

BOCC Wrap-Up

June 6, 2022

9 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Grose, County Manager Erik Martin, Lindsey Shankle, Meja Handlen, Mindy Brooks, Undersheriff Rethwill

Guest(s): Nic Scott, Isabel Vander Stoep

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Public comment on any final-action items listed on the agenda: No one chose to speak.

Agenda change: Commissioner Swope made a motion to add Resolution 22-168 (Approve and authorize the Public Works Director to sign an interlocal purchasing agreement between the City of Centralia, the Office of the Chehalis Basin and Lewis County for the purchase of parcel No. 003485001003 in Lewis County) to the June 7, 2022, BOCC Business Meeting. Commissioner Grose seconded. Josh Metcalf discussed the resolution. Motion passed 3-0.

Media marketing position: Matt Jaeger said he is requesting authorization to move the media marketing position back to IT. He said the move could be absorbed in 2022. He said the position would be paid for through interfund rates beginning in 2023, creating a 4.3 percent increase in IT interfund rates. Steve Wohld said he'd like the change to take effect July 1. Matt said the position would provide graphic design, media support, policy support and recruitment help.

Commissioner Swope expressed concerns about the effects of a recession.

Erik Martin asked if the position could be more of a "pay to play" set-up, where offices and departments that use the services would pay while others would not. He asked the commissioners to clarify if they planned to freeze the Public Information Specialist position.

Matt said IT interfund rates also will reflect increases for Office 365 and the creation of a project manager position.

Steve said he wanted the new position to work on capital projects – wayfinding maps, signage, etc. He said he envisioned having the position work on onboarding videos at the beginning of 2023 and a website refresh in the middle of 2023.

The commissioners directed Erik to continue efforts to hire a PIS. They noted that they would review the media marketing position's work after six months.

Commissioner Swope made a motion to approve the media marketing position. Commissioner Grose seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Steve said the position under the Fair would be frozen effective July 1.

Tourism promotion request for proposals (RFP): Connie Riker said she'd like issue an RFP to outsource Discover Lewis County (DLC). She said the contractor would serve as the countywide lead for tourism. She said she'd like the individual to report to Erik Martin.

The commissioners discussed whether the position would be back-stopped by the General Fund.

The commissioners said they would further review the proposal with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Name for the Cowlitz River Access Park: Commissioner Grose said he'd like to name the park after Lonnie Goble, who was instrumental in creating the park. The commissioners said they'd leave it unnamed for now.

Calendars: Commissioner Pollock said she has a meeting with Cardinal Glass later in the day. Commissioner Swope said he would be out of the office June 9-10 for a WCIF conference. Commissioner Grose said he would be out of the office June 9-10 for a Timber Counties conference.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.