



## 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

February 2, 2021

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on February 2, 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, Sheriff Mark Howie, Undersheriff Gary Howell, Auditor Nicci Bergseng, DEM Coordinator Beau Renfro and HHS Director Chris Bischoff.

#### Flag Salute

Chair Gene Strong led the flag salute.

#### Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer approving the regular meeting agenda for February 2, 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 February 2, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- ~~A. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2021~~
- B. Resolution No. 18-21 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 \$280.77
- C. Resolution No. 19-21 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 \$5,406.10
- D. Voucher Approval - \$71,320.22
- E. Holiday Closure: President's Day – Monday, February 15, 2021
- F. Resolution No. 20-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$6,728.76 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of accumulated annual leave to Nathan McBride and for payment of county share of FICA/Medicare

- G. Resolution No. 21-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$5,907-32 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of accumulated annual leave to Vicki Gregory and for payment of county share of FICA/Medicare
- H. Resolution No. 22-21 a resolution establishing the rate for mileage reimbursements to county officials and employees for the use of personal vehicles in connection with county business and amending section 2.59.120 of the revised code of Wahkiakum County

### **Auditor's Office**

#### Request for Quotes for Three Copiers

Nicci Bergseng, Auditor, reported that there are three copiers that have outlived their life expectancy and need to be replaced: Superior Court, District Court/Prosecutor's Office and the Sheriff's office copier.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to approve of the Auditor moving forward with a Request for Bid to replace three copiers. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

#### Request to Hire at Step 3

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to hire a Deputy Auditor II (Recording/Licensing) at a Step 3. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

### **Public Works**

#### Review Capital Improvement Plan Project List

The Board reviewed the list of capital improvement projects. No further action was taken at this time; the Capital Improvement List will be revised and approved by resolution at a later date.

### **Health & Human Services**

#### Decrease of Transit Budget and Increase of Behavioral Health Budget

The Transit Fund has been struggling during the pandemic due to the decrease of revenue from the Wahkiakum on the Move and from medical transport. Chris Bischoff, HHS Director, requested to reduce the salary/benefit splits out of Transit and put them into Behavioral Health; the split changes are justified as the employees have not been spending the allotted time working in Transit.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the requested budget changes; reduce the salary/benefits of up to \$27,176 from the Transit Fund and to increase the salary/benefit of up to \$27,176 in Behavioral Health Fund. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

**Opening of Sealed Quotes  
Asphalt Products and Rock Products for 2021**

The Clerk of the Board, Beth Johnson, opened and read aloud the five sealed quotes that were received:

Burns Construction; Cathlamet, WA	Rock Quotes	-
J.L. Storedahl & Sons; Kelso, WA	Rock Quotes	-
Lakeside Industries; Longview, WA	-	Asphalt Quotes
LodeStone Quarry, Inc.; Bay Center, WA	Rock Quotes	-
Naselle Rock & Asphalt Co.; Naselle, WA	Rock Quotes	Asphalt Quotes

**Board of Health**

Chris Bischoff, HHS Director, provided a COVID update to the board. Six new Wahkiakum county cases were just received today, after several days with no cases. Wahkiakum County is one of the top counties in the state for the percentage of population that have been vaccinated for COVID. There are currently no first doses of vaccines available. However, there are some second doses on hand but are scheduled to be administered as second doses. As first-dose vaccines become available, they will be administered to ages 65 and older. Bischoff stated that everyone needs to continue to wear a mask, including those that have been vaccinated. The region that Wahkiakum county is in is still in phase 1; two other regions have now moved to phase 2. High School sports can still practice even when in Phase 1; however, actual competition cannot start until Phase 2. Lastly, Bischoff and the Board discussed several public health related bills that are being introduced.

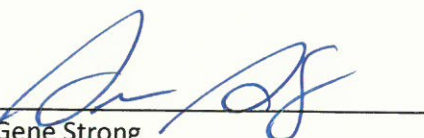
**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the board, Chair Gene Strong adjourned the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

Attest:

  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Clerk of the Board

Approved:

  
Gene Strong  
Chair of the Board