



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 2, 2024

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on January 2, 2024, 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 Lee Tischer, Commissioner Dan Cothren, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson. Sheriff Mark Howie, Undersheriff Gary Howell, Sgt. John Mason, HHS Operations Manager Duncan Cruickshank, Sheriff's IT/911/Radio Tech Beau Renfro, DEM Coordinator Austin Smith, HHS Local Emergency Resource Coordinator Brandi Beedle, Terri Howell, WCN Coalition Coordinator Minette Smith.

Flag Salute

Chair Lee Tischer led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer approving the regular meeting agenda for January 2, 2024. 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 January 2, 2024. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of December 27, 2023
- B. Resolution No. 01-24 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 \$2,014.05
- C. Resolution No. 02-24 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 \$2, 834.21
- D. Voucher Approval - \$75,909.06
- E. Holiday Closure: Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Monday, January 15, 2024

Public Comment

Sheriff Mark Howie introduced the new Department of Emergency Management Coordinator, Austin Smith.

New Business

Reappointments to the Fair Board

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to re-appoint Shelley Gilbert, Rosalinde Willson, Erinn Reimann and Diane Dyer to new terms on the Fair Board, effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Reappointments to the Board of Equalization

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to re-appoint Robert Rendler and Rosalinde Willson to new terms on the Board of Equalization, effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2026. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Museum Service Agreement with the Wahkiakum Historical Society

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the Museum Service Agreement between Wahkiakum County and Wahkiakum County Historical Society, that provides \$2,000 in funding in 2024. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Town of Cathlamet for the Julia Butler Hansen Swimming Pool

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to approve of the Cooperative Funding Agreement with the Town of Cathlamet to assist the town in operating and maintaining the Julia Butler Hansen Swimming Pool in 2024. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Health & Human Services

Cost Proposal from Correctional Counseling, Inc. for Moral Reconciliation Therapy Training

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the Correctional Counseling, Inc.'s Moral Reconciliation Therapy Training cost proposal. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Board of Health

Terri Howell and Minette Smith, HHS staff, discussed National Mentoring Month. Over the past year, they have successfully rebuilt the local Youth Mentoring Program. Currently eight mentors have been matched with youth mentees and there are a few more youth still waiting for a mentor. They thanked the community for supporting this valuable program.

Brandi Beedle, HHS Local Emergency Resource Coordinator, discussed emergency planning and preparation. HHS will be offering 3 trainings on the National Incident Management System and the Incident Command System.

Commissioners

Discussion on Proposed Legislative Bill Regarding Ferry Operations

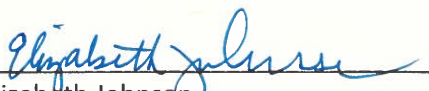
The Board discussed this proposed legislation and how it might affect the county. The Board had no objections via consensus.

Commissioner Reports

The Board discussed their work over the past week.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Attest: 
Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved: 
Gene Strong
Chair of the Board