

Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners

*District No. 1 Commissioner: Lee Tischer
District No. 2 Commissioner: Daniel L. Cothren
District No. 3 Commissioner: Gene Strong, Chair*

**MINUTES
Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
January 19, 2021**

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on January 19, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. in the third-floor public meeting room of the Wahkiakum County Courthouse located at 64 Main Street in Cathlamet, Washington.

Present: Chair Gene Strong, Commissioner Dan Cothren, Commissioner Lee Tischer, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson, HHS Director Chris Bischoff, Public Works Director Chuck Beyer.

Flag Salute

Chair Dan Cothren led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer approving the regular meeting agenda for January 19, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer approving the consent agenda for January 19, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2021
- B. Resolution No. 08-21 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 \$4,346.33.
- C. Resolution No. 09-21 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 \$2,680.07.
- D. Voucher Approval - \$103,728.54

New Business

Cathlamet Public WiFi Project

Following discussion, the Board was in consensus to not be a part of the Operating Board for the wifi project.

Resolution to Approve an Interlocal Agreement with PUD for COVID Residential Utility Support

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve Resolution No. 10 – 21 a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Wahkiakum County to approve of an Interlocal Agreement for residential utility support. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Public Works

Emergency Resolution – Salmon Creek Road Culvert Failure and Lane Closure

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve Resolution No. 11-21 a resolution declaring an Emergency at milepost 2.2 on Salmon Creek County Road and to approve Resolution No. 12-21 a resolution closing the westbound lane of Salmon Creek County Road. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Replacement Vehicle Purchase for HHS

HHS has requested to replace an older car with a new SUV that is better able to travel all roads in the county. There is \$21,819.73 in ER&R funds as of 12-31-20 and HHS will pay for the balance of the vehicle.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to approve of the ER&R purchase of a 2021 Ford Escape for HHS in the amount of \$27,429.54 and to surplus county vehicle #315 a 2003 Chevy Cavalier. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Health and Human Services

Contract with Thurston County for Tobacco and Vapor Products Prevention

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the Chair's signature on the contract for Tobacco and Vapor Products Prevention between Thurston County and the Wahkiakum County Public Health and Human Services Department for \$7,000.00. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

COVID Update

Chris Bischoff, HHS Director, advised that approximately 525 COVID vaccines have been administered, with another approximately 90 doses currently on hand and scheduled to be administered this week. There have been a few allergic issues with the vaccination effort, however, no hospitalizations. The Governor has expanded the list of which people are eligible for vaccination.

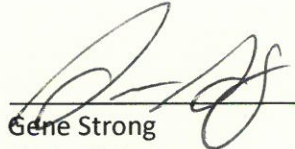
Regional Health District Proposal

Commissioner Gene Strong advised that he would like to work with Bischoff to draft a letter objecting to the proposal to form Regional Health Districts. It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to move ahead with the letter supporting local control of the Health Dept. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, Chair Gene Strong adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Attest: _____
Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved:  _____
Gene Strong
Chair of the Board