

Minutes
Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
December 27, 2011

Call to Order

Chair Lisa M. Marsyla called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners, on December 27, 2011, at 9:30 a.m. in the public meeting room of the Wahkiakum County Courthouse.

Present: Commissioner Lisa M. Marsyla, Commissioner Blair H. Brady, Commissioner Daniel L. Cothren, Clerk of the Board Marsha LaFarge, HHS Deputy Director Chris Weiler, HHS Manager Chris Holmes, Assessor Bill Coons and Auditor Diane Tischer.

Others Present: *Wahkiakum County Eagle* Publisher Rick Nelson, Jerry & Kathleen Hogan, and Al George.

Flag Salute

Chair Marsyla led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

Chair Marsyla asked the board to amend the regular meeting agenda to include: A workshop to discuss the recruitment of a successor to HHS Direct Judy Bright; a resolution amending the use of the REET fund; and a contract amendment extending a contract for transportation services. It was M/S by Commissioners Cothren and Brady to approve the regular meeting agenda as amended for December 27, 2011. Carried.

Consent Agenda

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren to approve the consent agenda for December 27, 2011. Carried. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Minutes of regular meeting on December 20, 2011
- B. Minutes of special meeting on December 21, 2011
- C. Resolution No. 175-11. A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the criminal justice cumulative reserve fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$3,785.26
- D. Resolution No. 176-11. A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the emergency medical services cumulative reserve fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$1,000
- E. Resolution No. 177-11. A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the county properties cumulative reserve fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$139.88
- F. Resolution No. 178-11. A resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the electronic communications cumulative reserve fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$577.59
- G. Correction to Voucher Approval dated December 20, 2011 from \$92,791.71 to \$91,766.06

- H. Voucher Approval - \$510,452,61
- I. Transfer Voucher Approval - \$145,061.09

New Business

Chairman of the Board for 2012

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Marsyla appointing Daniel L. Cothren as the Chairman of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners for 2012. Carried.

Vice Chairman of the Board for 2012

It was M/S by Commissioners Cothren and Marsyla appointing Blair Brady as the Vice Chairman of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners for 2012. Carried.

Consolidated Grant

HHS Manager Chris Holmes presented the Consolidated Homeless Grant between WA Department of Commerce and Health and Human Services. Holmes explained this grant replaces the current transitional housing and emergency shelter/homeless prevention grants. Under this grant, they will be able to continue all operations previously accomplished, including emergency shelter, assistance with homeless prevention, and transitional housing. Holmes noted that due to state budget cuts, they will only be able to spend 78% or \$66,686 in the first 18 months of operation. If the state is able to provide the full amount of \$88,914, they will notify HHS with authorization to proceed. It was M/S by Commissioners Cothren and Brady authorizing the chair's signature on the Consolidated Homeless Grant between Department of Commerce and Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services. Carried.

Reserve a Ride Contract

HHS Manager Chris Holmes presented a contract amendment extending the current contract with the Human Services Council for transportation services for two months. Holmes stated this extension is due to a backlog in the Council finalizing transport contracts with vendors. It was M/S by Commissioners Cothren and Brady approving the chair's signature on the contract amendment, an extension of 2011 Contract No. 2011-TSB-16 to include February 29, 2012. Carried.

Special Occasion Liquor License

Chair Marsyla announced the Wahkiakum County Fair Board has applied for a special occasion liquor license for their February dinner. The board had no objections to the permit.

Assessor

Contract Amendment

Assessor Bill Coons asked for an amendment to the contract for title services with Wahkiakum Title & Escrow to include services for both the Treasurer and Assessor. It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren authorizing the chair's signature on the Contract Amendment Agreement between Wahkiakum Title & Escrow and Wahkiakum County. Carried. Marsyla inquired how often Coons would need service from the title company. Coons stated it would be limited due to his professional fees budget. Marsyla reminded Coons if he needed to revise any of his line items, he would need to bring them to the board for approval.

Revision to Purchase Agreement

Assessor Coons stated True Automation no longer wishes to provide mapping licenses as originally contracted. Coons and GIS tech Dave Nixon have been researching other solutions and costs. Commissioner Brady asked that the prosecuting attorney review the change order as it is a complicated matter and he wants to be fully informed before taking any action. Chair Marsyla asked Coons to return to the board with an alternative mapping product and cost.

