



Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners

District No. 1 Commissioner: Lee Tischer

District No. 2 Commissioner: Daniel L. Cothren

District No. 3 Commissioner: Mark Letham

MINUTES

Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners

Regular Meeting

January 20, 2026

Chair Dan Cothren called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on January 20, 2026, 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 Dan Cothren, Commissioner Mark Letham, Commissioner Lee Tischer, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson. Treasurer Tammy Peterson, Deputy Treasurer Marissa Longtain, Assessor Drew Jenkins, Emergency Technology Coordinator Beau Renfro, HHS Director Chris Bischoff, County Engineer Paul Lacy.

Flag Salute

Chair Dan Cothren led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham approving the regular meeting agenda for January 20, 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Letham and Tischer approving the consent agenda for January 20, 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Special Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2026
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2026
- C. Resolution No. 13-26 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 \$10,315.20
- D. Resolution No. 14-26 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 \$1,071.29
- E. Resolution No. 15-26 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$9,490.00 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for the payment of workers compensation services
- F. Resolution No. 16-26 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 \$79,843.72
- G. Voucher Approval - \$232,912.05

Public Comment

Dan Turner, Cathlamet Library, commented on membership statistics and library programs.

Ron Wright commented on upcoming public forums regarding the school levy.

New Business

Appointment to the Noxious Weed Control Board

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to appoint Lore Twiet to the Noxious Weed Control Board for a new four-year term, through December 31, 2029. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Reappointments to the Johnson Park Board

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to re-appoint Denise Blanchard and Jamie Samms to the Johnson Park Advisory Board for new three-year terms, through December 31, 2028. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Change in Regular Meeting Date for the Grays River Flood Control District

Per RCW 86.09.274, the county legislative authority must approve of any change in regular meeting date by a Flood Control District. It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Letham and Tischer to approve of the change in regular meeting date for the Grays River Flood Control District, with the new regular meeting date being the second Thursday of the month, at 5:30 p.m. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Letter of Support for a Grant Application Submitted by the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to approve the letter of support for the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Government's EPA Regional Assessment Coalition grant application. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Letter of Support for a Grant Application Submitted by WHEELhouse Cathlamet

Ron Wright, WHEELhouse Executive Director, and Megan Blackburn Friend, President, discussed the grant that WHEELhouse is applying for and the upcoming project with the University of Washington (UW). The Architecture, Urban Planning and Scandinavian Studies students at UW will be working in the community to help provide planning services and help identify grant fund sources.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to approve the letter of support for the Capital Capacity Grant Application submitted by WHEELhouse Cathlamet. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Public Works

Revised Right of Way Procedures

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to approve of the Chair's signature on the Right of Way Procedures, including Exhibit A, Administrative Settlement, and Exhibit B, Agency's Waiver Valuation. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

IT Committee

Quote with More Power for the Microsoft 365 Migration Project

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to approve of the Chair's signature on the Quotation Number QWSQ11757 as presented by More Power Technology Group in the amount of \$35,967.47 including tax, to be paid out of the Electronic Communications Cumulative Reserve Fund. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Health & Human Services

Funding Agreement with CHOICE for Direct Client Support Services

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to approve of the Chair's signature on the Funding Agreement, Contract "Direct Client Support – Wahkiakum HHS – June 2026" between CHOICE and the Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services Department in the amount of \$1,350.00; through June 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

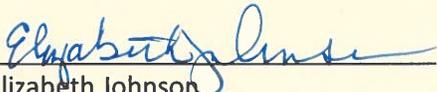
Commissioner Reports

The Board reviewed the past week, topics included the start of the legislative session, storm damage to a private road, the fair's fundraiser, and a proposal regarding taxation revenues for ferries.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Attest:


Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved:


Daniel L. Cothren
Chair of the Board