



**BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Weekly Agenda Meeting

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 10:00 am

BOCC Basement Conference Room, Room 33B, 128 N 2nd Street, Yakima, WA 98901 or Zoom  
IN PERSON OR VIRTUAL

2/21/2023 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Called to Order at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Chair LaDon Linde, Commissioner Amanda McKinney, Commissioner Kyle Curtis, Legal Counsel Don Anderson, Clerk of the Board Julie Lawrence, Deputy Clerk of the Board Erin Franklin, and guests.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Fire Chief Nathan Craig thanked the Board for their recent decision to allocate funding toward the various fire districts' ARPA requests, and proceeded to request additional funding for generators. He also explained how the districts utilize their reserve funds.

Doug White followed up on his previous public comment about the challenges that elderly and/or disabled residents face with trash collection in the County, noting that his particular concern had been resolved based on agricultural needs, but that there is still no exemption available for elderly/disabled residents due to UTC regulations. Commissioner McKinney explained again that Yakima County does not have jurisdiction over this issue, adding that her understanding is that the UTC is federally regulated, but that she would have staff follow up to confirm.

4. PRESENTATION

Honoring Lieutenant Aaron Wuitschick, United States Marshals Service National Award Recipient.

Presenting: Sheriff Udell

Sheriff Udell explained that Lieutenant Wuitschick had been named "Low Enforcement Officer of the Year"; only 3 officers across the country receive this annual award. Commissioner Linde thanked Lieutenant Wuitschick for doing Yakima County proud.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Curtis MOTION: To Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner McKinney SECOND

Approved Unanimously.

Commissioner Curtis gave a reminder that all BOCC meetings are open to the public and can be attended both in-person or virtually. All meetings are recorded, and the meeting links and recordings can be found on the BOCC webpage.

6. AUDITOR

A. Payroll Warrant Certification

Issue Dates: 1.26.23 - 2.10.23.

B. Accounts Payable Warrant Approval

Issue Date: 2.15.23.

7. COMMISSIONER

A. 1.31.23 Regular Agenda Minutes

B. 2.3.23 Work Session Minutes

8. CORPORATE COUNSEL

A. Resolution 51-2023

Setting a Public Hearing Date to Consider Petition for the Formation of a Lower Valley Public Hospital District.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.

B. Resolution 52-2023

Setting a Public Hearing Date to Consider Dissolution of the Cowiche Sewer District.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.

9. FACILITIES SERVICES

A. Resolution 48-2023

Accepting as Complete, the Yakima County Jail Courtroom #2 Ceiling Remodel.

Fiscal Impact: \$4,614.05.

10. HUMAN RESOURCES

A. Agreement 37-2023

Christie Agreement between Yakima County Board of Commissioners and Yakima County Sheriff's Office Non-Commissioned Administrative Staff Group.

Fiscal Impact: See Attached.

11. HUMAN SERVICES

A. Agreement 38-2023

Amendment B to FORWARD Emergency Rental Assistance 2.0 Professional Services Agreement.

Fiscal Impact: Amendment B Awards an Additional \$1,039,007.11, for a New Total of \$6,543,771.34.

B. Agreement 39-2023

Contract Awarding Grant Funds to Catholic Charities Diocese of Yakima to Assist Clients in Applying for Emergency Rental Assistance.

Fiscal Impact: \$112,500 in Grant Funds.

## 12. PUBLIC SERVICES

### A. Resolution 49-2023

Accepting as Complete, Contract No. 1760 for the Terrace Heights/Treener Water System Consolidation Project.

Fiscal Impact: \$771,240.95 (Final Contract Amount).

### B. Resolution 50-2023

Accepting as Complete, Contract No. 1768 for Phase 1 Terrace Heights Landfill Project Tank Removal.

Fiscal Impact: \$29,188.79 (Final Contract Amount).

### C. Agreement 40-2023

Contract with Core Northwest, LLC, for Unit Price Electrical Services for Public Services Solid Waste, Utilities, and ER & R Departments.

Fiscal Impact: Estimated Annual Cost Not to Exceed \$90,000.

## 13. PUBLIC HEARING

### A. Public Hearing

Public Hearing to Approve Findings of Fact Supporting the Extension of a Moratorium Prohibiting the Establishment and Operation of Moderate to Large-Scale Solar Facilities Within the Unincorporated Area of Yakima County.

Presenting: Planning Official Tommy Carroll

Tommy explained that this extension would provide another six months to finish the process of drafting new code language, and then put that new verbiage through the Planning Commission's process. In response to Commissioner Linde's question, Tommy explained that the goal is for the Planning Commission to receive the proposed changes by April, so that they can deliver their findings to the BOCC by the end of May, at which point the Board could make any necessary adjustments. Tommy noted that the Planning Commission lost a number of members last year, and it will be important to ensure that new members are appointed for a full commission so that a clear decision can be made without being split.

#### Public Comment:

Doug White shared his concerns about the extension, expressing a desire to bring business and industry to Yakima County like Benton or Franklin County.

#### Commissioner Comment:

Commissioner McKinney observed the conflict between EFSEC's siting of solar facilities and the requirements of the Growth Management Act, noting the Board's responsibility to protect agricultural land for its highest and best use. She noted that other counties such as Benton and Franklin have also enacted moratoriums for the same reasons.

Commissioner Linde called for a thoroughly-considered plan and process when siting solar facilities, with the same level of care taken for nuclear energy sites. He also expressed concern about the risk of wildfires from solar facilities.

Commissioner Curtis expressed his desire to encourage the Planning Commission to expedite their process, if possible, in the interest of being proactive instead of reactive.

Commissioner Curtis MOTION: To Close the Public Hearing

Commissioner McKinney SECOND

Motion Passes Unanimously.

Commissioner McKinney MOTION: To Move This Item to Resolution at a Future Agenda

Commissioner Curtis SECOND

Motion Passes Unanimously.

14. ARPA DISCUSSION

Craig Warner shared a spreadsheet detailing the overlap between projects the Commissioners had each listed that they would not be considering for funding. The Board agreed to discuss Commissioner Curtis' draft letter at Friday's Work Session before sending it out to these applicants.

Craig then showed the overlap between projects the Commissioners had listed as individual priorities. He confirmed that he would send both spreadsheets to the Board for their review prior to Friday's Work Session, when more in-depth discussion could take place. Commissioner Curtis added that he would like to specifically discuss the MLK Pool and the Union Gap Library & Community Center at Friday's Work Session.

15. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Curtis expressed interest in attending the Audit Exit Invitation Meeting on February 23rd.

Commissioner McKinney explained that the Chair of the Board usually attends that meeting. Commissioner Linde stated that he would attend, but provide an update to the Board afterward.

Commissioner Linde shared a brief statement on the life of George Washington in honor of Presidents' Day (formerly George Washington's Birthday).

16. ADJOURN

Commissioner Curtis MOTION: To Adjourn

Commissioner McKinney SECOND

Motion Passes to Adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

All regular agenda meetings are recorded and will be available to view on the BOCC website at <https://www.yakimacounty.us/AgendaCenter/Board-of-Commissioners-2>.

APPROVED DATE

DATE/Minutes

MAR 2 1 2023



BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*LaDon Linde*

LaDon Linde, Chair

*Amanda McKinney*

Amanda McKinney, Commissioner

EXCUSED

Kyle Curtis, Commissioner

*Constituting the Board of County Commissioners  
for Yakima County, Washington*