



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 June 22, 2021

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on June 22, 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, Prosecuting Attorney Dan Bigelow, Public Works Director Chuck Beyer, GIS Technician Lorraine Fuller, HHS Operations Manager Duncan Cruickshank, HHS Community Services Manager Julie Johnston, Sheriff Mark Howie.

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 June 22, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren approving the consent agenda for April 20, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of June 15, 2021
- B. Resolution No. 78-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$576.78 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of accumulated annual leave to Cecile Bamer and for payment of county share of FICA/Medicare
- C. Resolution No. 79-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$4,899.96 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of accumulated annual leave to Teresa McMahon and for payment of county share of FICA/Medicare
- D. Resolution No. 80-21 a resolution authorizing payment of interfund load
- E. Resolution No. 81-21 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 \$1,080.42

- F. Resolution No. 82-21 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 \$46,690.94
- G. Voucher Approval - \$137,631.77
- H. Voucher Approval / Transfer Batch - \$261,779.00
- I. Holiday Closure: Observance of Independence Day – Monday, July 5, 2020

New Business

Recognition of Chinook Indian Nation

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Strong to approve of Resolution No. 83-21 a resolution supporting Chinook Indian Nation federal recognition and adjustment of status. Vote: Aye – Strong and Tischer; Nay - Cothren. Motion passed on majority vote.

Notice of Public Hearing: Open Space Applications

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to approve of the Notice for Public Hearing for four Open Space Applications, with the Public Hearing to occur at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Public Hearing Scheduling for Revised Shoreline Master Program (SMP)

The Board discussed holding two public hearings regarding the revised SMP; one on each end of the county.

Appointment: Law and Justice Council

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to appoint Allen Bennet to the Law and Justice Council, effective through December 31, 2022. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Appointment: Planning Commission

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to appoint Tony Aegerter to the Wahkiakum County Planning Commission, effective through December 31, 2024. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Prosecutor's Office

Amendment to Juvenile Detention Agreement with Cowlitz County

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Detention of Wahkiakum County Juveniles in Cowlitz County Juvenile Detention Facility. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Revision to Nondiscrimination and Antiharassment Policies

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to adopt Resolution No. 84 - 21 a resolution amending Wahkiakum County Harassment Policy to comply with current law. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Health and Human Services

Update on Community Center

Duncan Cruickshank, HHS Operations Manager, provided an update on the Community Center; the staff member has resigned. The Advisory Board met last week and there is controversy on whether or not the center should remain open with a staff member. The Community Center's costs and operations are jointly shared by the town and the county. The bathrooms will remain open regardless of the staffing of the center as there is a separate entrance.

Public Works

Interagency Agreement with WA State Department of Transportation for Ferry Funding

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the Ferry Operations Interagency Agreement between the Washington State Department of Transportation and Wahkiakum County GCB-3500. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce – FCAAP Grant

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce for preparing flood control assistance account program (FCAAP) grant materials to update the Comprehensive Flood Control Plan. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Building & Planning / GIS

New Road Petition – Mattan Way

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the name Mattan Way for the private road. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Work Session

Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF)

Long Term Care Insurance

Erik Ryan, WCIF Executive Director, and Lisa Sbai, Senior Account Executive, were present to discuss long term care benefit options. Washington state will be implementing a tax for long term care insurance; under the state plan the individual must live in the state to use the benefits and there are vesting requirements. The WCIF plan has immediate vesting, and the plan can be used anywhere. The state program is capped at \$36,500; WCIF has both lower and higher coverage options. Employees can opt out of the state plan only if they have their own coverage in place by November 1, 2021. The WCIF plan is both a long-term care and a death benefit. Oregon residents cannot purchase the policy.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Attest: _____

Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved: _____

Gene Strong
Chair of the Board