



## *Wahkiakum Board of County Commissioners*

*District No. 1 Commissioner: Lee Tischer*

*District No. 2 Commissioner: Daniel L. Cothren, Chair*

*District No. 3 Commissioner: Mark Letham*

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 3, 2026**

Commissioner Mark Letham called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on March 3, 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: Commissioner Mark Letham, Commissioner Lee Tischer (via Zoom), Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson, Emergency Technology Coordinator Beau Renfro, Sheriff John Mason, Public Health Nurse Stacy Wynn, Healthy Communities Specialist Suzanne Mackey, HHS Director Chris Bischoff.

### **Flag Salute**

Commissioner Mark Letham led the flag salute.

### **Regular Meeting Agenda**

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham approving the regular meeting agenda for March 3, 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer and Letham. Unanimously approved.

### **Consent Agenda**

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham approving the consent agenda for March 3, 2026. Vote: Aye – Tischer and Letham. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Tentative: Excuse Commissioner Dan Cothren
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2026
- C. Resolution No. 35-26 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 \$392.62
- D. Resolution No. 36-26 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$202.90 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for the payment of claims related to medical expenses for a LEOFF member
- E. Voucher Approval - \$61,321.45

### **Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

## Board of Health

### Youth Cannabis and Commercial Tobacco Prevention Program (YCCTPP)

Suzanne Mackey, HHS Coordinator for the Youth Cannabis and Commercial Tobacco Prevention Program, introduced two of the high school Community Health Advocates who discussed the upcoming prevention events for teens.

## New Business

### Appointments to the Health & Human Services Advisory Board

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Letham to appoint Victoria Bussee to the HHS Board, (replacing Justin Helms), to represent the Family Health Center, effective through 12-31-26 and move to appoint Dr. Ralph Watkins, replacing Ric Palmer, to the school superintendent position on the board, effective through 12-31-28. Vote: Aye – Tischer and Letham. Unanimously approved.

## Commissioner Attendance

Commissioner Dan Cothren entered the meeting at 9:39 a.m., after providing remote testimony to the Board of Natural Resources meeting.

### **Opening of Sealed Response to Request for Proposal (RFP) Spare Parts for the Emergency Radio Repeater System**

The Clerk of the Board opened and read aloud the sealed responses for the Request for Proposal (RFP) regarding spare parts for the emergency radio repeater system.

The sole RFP response received was:

SAR Enterprises, Inc. dba Communications Northwest	\$28,775.91
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## Sheriff

### Courthouse Generator Project

Beau Renfro, Emergency Technology Coordinator, discussed the need to replace the courthouse generator which is aged and in danger of failing. The county's emergency services rely on the generator during power outages. A \$40,000 grant was awarded by the state 911 for the project, but additional funding of approximately \$50,000 will be needed.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Letham and Tischer to support Beau Renfro in the creation of the public bid document to solicit bids for the replacement of the courthouse generator. Vote: Aye – Tischer, Letham, and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

### Commissioner Reports

The Board provided their weekly report and discussed their work over the past week. Commissioner Cothren advised that he remotely made public comment at the Board of Natural Resources (BNR) meeting this morning regarding the county's next timber sales. The BNR is holding another meeting later this month and he plans to attend in person in Olympia to make public comments. Cothren continued to discuss timber related issues. Other topics discussed included IT related issues, and the current legislative session.

### Commissioner Excusal

Commissioner Lee Tischer left the meeting prior to the executive session.

### Executive Session *RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – Litigation*

The Chair announced that the Board will recess from the regular meeting at 9:55 a.m. for an executive session, to reconvene at 10:15 to discuss a county litigation matter with Dan Bigelow, Prosecuting Attorney, per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

Present: Chair Dan Cothren, Commissioner Mark Letham, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson, Prosecuting Attorney Dan Bigelow, Sheriff John Mason, Assessor Drew Jenkins.

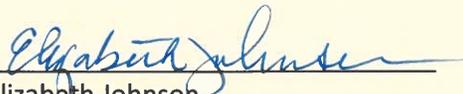
At 10:18, the Board opened the meeting again to extend the executive session until 10:35 a.m.

The Chair reconvened the regular meeting at 10:37 a.m. No action taken was taken following the executive session.

### Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Attest:

  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Clerk of the Board

Approved:

  
Daniel L. Cothren  
Chair of the Board