

Budget Update

August 3, 2021

3:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Erik Martin, Becky Butler, Gwen Reed, Commissioner Stamper (3:34 p.m.)

Guests: The Chronicle, Lisa Striedinger, Usha Sahadeva-Brooks, Frank Corbin

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Becky Butler said the county introduced an expenditure limitation cap during the 2008 recession and continued the practice.

Becky said she is proposing changing to expenditure limitations that:

- Include estimated 2022 salaries and benefits.
- Include Internal Service rates.
- Exclude any new FTEs.
- Exclude any new programs.
- Include any already approved contract escalators.
- Include any mandated professional services.

Becky said anything outside the included items would be subject to approval.

Commissioner Stamper joined at 3:34 p.m.

Becky said her department has already updated fixed costs.

Becky said offices and departments will be asked to clearly define increases.

The commissioners approved the call letter.

Becky said she is working on year-end revenue scenarios with the Treasurer's Office. She discussed upcoming Budget meetings.

Commissioner Swope said he'd like a meeting with the Lewis County Seniors to address future funding options and the Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area on Aging.

The commissioners agreed to hold a meeting for the budget hearing the first Monday in December.

Becky said she has reached out to Polco, a citizen engagement platform the county could use for its American Rescue Plan Act surveys and engagement.

The commissioners approved the new budget process.

Meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.