Final Payment to True Automation

Assessor Coons asked the board to make a decision regarding the final payment of \$14,196.65 to True Automation according to their contract. Coons stated he received an email from the Treasurer stating the issues revolving around her office have been resolved. Coons reported his GIS layering issue has not been resolved. Marsyla stated in 2010 she was not willing to authorize the final payment until she received in writing from both the treasurer and assessor that the software has been properly installed and True Automation had fulfilled their contract and there are no outstanding issues. The board agreed to hold off making the final payment at this time.

Unfinished Business

Health Insurance

Commissioner Brady stated he felt it was prudent at this time to send a letter notifying WCIF that the county may pursue less expensive health insurance for the county's employees. Chair Marsyla informed Brady that under the current agreement, the County is free to shop around at any time and we only need to notify WCIF 90 days with a notice of intent to change. Marsyla also stated we can only issue one letter of intent every five years. It was agreed to revisit this matter in September of 2012.

Equipment Rental Rates

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren approving Resolution No. 179-11 setting the Equipment Rental Rates for 2012. Carried.

REET Fund

It was M/S by Commissioners Brady and Cothren approving resolution amending resolution #098-05 and RCWC Chapter 10.142 and providing for the use of funds in the real estate excise tax electronic technology fund for the purchase of maintaining and operating an annual real property revaluation system. Chair Marsyla called for discussion. Marsyla asked that this matter be tabled until January 17 until both the treasurer and assessor can discuss with the board how this amendment will affect their offices. Auditor Diane Tischer noted there was no language in the resolution to cover salaries and benefits and this concerned her. Brady withdrew his motion.

Deep River Street Light

Commissioner Brady reported he received a request from Carlton Appello asking the county to pay for a street light in Deep River. Brady explained to Appello the county does not have money to fund a light and suggested he contact the PUD.

Judy Bright Resignation

Chair Marsyla announced she received a letter of resignation from HHS Director Judy Bright effective December 31, 2011 due to health reasons. Marsyla stated this is a huge loss to our county and praised Bright for her service to the county as the Health and Human Services Director.

Recess/Reconvene

Chair Marsyla recessed the regular meeting at 10:17 a.m. for a 5 minute recess.

Work Session

Present: Commissioner Lisa M. Marsyla, Commissioner Blair H. Brady, Commissioner Daniel L. Cothren, Clerk of the Board Marsha LaFarge, HHS Deputy Director Chris Weiler, and HHS Manager Chris Holmes. Also present was Rick Nelson, publisher of the *Wahkiakum County Eagle*.

Chair Marsyla asked both HHS Deputy Director Chris Weiler and HHS Manager Chris Holmes for updates and what they may need to assist them until a new director is appointed.

Weiler acknowledged Bright's retirement is a big loss for the organization. Weiler asked the board to fill this position rapidly to bring continuity to our regional partners and the county staff needs reassurances there will be no disruptions. Weiler expressed his concerns as follows: 1) There is uncertainty with the staff and he does not want to lose any of them; the need to continue to work with the Regional Health Care Alliance; decisions need to be made at the governing health council for region 4; in the next three years a full version of the state public health standards will need to be submitted and this will take a tremendous amount of work; responding to the current public health standards assessment as there are a fair amount of corrections that are being worked on; continuing a community relationship; budget decisions; and all of the minor things such as answering emails and reporting requests.

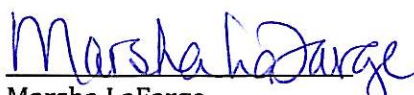
HHS Manager Chris Holmes added the Health Care Alliance is moving to formalize their organization and they are working on a grant that will impact Wahkiakum County. Holmes felt and someone from the county needs to be involved.


Marsyla asked Weiler and Holmes to work together to bridge the gap until a new director is hired.

It was agreed to start the process of recruiting as soon as possible and Marsyla suggested inviting Public Health Office Dr. Melnick, Cowlitz County HHS Director Carlos Carreon and Clark County HHS Director John Wiesman to get their input on hiring a director in light of the new health care reform and the state's current budget.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Chair Lisa M. Marsyla adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Attest: 
Marsha LaFarge
Clerk of the Board

Approved: 
Daniel L. Cothren
Chairman of the Board