

Legislative objectives

November 7, 2022

11:21 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, Commissioner Grose, County Manager Erik Martin, Josh Weiss, Troy Nichols, Eric Eisenberg, Todd Chaput, Nic Scott, Lee Napier, Mindy Brooks, Kate Chatterton

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Josh Weiss said the Legislature will adopt the first year of its two-year legislative biennial budget, which will include Capital, transportation and operating budget.

Troy Nichols discussed tapered-down expectations regarding revenues. The group reviewed the county's possible objectives:

- Broadband
- Improving energy efficiency
- Dig Once
- Culvert funding
- Forest resource designation
- Forest regulatory issues
- Indigent defense
- Homelessness
- Jail medical
- Local Areas of More Intense Rural Development (LAMIRDs)
- Rural housing alternatives
- Senior services
- Property tax fees and penalties
- Sewer service in Packwood
- Turf fields for sports complex
- Transportation, including the I-5 corridor that's two lanes, the Rush Road interchange and Highway 12, a corridor study in Packwood and the Move Ahead Washington list
- Voluntary Stewardship Program
- Water banking

The commissioners narrowed the lobbying efforts list to the following:

- Energy
- Dig Once
- Water banking
- Senior services

The group discussed monitoring and sharing the county's thoughts on:

- Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)
- Forestry regulatory issues
- Indigent defense
- Jail medical
- Homeless services (with a plan to coordinate with local groups on a plan for braided services then work with a legislator to have a bill drafted)
- Broadband

Josh said the group will provide weekly reports as well as highlights of topics in the queue that may interest the BOCC.

Meeting ended at 12:35 a.m.