



## 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

February 9, 2021

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on February 9, 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, Public Works Director Chuck Beyer, Chief Civil Deputy Joannie Kuhlmeier, HHS Behavioral Health Manager Tristan Wozniak, HHS Director Chris Bischoff.

#### 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 February 9, 2021 (with the addition of a Voucher Approval / Transfer Batch and the addition of a letter to Governor Insee). Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

#### Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer approving the consent agenda for February 9, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2021
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2021
- C. Resolution No. 23-21 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 \$527.24
- D. Resolution No. 24-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$6,296.45 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for the payment of workers compensation services
- E. Voucher Approval - \$858,646.48
- F. Late Agenda Item: Voucher Approval – Transfer Batch - \$250,000.00

## **New Business**

### Letter to Governor Inslee Requesting Equitable Distribution of COVID Vaccines to Rural Areas

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to sign the letter and send to the Governor. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

## **Sheriff's Office**

### Contract Amendment

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to sign contract amendment E21-039A (SECO County Basic Service Operating Contract SFY 2021). Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

## **Health & Human Services**

### Appointment to the HHS Advisory Board

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to appoint Dr. Paul Schneider to the Health and Human Services Advisory Board, effective through December 31, 2023. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

### Vaccine Update

Chris Bischoff, HHS Director, provided an update to the board regarding vaccine distribution. HHS was able to obtain enough vaccines to administer second doses for the next two weeks. However, vaccines are coming into counties very slowly and they are having difficulty ordering more first dose vaccines. The current wait list may take several months to work through. If the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is approved, that will help as it does not require a booster vaccination.

### Request to Hire a Therapist at a Step 3

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to approve of hiring the Mental health Therapist II candidate at a Step 3. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

## **Public Works**

### Heater Installation for the Ferry Commuter Cabin

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to accept the Inland Electric Inc. proposal to install two electric heaters in the commuter cabin of the Ferry, Oscar B. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

**Work Session**

*Proposed Creation of Pillar Rock Flood Control Zone District*

Several residents of Pillar Rock Road are interested in forming a Flood Control Zone District. Commissioner Cothren advised he would contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to try and determine some costs and the feasibility for future beach nourishment there.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the board, Chair Gene Strong adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Attest: Elizabeth Johnson  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Clerk of the Board

Approved: Gene Strong  
Gene Strong  
Chair of the Board