

## Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners

District No. 1 Commissioner: Mike Backman

District No. 2 Commissioner: Daniel L. Cothren, Chair

District No. 3 Commissioner: Gene Strong

### MINUTES

#### Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners

#### Regular Meeting

June 9, 2020

Chair Dan Cothren called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on June 9, 2020, 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 Dan Cothren, Commissioner Mike Backman, Commissioner Gene Strong, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson, HHS Operations Manager Duncan Cruickshank, HHS Behavioral Health Manager Tristan Wozniak, HHS Chris Bischoff, DEM Coordinator Beau Renfro, Treasurer Tammy Peterson, Auditor Nicci Bergseng, Auditor Nicci Bergseng, Assessor Bill Coons, Public Works Director Chuck Beyer, Deputy Auditor Kim Tracy, PA Dan Bigelow.

#### Flag Salute

Chair Dan Cothren led the flag salute.

#### Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Backman and Strong approving the regular meeting agenda for June 9, 2020. Vote: Aye – Strong, Backman and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

#### Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Backman and Strong approving the consent agenda for June 9, 2020. Vote: Aye – Strong, Backman and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. ~~Regular Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2020~~
- B. Resolution No. 74-20 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 % 1,230.54
- C. Resolution No. 75-20 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 \$67.18
- D. Voucher Approval - \$71,310.71

## **New Business**

### Coronavirus Relief Grant for Local Governments

This is a reimbursable grant that covers up to \$250,000 in funding for costs incurred to COVID-19, during the period of March 1, 2020 to October 31, 2020. After discussion, Commissioner Strong advised that the Public Works Department will be managing the grant expenditures, however, invoices should first go to Beau Renfro, DEM Coordinator, for approval.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Backman and Strong to approve of the Chair's signature on the Interagency Agreement with the Department of Commerce for Coronavirus Relief Funds for Local Governments. Vote: Aye – Strong, Backman and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

## **Health and Human Services**

### Request to Hire at Step 3

Tristan Wozniak, Behavioral Health Manager, requested to hire a mental Health Therapist candidate at a step 3. It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Backman to approve of hiring of a Therapist II at Step 3. Vote: Aye – Strong, Backman and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

### GRBHO Board Representative

The county needs to replace Suzanne Holmes on the GRBHO Board. Board in consensus to advertise the position to the public. If a candidate is not found, then a Board member will take over that position.

## **Commissioner Reports**

Commissioner Dan Cothren thanked the Sheriff's Department and stated that deputies are respected and valued in our community and that law enforcement will always be a top priority regarding budgets.

Commissioner Gene Strong also commended the Sheriff and all Sheriff's Department staff.

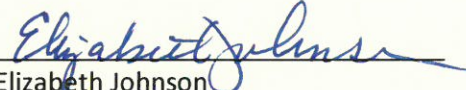
Commissioner Mike Backman thanked the Sheriff's Department for their service. He reported on a meeting with representatives from the town, COG and Cowlitz County regarding COVID grant funding. The COG received \$400,000 in funding and Backman is still trying to obtain a position in Wahkiakum to help with employment resources, grant writing and economic development.

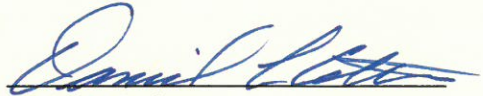
## **Work Session COVID Topics**

HHS Director Chris Bischoff discussed the Phase 3 Safe Start Plan template that was just published; this is required for all businesses and entities to open for Phase 3, as well as following all L&I rules. Each Department will need to complete their own Phase 3 Safe Start Plan. The Glass partitions throughout the courthouse will be installed later this week and next week. A couple of offices have asked for partitions between employees. The required signage will be posted.

**Adjournment**

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

Attest:   
Elizabeth Johnson  
Clerk of the Board

Approved:   
Daniel L. Cothren  
Chair of the Board