



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

August 17, 2021

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on August 17, 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, HHS Director Chris Bischoff, Treasurer Tammy Peterson, Auditor Nicci Bergseng.

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 August 17, 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 August 3, 2021
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2021
- C. Resolution No. 104-21 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 \$1,976.83
- D. Resolution No. 105-21 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 \$156.71
- E. Voucher Approval - \$ 187,667.03

Public Comment

Colleen Haley, Board of Equalization, introduced the new Clerk of the Board of Equalization, Laurie Williams.

Several public comments were heard; the topics included Covid, opposition to vaccine mandates, concerns with herbicide usage and west end water supply issues.

Health & Human Services

Consolidated Operating Grant Agreement

This grant funds the county transportation system. The grant offers \$842,000 for first two years and then an additional \$842,000 for the second two years. There is a 10% match.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the Chair's signature on the Operating Grant Agreement PTD0385 between the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services Department in the amount of \$842,939 (plus an additional \$842,939) for the term of July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2025. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Special Services Agreement with Elochoman Valley Partners

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the Chair's signature of Special Services Agreement between Elochoman Valley Partners and Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services for the term of July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2025. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Finance Committee

Present: Chair Gene Strong, Auditor Nicci Bergseng and Treasurer Tammy Peterson.

Treasurer Tammy Peterson reviewed the Finance Committee's agenda topics. If the Encumbered Lands Funding was removed, we would have had a loss of revenue of \$721,230 in 2020. Investment earnings have greatly decreased. Total investments are \$13,527,864.57.

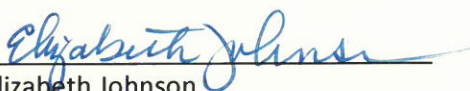
Typically, we have to borrow \$500,000 from reserves to manage payroll costs until timber revenues come in, however, this year we borrowed \$750,000. We budgeted \$1,2M for the timber harvest, however, the Department of Natural Resources has updated the revenue forecast to \$1,6M. A partial payment of approximately \$900,000 was already received.

The Department of Revenue recently notified all Treasurer's in the state of an error made on their part. All counties and taxing entities are required to pay back funds from this mistake, which amounts to approximately \$81,764 for the county.

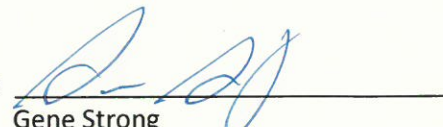
Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Attest:


Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved:


Gene Strong
Chair of the Board