



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 October 10, 2023

Chair Lee Tischer called the regular meeting of the Board of Wahkiakum County Commissioners to order on October 10, 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 via phone, Commissioner Dan Cothren, Clerk of the Board Beth Johnson. Auditor Nicci Bergseng, Treasurer Tammy Peterson, Public Works Director Chuck Beyer, HHS Community Services Manager Julie Johnston.

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 October 10, 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 October 10, 2023. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved. The consent agenda contained the following items:

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2023
- B. Resolution No. 134-23 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 \$212.00
- C. Resolution No. 135-23 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 \$3,172.19
- D. Resolution No. 136-23 a resolution authorizing the expenditure of \$2,029.71 from the Contingent Liabilities Cumulative Reserve Fund for payment of accumulated annual leave to Kelly Patterson and for payment of county share of FICA/Medicare
- E. Voucher Approval - \$ 922,790.09

Public Comment

A Cathlamet resident discussed the issue of fire danger in the county and the need to educate the public on fire safety and alternate escape routes.

A Skamokawa resident also commented on the need for local fire safety.

New Business

Group Master Applications for 2024 WCIF Coverage

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to authorize signature on the 2024 Washington Counties Insurance Fund application for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Bargaining Group, non-union members and the Masters, Mates and Pilots Group. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Letter of Support for CREST's NOAA Grant Application for East Fork Deep River Flood Reduction/Fish Passage
The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST) is applying for grant funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for projects in Deep River.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to approve of the letter in support of CREST's application for NOAA grant funding for the Deep River projects. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Public Works

Change Order for Exterior Courthouse Painting Project

This Change Order will add the painting of the handrails and other metal framework that was inadvertently left out of the original bid.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to approve of Change Order #1 with Hilander Painting to include the painting of metal framework, handrails and benches not to exceed \$5,000.00. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Building & Planning

Contract with Renaud Electric for Installation of 6 Ductless Heaters at Johnson Park

A RFQ was sent to three HVAC contractors, however, only one responsive quote was received. The quote was cost prohibitive; Johnson Park representatives revised the specifications by removing two of the units. The revised bid from Renaud Electric was \$46,939 plus tax. The funding will come from the Capital Improvement Fund.

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to approve of the Chair's signature on Renaud Electric bid for replacement of 6 gas units to electric ductless units in the amount of \$46,939 plus tax and to approve of the Small Works Contract with Renaud Electric for installation. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

Health & Human Services

Consolidated Operating Grant Agreement

It was **M/S/A** by Commissioners Cothren and Strong to approve of the Chair's signature on the Operating Grant Agreement Amendment PTC0385-01 between the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Wahkiakum County Health and Human Services Department in the amount of \$885,084 for the term of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025. Vote: Aye – Strong, Tischer and Cothren. Unanimously approved.

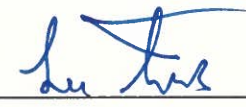
Commissioner Reports

The Board reviewed their work and meetings over the past week.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Attest: 
Elizabeth Johnson
Clerk of the Board

Approved: 
Lee Tischer
Chair of the Board