

ASOTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 5, 2023

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Asotin, State of Washington, met this date. Present was, Chris Seubert, Chairman, Brian Shinn, Vice-Chair, and Charles Whitman, Member.

Regular meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

(1)

Whitman moved to approve the minutes of June 26, 2023, as written. Shinn seconded, motion carried.

(2)

Commissioner Seubert added two items to the agenda. An executive session regarding personnel and a discussion with Asotin County Fire District No. 1, Chief Noel Hardin regarding Whitcom.

Open to the Public

(3)

Stacey Harman, Clerk to the Board/HR Specialist

(4)

Harman on behalf of Lisa Webber Office Manager/Chief Deputy Coroner, asked the commissioners for permission to fill the Chief Deputy Prosecutor position vacated by Curt Liedkie after he was appointed Prosecuting Attorney.

Shinn moved to approve. Whitman seconded, motion carried.

Katelyn Hart, CASA Coordinator

(5)

Hart presented the Washington State Department of Commerce Community Services Division, Office of Crime Victims Advocacy, VOCA Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect Initiative, Grant Number F19-31219-475 Amendment A.

Whitman moved to approve. Shinn seconded, motion carried.

Other Action Items

(6)

Miscellaneous

- The County Program Agreement between the State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DCYF) and Asotin County was presented. There were not many changes from the previous contract.

Whitman moved to approve. Shinn seconded, motion carried

- The State of Washington Department of Corrections Amendment No. 5 to Contract No. K9637 was presented. The amendment extends the term through June 2025 and sets the housing rates. The housing rates are \$95.15 for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, and \$99.90 for July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

Shinn moved to approve. Whitman seconded, motion carried.

- GeoProfessional Innovation General Conditions was presented. GeoProfessional Innovation was the lowest bid for geotechnical services for the new jail site.

Whitman moved to approve. Shinn seconded, motion carried.

- Resolution 23-26. Appointing an Interim Prosecutor was presented. The Resolution formally appoints Curtis L. Liedkie as Interim Prosecuting as voted on during the June 26, 2023 meeting. Whitman moved to approve. Shinn seconded, motion carried.

Noel Hardin, Fire Chief, Asotin County Fire District No. 1

(7)

Hardin joined the commissioners to discuss an issue that occurred over the weekend with Whitcom who supplies our dispatch services. A while back the county received an email notification of an upcoming equipment upgrade. The email did not mention a timeframe for implementation. Whitcom started the changeover for Asotin County's services on Friday, June 30. The County was not notified. There was an issue during the changeover. The County's emergency pager notification tones were not working. During this outage, there was a call to a structure fire that was not delivered. An on-duty officer arrived on the scene and notified the Fire District. That was the first sign that there was an issue. Luckily there was no structure fire only a HVAC-related issue. Whitcom's technicians while aware of the issue went home for the night without completing the repair. Hardin wanted to note that this was an equipment issue not an issue with the dispatchers. Hardin was able to get medical calls routed through Nez Perce County. For Fire calls, he was able to manually send out tones from his radio. The problem was compounded by it being the 4th of July weekend which tends to have a higher number of calls than a regular weekend. Hardin wanted the Commissioners to look into the issue and find answers to a few questions. Why pick the 4th of July weekend for upgrade implementation? Why was there no communication with the County regarding scheduling the implementation or problems during the changeover? Why was there no contingency plan? Whitman noted that this was a shocking total failure of the system and is unacceptable. There needs to be some accountability and it was poor planning on Whitcom's part to schedule on a known high incident weekend.

Committee Reports

(8)

Open to the Public

(9)

Media

(10)

Claims approved and ordered paid:

# 001	Current Expense	\$ 33,875.71
# 101	County Road	\$ 1,200.00
# 104	County Fair	\$ 998.84
# 106	Asotin County Law Library	\$ 483.89
# 117	Anatone Community Hall	\$ 3,510.36
# 126	Building & Planning	\$ 64,474.95
# 127	Emergency Svcs Communication	\$ 669.26
# 129	Community Services	\$ 41,118.88
# 143	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 292.79
# 501	Equip Rental & Rev	\$ 685.08
# 502	Central Services	\$ 6,955.05
		\$ 154,264.81

The following voucher (warrant) numbers are approved for payment:

327776 through 327847 for a total of \$154,264.81.

The following voucher (warrant) numbers and direct deposit are approved for Payroll:

327679 through 327711 and 22868 through 22978 for \$355,370.12.

(11)

Board recessed at 10:05 a.m.

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(12)

At 10:07 a.m. the board met for approximately 32 minutes regarding Personnel per RCW 42.30.110(1)(h).

(13)

At 10:40 a.m. the board met for approximately 22 minutes regarding Contracts per RCW 42.30.140(4)(a).

Board adjourned at 11:02 p.m. until their next scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on July 10, 2023.

Chris Seubert, Chairman

July 10, 2023

Stacey Harman, Clerk of the Board