

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE
Regarding Access to the County Clerk's Records of the Court**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of County Commissioners of Wahkiakum County, Washington, will hold a public hearing commencing: **Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 9:45 a.m.** in the Commissioners' Public Meeting Room, 3rd floor, Wahkiakum County Courthouse, 64 Main Street, Cathlamet, Washington, for the purpose of determining whether or not the Ordinance set forth below shall be adopted, and at which hearing any person may appear and be heard for or against said ordinance:

An Ordinance of Wahkiakum County amending RCWC 9.94.020-030 providing for modifications to access to the Wahkiakum County Clerk's records of the court

The proposed ordinance can be viewed in its entirety at www.co.wahkiakum.wa.us/318/Ordinances and will be available upon request at the Wahkiakum County Commissioners' office or by emailing johnsonb@co.wahkiakum.wa.us. Interested persons may appear and be heard at said public hearing, or submit written comments to the Wahkiakum County Clerk of the Board at P. O. Box 586, Cathlamet, WA 98612, prior to the hearing date.

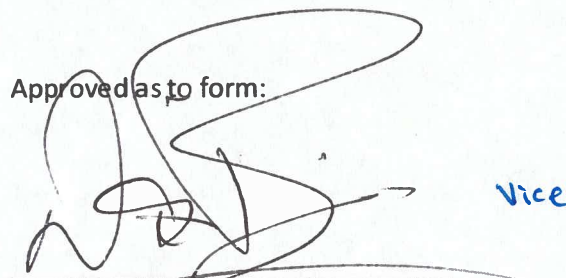
The Commissioners' public meeting room is accessible for persons with disabilities. **Additional Assistance for Persons with Disabilities:** If you need any special accommodations to participate in the hearing, please contact Chuck Beyer at least 48 hours in advance at (360) 795-3301.

ORDERED in regular session on the 3rd day of October 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WAHIAKUM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

By:

Approved as to form:



Daniel H. Bigelow
Prosecuting Attorney



Lee Fischer **Daniel L. Cochran**
Vice Chair, Board of County Commissioners

Publish: October 5 and October 12, 2023

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2 **ORDINANCE NO. ____-23**

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4 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING RCWC 9.94.020-030 PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATIONS TO**
5 **ACCESS TO THE WAHIAKUM COUNTY CLERK'S RECORDS OF THE COURT**

6 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners of Wahkiakum County passed Ordinance #166-18
7 modifying Revised Code of Wahkiakum County (RCWC) 9.94 and providing for collection of clerk's
8 fees mandated by RCW 13.13.016; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the impetus for the ordinance was the adoption of new technology, known as the
10 Odyssey system, that allowed electronic access to court records for subscribers across the world; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the pricing structure created at the time was one of many attempts by many
12 counties to capture the most effective and equitable collection system; and

13 **WHEREAS**, in the years since, pricing, use, and collection procedures throughout the state
14 have settled from their original chaotic state as counties adopt the processes that have been most
15 effective after observing the successes and failures of their own and other offices; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the county now intends to optimize its own clerk's electronic access fees;

17 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF**
18 **COMMISSIONERS OF WAHIAKUM COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:**

- 19 1. RCWC 9.94.020 is amended to read as follows: "The Wahkiakum County Clerk shall collect
20 an annual fee from applicants seeking electronic access to superior court documents."
21 2. RCWC9.94.030(b) is amended to read as follows: "Annual fees shall be prorated in whole
22 months if service starts after February 1. After the initial purchase, all renewals shall be billed
23 in January, and the entire annual fee for that calendar year shall be due and payable upon
24 billing."
25 3. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately.

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DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of September, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WAHKIAKUM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

ATTEST:

Lee Tischer, Chairman

Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM this
30th day of August, 2023.

Daniel L. Cothren, Commissioner

Daniel H. Bigelow
Prosecuting Attorney

Eugene Strong, Commissioner