

## **Coroner Update**

**July 5, 2022**

**11:30 a.m.**

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Grose, Warren McLeod, Dana Tucker, Steve Wilson, Becky Butler

Guests: Marty Hayes, Isabel Vander Stoep, Nic Scott

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Warren McLeod provided the following year-to-date statistics:

- 457 total deaths year-to-date
- 1 homicide
- 6 suicides
- 25 accidental deaths
- 4 undetermined deaths
- 5 deaths pending determination
- 11 drug-related deaths
- 33 full autopsies
- 16 external exams

Warren said his office will be collaborating with Organ Procurement Organization (OPO) for tissue and cornea donations.

Warren said his office collaborates with the Cribs for Kids program by using donations to purchase cribs for those in need. He said he currently has three cribs available. Warren said providing cribs helps prevent co-sleeping deaths.

Warren said his office participated in the Cascadia Rising presentation sponsored by the Lewis County Department of Emergency Management to help people learn how to be self-reliant during a crisis.

Warren said he has reorganized the Lewis County Drowning Prevention Coalition to include Fire District 6 and the Lewis County Sheriff's Office to raise awareness about cold-water drowning and offer support for the life jacket loaner program partnership. Warren said the coalition focuses on awareness for elementary school-age children.

Warren said there will be three employees testing for accreditation.

Warren said the Coroner's Office recently applied and were awarded for the Paul Coverdell Grant which provides improvement for forensic science. The Coroner's Office received \$7,000 to purchase as a drying chamber for 2022. They received \$9,000 for 2023 conference costs, salaries and equipment for crime scene investigations.

Warren said eCare Mortuary and Newell-Hoerling Mortuary have expressed interest in performing decedent removals for Lewis County.

Warren said the Coroner's Office has a new revenue opportunity. The Lewis County Coroner's Office will be performing autopsies for Grays Harbor County due to a shortage of pathologists.

Meeting ended at 11:48 a.m.