

## **BOCC Wrap-Up / COVID-19**

**November 12, 2020**

**3 p.m.**

Present: Commissioner Stamper, Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson, County Manager Erik Martin, Becky Butler, JP Anderson, John Abplanalp, Dr. Rachel Wood, Undersheriff Wes Rethwill, Amber Smith, Scott Smitherman, Lee Napier, Tamara Hayes, Tailor Albright

Guests: Claudia Yaw, Commissioner-elect Dr. Lindsey Pollock, Larry McGee, Suzi Swope

Recorder: Rieva Lester

JP Anderson discussed increased case numbers across the county, state and nation. He noted that the governor plans to address the state later in the day but that new restrictions are not expected to be introduced during that press conference.

JP addressed discrepancies between Lewis County reported numbers and the state's numbers. He noted that the county does not report new cases until the cases have been confirmed in an effort to limit the risk of over-reporting.

John Abplanalp said Lewis County had 779 positive COVID-19 cases as of Oct. 31, with 12 deaths. He reviewed Lewis County rates as well as rates statewide.

Dr. Rachel Wood discussed concerns regarding hospitalization rooms, ventilator availability, etc. She noted that since June, 80 patients have had to be moved in the state due to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases and the increasing number of hospitalizations.

Dr. Wood urged families to be extra cautious as the holidays approach. She applauded locals' efforts to adhere to social distancing and mask use.

Becky Butler said she and JP are reaching out to area schools to determine any unmet needs.

The commissioners approved a revision to the holiday list to include the Dec. 31, 2021, closure of the courthouse in observation of New Year's Day. The commissioners reviewed their calendars and approved questions for the Port of Centralia applicants.

Meeting ended at 3:40 p.m.