



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 September 5, 2023

Chair Lee Tischer called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on September 5, 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, Commissioner Gene Strong, Commissioner Dan Cothren, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson, Sheriff Mark Howie, HHS Director Chris Bischoff, Chief Civil Deputy Joannie Kuhlmeier, Health Community Specialist Erica Zinke.

Flag Salute

Chair Lee Tischer led the flag salute.

Regular Meeting Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong approving the regular meeting agenda for September 5, 2023. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Cothren approving the consent agenda for September 5, 2023. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2023
- B. Resolution No. 115-23 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 \$7,011.38
- C. Resolution No. 116-23 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 \$3,516.87
- D. Resolution No. 117-23 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$164.90 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for the payment of medical claims for a LEOFF member
- E. Resolution No. 118-23 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 \$116,347.87

- F. Resolution No. 119-23 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$7,658.31 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of accumulated annual leave to Preston Ward and for payment of county share of FICA/Medicare
- G. Voucher Approval - \$ 967,833.67
- H. Voucher Approval – Transfer Batch - \$50,000.00
- I. Voucher Approval – Transfer Batch - \$196,741.00

Public Comment

Sheriff Mark Howie commented on the sale of the Sheriff's boat.

A Fair Board member commented that the recent music festival held at the fairgrounds went very well.

New Business

Letter of Support for PUD Funding Request for Water Source Development on Puget Island

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Cothren to approve of the letter in support of the Wahkiakum PUD's funding proposal to the Governor's Appropriation Budget for an additional water supply system for Puget Island. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

MOU with AFSCME - Holidays

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to adopt Resolution No. 120-23 a resolution declaring the holiday of Juneteenth in Wahkiakum County and to approve of the Memorandum of Understanding with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees for a revised holiday schedule and the addition of the Juneteenth holiday. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

MOU with AFSCME – Deputy and Patrol Sergeant Realignment and New Salary Table

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Cothren to approve of the Memorandum of Understanding with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees for the pay class realignment of the Sheriff's Deputy and Patrol Sergeant positions and for a new 2023 Wage Table. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Sheriff's Office

State of Washington 9-1-1 Proclamation

The Chair read aloud the State's proclamation for 911 month.

Grant Agreement with Clark Regional Emergency Services / Emergency Management and Cybersecurity

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to approve Grant Agreement #E22-125 with Clark Regional Emergency Services in the amount of \$120,000 to help support emergency management and cybersecurity in Wahkiakum County. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Health & Human Services

Resolution Proclaiming September as Recovery Month in Wahkiakum County

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Strong and Cothren to adopt Resolution No. 121-23 a resolution proclaiming September 2023 as Recovery Month in Wahkiakum County. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Request to Utilize Small Works Roster Process for Door Replacement at the Hope Center

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to allow the Health & Human Services Department to use the Small Works Process to get quotes on upgrading a Hope Center door to be ADA accessible. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Request to Overlap Public Health Nurse Positions by One Month for Training

A full-time Public Health Nurse has been hired and HHS is requesting to keep the part-time, temporary Public Health Nurse on for an additional month to provide training to the new employee.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to approve of the request to overlap Public Health Nurse positions for one month. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Board of Health

Erica Zinke, Health Communities Specialist, and Teresa Howell, Health Communities Specialist, were present to discuss their program and the recent Wahkiakum Community Health Assessment.

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 10:10 a.m.

Attest: 
Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved: 
Lee Tischer
Chair of the Board