



Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners

District No. 1 Commissioner: Lee Tischer, Chair

District No. 2 Commissioner: Daniel L. Cothren

District No. 3 Commissioner: Gene Strong

MINUTES Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners Regular Meeting February 28, 2023

Chair Lee Tischer called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on February 28, 2023, 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 Lee Tischer via phone, Commissioner Gene Strong, Commissioner Dan Cothren, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson, Treasurer Tammy Peterson, HHS Director Chris Bischoff, HHS Operations Manager Duncan Cruickshank.

Flag Salute

Chair Lee Tischer led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Tischer approving the regular meeting agenda for February 28, 2023. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Strong approving the consent agenda for February 28, 2023. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2023
- B. Resolution No. 32-23 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 \$53.80
- C. Resolution No. 33-23 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 \$3,497.75
- D. Voucher Approval - \$117,664.26
- E. Voucher Approval / Transfer Batch - \$17,752.32

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

New Business

Proclamation: American Red Cross Month

Michael Drake, Executive Director of the Southwest Washington Chapter of the American Red Cross, discussed the mission and activities of the Red Cross. It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Tischer to proclaim the month of March 2023 as Red Cross Month. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. Commissioner Cothren read aloud the proclamation.

Appointment to the Board of Equalization

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Tischer to appoint Kenneth Quick to the Wahkiakum County Board of Equalization, effective through December 31, 2024. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Letters of Support for PUD Grant Applications

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Strong to approve of the letters in support of the Wahkiakum PUD's request for Congressional Directed Spending funding for an alternate water supply system for Puget Island. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Health & Human Services

Global Opioid Settlement Agreement

Washington state joined in national litigation against the manufacturers and distributors of prescription Opioids. The plaintiffs prevailed in their legal action, and this has resulted in two large settlement distribution agreements both of which require action at the level of all those eligible for compensation. Due to complexity of the settlements, the exact amount that Wahkiakum will receive in total is not absolutely clear, best estimates known is \$257,842.82 spread over up to 17 years; roughly \$15K per year.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Tischer to approve of both the Chair's signature to the new settlement agreement with the five distributors and to assure that the county is signed up in the payment portal in order to receive payments for both settlements. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Agreement with Cascade Pacific Action Alliance for Local Forum Funding

Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services has partnered with Cascade Pacific Action Allian for multiple years to provide a local forum for population health improvement.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Tischer to approve of Agreement No. 2023-0101 between Cascade Pacific Action Alliance AC, LLC and Wahkiakum County. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

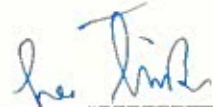
Commissioner Reports

The Board discussed their work over the past week.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Attest: 
Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved: 
Lee Tischer
Chair of the Board