

Directors' Update

July 6, 2022

9:01 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Grose, County Manager Erik Martin, Steve Wohld, Lee Napier, Mindy Brooks, Josh Metcalf, Meja Handlen, Doug Carey, Daleyn Coleman, Rachel Lester, Becky Butler, Connie Riker, Heidi Palmer, Casey Mauermann, Grace Jimenez, Graham Gowing, Lara McRea, Lindsey Shankle, Michelle Sabin, Sara Sons, Chip Duncan, Jesse Lloyd, Stephanie Lane

Guest(s): Isabel Vander Stoep, Nic Scott, Jodery Goble, Sandra Goble, CL Kennedy, Daphne Lughes

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Public comment: None.

Mindy Brooks discussed a notice of hearing for Ordinance 1334 to consider amendments to County Code (Chapter 17.110) to consolidate the administrative appeals process for a SEPA Determination on Type V non-project actions with the underlying permit.

Josh Metcalf discussed a notice of Public Hearing for a Traffic Ordinance fixing the maximum speed at which vehicles may be operated over certain roads in Lewis County, Washington: defining offenses, and providing penalties for the violation thereof. Josh noted that the county received a petition from area homeowners asking to reduce the speed.

Meja Handlen discussed the following resolutions, which she said she'd like to hold so the entities involved can discuss with the commissioners their work on the projects:

- Resolution 22-183: Approve Amendment A in the amount of \$997,149 to contract H02-0141-21 between Housing Resource Center and Lewis County Public Health and Social Services (PHSS) (Note: Held from June 21 Business Meeting).
- Amendment A to contract G03-0112-22 between Gather Church and Lewis County PHSS.
- Amendment A to Memorandum of Understanding GatherShelterCM between Gather Church and Lewis County PHSS.
- Contract H02-0175-22 between Housing Resource Center and Lewis County PHSS.
- A Memorandum of Understanding HRCES2023-B between Housing Resource Center and Lewis County PHSS.

Commissioner Swope discussed the need for accountability to ensure funding is providing the chronically homeless a hand up rather than a hand out.

Meja discussed the following resolutions, which she said she'd like to move forward:

- Amendment C to contract R01-0104-20 between Reliable Enterprises and Lewis County PHSS.

- Contract R01-0165-22 between Reliable Enterprises and Lewis County PHSS.
- Contract M01-064-22 between Morningside and Lewis County PHSS.
- Amendment C to contract #20-04613C-116 between Washington State Department of Commerce and Lewis County PHSS.

Rieva Lester discussed a resolution to appoint Kathy Chastain to the Lewis County Planning Commission.

Commissioner Swope made a motion to move two notice items, two consent items and five deliberation items to the Tuesday, July 12, 2022, BOCC agenda. Commissioner Grose seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Roundtable

Doug Carey and Steve Wohld discussed the creation of a sheriff's substation on the east end of the county. Steve said the construction would be a pole barn and portable structure.

Becky Butler said proposed rate increases are due soon.

Connie Riker discussed the recent SummerFest event and the upcoming Fair and Garlic Fest events.

Wednesday Workshop

Veterans Memorial Museum: Commissioner Swope discussed the need for peer-to-peer counseling for area veterans. Chip Duncan, Jesse Lloyd and Stephanie Lane discussed a peer-based mental health program to help area veterans. Meja Handlen also voiced support for the program.

Heidi Palmer said Lewis County is home to roughly 8,000 veterans. She discussed the benefits the proposed program.

Chip reviewed the costs, which would range \$300,000 to \$400,000 for the first year, including \$93,000 in start-up costs that would not be needed in subsequent years.

The commissioners directed Becky Butler to review funding possibilities.

At 10:32 a.m., the Board announced they were recessing for two minutes.

The meeting resumed at 10:39 a.m.

Clarification regarding Casual Pay: Daleyn Coleman asked if the commissioners intended to move current casual employees to the recently approved grid. The commissioners said their intent was to move all casual employees to the new casual pay grid.

CDC COVID-19 guidance to replace the COVID-19 decision tree: Daleyn Coleman presented the CDC's decision tree. The commissioners said they support moving forward with any CDC guidelines that ease restrictions. They noted they still would like to weigh in on any changes that would be more restrictive.

Natural resource management: Commissioner Pollock said she has concerns regarding the state taking a 25 percent administrative cut of all timber sales. She asked if the commissioners would like to have the

county take over its own timber management. The commissioners directed Erik Martin to reach out to the PA's Office about the feasibility of the county taking over its own timber management.

Energy projects: Commissioner Pollock asked if the county should reach out to Tacoma Power and others to seek federal funds to improve the Mossyrock dam to increase power output. Commissioner Grose said Tacoma Power has indicated it doesn't plan to come fully back online until 2030. The commissioners said they'd like to continue the conversation.

Mental Health Tax funding request: Becky Butler said she'd like to delay the mental health tax discussion two weeks.

Calendars

Commissioner Swope noted he would be out of the office the following week.

Commissioner Grose said he would attend a housing meeting in Commissioner Swope's place later in the day.

Meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.