

Auditor, Treasurer & Finance Committee Update

April 23, 2025

11:03 a.m.

Present: Commissioner Brummer, Commissioner Pollock, Commissioner Swope, County Manager Ryan Barrett, Grace Jimenez, Graham Gowing, Becky Butler, Rodney Reynolds, Noah Hudson, Shelly Stewart, Larry Grove

Guest(s): None

Recorder: Tammy Martin

Public comment: None

The Finance Committee update began at 11:05 a.m. and went through 11:11 a.m. The first quarter of 2025 was discussed and included the Lewis County Investment summary, investment detail reports, and direct investment reports.

Treasurer's Office update: Arny Davis discussed the investment detail reports. Arny said there were a few investments that matured in the month of April.

Auditor's Office update: Grace Jimenez discussed the budget, County expenditures, and financial services. She said the Assessor's Office made a payment to Ascend leading to a slightly higher expenditure rate for Quarter 1. The Covid19 fund shows a repayment for a fraudulent claim that was reimbursed to the Department of Commerce. Grace said PH&SS had documented the claim very well. There was a delay in the request for reimbursement. Grace also informed the Board that Vader Water fund has a slightly higher expenditure rate, and it is to be expected due to the timing of work performed on the project.

Grace informed the Board there was some unspent ARPA funds related to public safety. Grace also said the 2024 SAO audit will start next month.

Larry Grove outlined the requirements to validate a levy proposed by the fire department. Larry said there were four special elections during this cycle, and it appears that all four are failing at this time. It is filing week May 12-16 for the school districts, fire districts, cities and council. Larry said these are non-partisan positions.

Larry said rates are still high for fixed rate mortgages and there hasn't been a large increase in recording. Larry said revenues are down for licensing for services being done online. There have been issues reconciling daily activity. These issues are with the Department of Licensing and not Lewis County. This is due to a new system and a new vendor.

Meeting adjourned 11:35 a.m.