummer extended executive session until 9:32 a.m.

Executive session ended at 9:32 a.m. Commissioner Brummer noted that no decisions had been made.

Commissioner Pollock made a motion to authorize outside counsel to proceed regarding the workers' comp appeal, as discussed in executive session. Commissioner Brummer seconded. Motion passed 2-0.

**Distressed Counties:** Commissioner Pollock discussed water / sewer infrastructure work Skagit County has funded through its .09 Distressed Counties fund. She suggested following suit to help with the county's Vader water project. Commissioner Pollock said she will help work on a proposal. Becky Butler noted the county may need to revise its .09 policies to allow the county to bond against the fund.

**Budget amendment:** The commissioners said they had no further questions regarding the upcoming amendment.

**Budget Analyst III position review:** Becky Butler proposed moving the current financial analyst to a Budget Analyst III position, which would be a grade 126.

**Equestrian Center outreach meetings:** The group discussed the invitation list for the upcoming county / city meeting regarding the Equestrian Center.

Becky Butler noted that the Populous contract has been delayed a week.

Commissioner Brummer discussed an upcoming visit from the Department of Ecology director.

Becky discussed two Real Estate Excise Tax bills that appear to be poised to clear the Legislature.

Geoff Soderquist alerted the commissioners to a problem that has left Motor Pool's vehicle lifts inoperable.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.