COVID-19 County Response

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020

ASOTIN
COLUMBIA
GARFIELD
WALLA WALLA
WHITMAN
Asotin County Elected Officials

Board Of County Commissioners
• Chris Seubert
• Brian Shinn

Assessor – Jenny Rynearson
Auditor – Darla McKay
Clerk – McKenzie Kelley
Prosecuting Attorney / Coroner – Ben Nichols
Sheriff – John Hilderbrand
Treasurer – Holly Steiner

Local Public Health Officials
• Brady Woodbury, Director
• Bob Lutz, Health Officer

135 2nd St
Asotin, WA 99402
509-243-2060
Columbia County Elected Officials

Board Of County Commissioners
- Charles Amerein
- Ryan Rundell
- Michael Talbott

Assessor – Chris Mills
Auditor - Anne Higgins
Clerk – Susan Marinella
Prosecuting Attorney / Coroner – C Dale Slack
Sheriff – Joe Helm
Treasurer – Carla Rowe

Local Public Health Officials
- Martha Lanman, Administrator
- Larry Jecha, Health Officer

311 E Main Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-4542
Garfield County Elected Officials

Board Of County Commissioners

- Justin Dixon
- Robert Johnson
- Michael Talbott

Assessor – Brian Bartels
Auditor – Donna Deal
Clerk – Marie Gormsen
Prosecuting Attorney / Coroner – Matthew Newberg
Sheriff – Drew Hyer
Treasurer – Tereasa Summers

Local Public Health Officials

- Martha Lanman, Administrator
- Glenn Houser, Health Officer

789 W. Main St
Pomeroy, WA 99347
509-843-1391
Walla Walla County Elected Officials

Board Of County Commissioners
- Jim Johnson
- Todd Kimball
- Greg Tompkins

Assessor – Debra Antes
Auditor – Karen Martin
Clerk – Kathy Martin
Coroner – Richard Greenwood
Prosecuting Attorney – James Nagle
Sheriff – Mark Crider
Treasurer – Gordon Heimbigner

Local Public Health Officials
- Meghan DeBolt, Director
- Larry Jecha, Health Officer

314 W Main St
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-524-2512
Whitman County Elected Officials

Board Of County Commissioners
- Dean Kinzer
- Michael Largent
- Art Swannack

Assessor – Robin Jones
Auditor – Sandy Jamison
Clerk – Jill Whelchel
Coroner – Annie Pillers
Prosecuting Attorney – Denis Tracy
Sheriff – Brett Meyers
Treasurer – Chris Nelson

Local Public Health Officials
- Troy Henderson, Director
- Brad Bowman, Health Officer

400 N Main St
Colfax, WA 99111
509-397-4622
Columbia County building and planning has stopped all inspections and issuing permits if they don’t comply with the Governor’s Proclamation. Staff is working remotely and is continuing to accept, and process permits.

Walla Walla community development office is open by appointment only. Appointments are set based on need and only if social distancing conditions can be met. New submittals and payments are being accepted online and by drop box. Strict social distancing requirements are in place for any necessary inspections.

Asotin County building and planning offices are closed to the public. New submittals and payments are being accepted in the ballot drop box at the main courthouse parking lot.

Whitman: Had an employee lodge a formal complaint with the AGs office citing working conditions that were unsafe. This complaint raises a significant question around local government’s liability during this crisis.
Asotin County DD - The impact of COVID on our organization has been severe for staff and our clients. We provide employment services for individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment, which has been essentially shut down due to area business closures and social distancing measures.

Walla Walla: Had a particularly difficult winter with major flooding that has resulted in millions of dollars in emergency work. The work has been able to continue, but reimbursements from the federal government are slow in coming and there are concerns around cash flow if the federal government is not able to reimburse these expenses.
Local Public Health Response

Meghan Debolt – Director
Walla Walla County Health and Human Services
JANUARY - MARCH

Awareness but limited preparedness

Monitoring of travelers

Readying public health response

Coordinating with public health system
MARCH - PRESENT

Case Investigation
Isolation and Quarantine
Community Measures
Local Agency Coordination
Communication and Messaging
CHALLENGES AND LOOKING AHEAD

- Reducing restrictions and Phase 2
- Planning for second wave
- Workforce
- FPHS: On-going infrastructure needs
Impact on County Functions

How Has Responding To The Covid-19 Pandemic Affected County Functions?

- Essential needs – i.e. housing/homelessness, solid waste, broadband, transportation, food scarcity, etc.
- Public Safety
- Budget and Finances
Anticipated Needs Moving Forward

• What are key matters needing attention at the county level in order to dial activities back up?

• What problems do you anticipate as we move into our “new normal?”

• What impacts do you foresee on your county budget, staffing, services, etc.?

• How can counties help restart the economy? What do you need in order to assist?

• What scares you right now and looking ahead?
Questions?

www.wsac.org
THANK YOU

These slides, a copy of the webinar, and notes from this session will be shared with you as soon as possible.