

Agenda
Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
January 25, 2022
9:30 a.m.

To Join Zoom Meeting on your **Computer, Tablet, etc.:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/880972233?pwd=Zk93bUUwWGJlVnV5WXk3YlM4RDlFZz09>
Meeting ID: **880 972 233** and Passcode: **Aux4SY**

To Join Zoom Meeting from your **Phone:** 1-253-215-8782
Meeting ID: **880 972 233** and Passcode: **721021**

Next Resolution No. 10-22
Next Ordinance No. 169-22

9:30 a.m. **Call to Order & Flag Salute**
9:32 a.m. **Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda**

9:33 a.m. **Consent Agenda**

All matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each member of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners for reading and study, are considered routine, and will be enacted by one motion of the Board with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by request.

- A. Excuse Commissioner Dan Cothren
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2022
- C. Resolution No. 10-22 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the ... TBD
- D. Voucher Approval – TBD
- E. Voucher Approval – Transfer Batch - \$500,000.00

9:35 a.m. **Public Comment**

(The commissioners are a direct link between citizens and Wahkiakum County. Comments on county programs and topics of concern are welcome during this portion of the meeting. NOTE: During this portion of the meeting, the public is encouraged to comment on issues that are not on the agenda for decision action. Public comment is limited to three minutes per person)

Review Commissioners' Calendars

9:40 a.m. **New Business**

9:45 a.m. **Public Works ~ Chuck Beyer, Director**
1. Update on East Valley Road

10:00 a.m. **IT Quarterly Report**

10:05 a.m. **Commissioner Reports**

Adjournment

*Complete copies of the current Board of Commissioners meeting agenda packet can be viewed at the Board of Commissioners' office.
Partial agenda packets are posted on the county's website at <https://www.co.wahkiakum.wa.us/AgendaCenter>*

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities.

*This is a draft agenda. Times on the agenda are estimates and can vary depending on the order of business that comes before the board.
If you have questions regarding the agenda, please contact the Commissioners' Office at (360) 795-8048.*

Amended Agenda at 4:53:56 PM, on 1/20/2022

Please call 360-795-8048 if you require special accommodations to participate in this meeting.

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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

January 18, 2022

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on January 18, 2022, 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, Undersheriff Gary Howell, Assessor Bill Coons, 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 January 18, 2022. 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 January 11, 2022
- B. Resolution No. 06-21 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 \$20,000.00
- C. Resolution No. 07-21 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 \$111.08
- D. Resolution No. 08-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$101.88 for the payment of medical claims for a LEOFF member
- E. Resolution No. 09-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Inter Local Cooperation Cumulative Reserve Fund for the payment of vouchers properly chargeable to said fund in the amount of \$1,249.84
- F. Voucher Approval - \$145,207.83

Public Comment

A Puget Island resident spoke in support of the proposed Epidemiologist position.

Several residents of East Valley Road were present and commented on the flood damage and the current state of the road:

An East Valley Road resident commented that the emergency culvert remedy has directed the creek to within twenty feet of his house and it is eroding the bank. He commented that the emergency repair is not appropriate, and the stream should be placed back in its regular course.

An East Valley Road resident commented that the stream is now running right along the road and is probably contaminated because of that.

An East Valley Road resident advised that the emergency repairs done are not adequate and that the road has already flooded again during a rainfall, making it impassable.

Several East Valley Road residents spoke in frustration that the flood damage has not been adequately repaired and that they are not receiving any communication with the county public works department regarding the situation. They invited the Board to visit the site to view the flooding damage in person.

Following public comments, the Board advised that they would hold a work session at the end of the meeting with the East Valley residents and county staff to work on the issue.

New Business

Special Occasion Liquor License

The Wahkiakum Chamber of Commerce has applied for a Special Occasion Liquor License on February 19, 2022 at the Columbia River Ranch and Cattle Company, 281 West Birnie Slough Road in Cathlamet. The Board unanimously had no objections.

MOU with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the Memorandum of Understanding with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees for new positions and pay class realignments, effective January 1, 2022. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Finance Committee

Present: Chair Gene Strong, Treasurer Tammy Peterson, Auditor Nicci Bergseng. Commissioner Dan Cothren, Commissioner Lee Tischer, Clerk of the Board Beth Johson.

Treasurer Tammy Peterson reviewed the financial figures with the committee. The Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) interest rate remains under 1% currently. The total investment as of December 31, 2021 is \$17,092,938. Current Expense Loan balance is currently at \$50,000, however, the process to initiate a new loan from the Reserve Fund will be the end of January or beginning of February.

Peterson also advised that the committee needs to review and update the investment policy soon. This policy was last updated in 2017. In addition, a debt policy will need to be adopted.

Commissioner Reports

The Board reported on their liaison assignments over the past week. Commissioner Cothren reported that he had spent a lot of time viewing the roads and the flooding damage, though he had not yet visited East Valley Road. Cothren also reported on the efforts of the Encumbered Lands Committee to lobby for the pilot project during the legislative session; noting that the project does not appear to currently be in the Capital Budget.

Commissioner Tischer commented on the recent Wahkiakum School District lawsuit with the state.

Commissioner Strong discussed a proposal to convert a tide gate to a bridge on SR-4 near Seal River. In addition, Strong advised that most of the appliances at the fair grounds may be damaged due to flood waters.

Work Session ***East Valley Road Damage***

Present: DEM Coordinator Beau Renfro, Public Works Director Chuck Beyer.

Chuck Beyer, Public Works Director, advised that the immediate goal was to relieve residents that were being trapped behind the flood waters. The County Engineer received approval for emergency remediation, evaluated the site and placed the emergency culvert where the creek was going at the time. County staff will be participating in a meeting on Friday with multiple different agencies to try to evaluate and solve the problem; the meeting will include a site visit. Discussion ensued on the cost of the repairs and potentially obtaining grant funding for a bridge.

The East Valley Road residents again stated that they would like the stream placed back into its original channel and they expressed frustration with the lack of communication they have received regarding the road repairs.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Attest: _____
Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved: _____
Gene Strong
Chair of the Board

WAHKIAKUM COUNTY
VOUCHER APPROVAL
TRANSFER BATCH

FROM

119 Criminal Justice

500,000.00

TO

001 Current Expense

500,000.00

FROM

TO

500,000.00

500,000.00

We, the undersigned Commissioners of District 1, 2, and 3 of Wahkiakum County, in Washington State, do hereby certify that the merchandise and/or services herein after specified have been received and vouchers amount to: \$500,000.00

approved for payment on:

January 25, 2022

ATTESTED:

Commissioner, District # 1

Commissioner, District # 2

Commissioner, District # 3

Natasia Borne

Auditor/Dep Auditor/Clerk of the Board