



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

June 1, 2021

Chair Gene Strong called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on June 1, 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 (entered the meeting at 9:45 a.m. as he was participating in the Board of Natural Resources Meeting), Commissioner Lee Tischer, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson, Sheriff Mark Howie, Undersheriff Gary Howell.

Flag Salute

Chair Gene Strong led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Strong approving the regular meeting agenda for June 1, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong and Tischer. Unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Strong approving the consent agenda for April 20, 2021. Vote: Aye – Strong and Tischer. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of May 25, 2021
- B. Resolution No. 71-21 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 \$3,239.81
- C. Resolution No. 72-21 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 \$107.36
- D. Resolution NO. 73-21 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$148.50 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of claims related to medical expenses for a LEOFF member
- E. Voucher Approval - \$96,830.44
- F. Voucher Approval – Transfer Batch - \$50,000.00

New Business

Appointment – Marine Resources Committee

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Strong to appoint Allen Bennett as the Wahkiakum Port District No. 2 representative to the Wahkiakum Marine Resources Committee, effective June 1, 2021, and ending December 31, 2022. Vote: Aye – Strong and Tischer. Unanimously approved.

Commissioner

Commissioner Cothren entered the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Wahkiakum Animal Advocates Group

Representatives from the Wahkiakum Animal Advocate Group (WAAG) were present to provide a report to the Board. Rebecca Hompe, President of the Board of Directors and Wendy Edwards, Vice President, discussed the history of the group. It was founded in the fall of 2019, and they received their 5013c non-profit status in February of 2020. WAAG has assisted with several calls with the Sheriff's department. In addition, they help with the Trap, Neuter and Release program for feral cats and have transported at least 40 cats for neutering. WAAG has also developed a petfood pantry to supply food shelves and help with community needs. In addition, they started a spay and neuter voucher program to pay a portion of each surgery. Lastly, they reported that they would like to develop a partnership between WAAG, the Cowlitz County Humane Society and Wahkiakum County. Sheriff Mark Howie spoke in appreciation of the group.

Courthouse Security

Purchase of Three Exterior Cameras

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Tischer to approve of the purchase and installation of three exterior cameras from the Kubl Group in the amount of \$8,695.00, (plus tax). Vote: Aye – Strong, Cothren and Tischer. Unanimously approved.

Public Works

Ferry Operating Agreement

Wahkiakum County along with 19th District State Representatives lobbied for additional funds to cover the additional expenses the county incurred operating the ferry between Puget Island and Westport, Oregon. The state budget appropriated \$280,000 solely for the county operation of the ferry.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Tischer and Cothren to approve of the Interlocal Agreement with Washington Department State Department of Transportation (GCB 3497). Vote: Aye – Strong, Cothren and Tischer. Unanimously approved.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Dan Cothren advised that the Board of Natural Resources just approved of the purchase of approximately 280 acres of timberlands for Wahkiakum County.

Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(I) / Potential Litigation

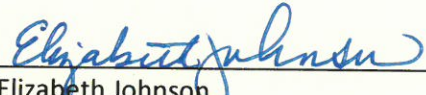
Present: Prosecuting Attorney Dan Bigelow.

The Board announced an executive session for a period of 15 minutes, per RCW 42.30.110(1)(I) to discuss a potential litigation issue; Prosecuting Attorney Dan Bigelow was present. The Board recessed for the executive session at 10:11 a.m. and reconvened the regular meeting at 10:26 a.m.; no action was taken.

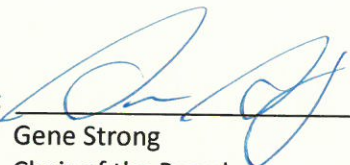
Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Attest:


Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved:


Gene Strong
Chair of the Board