



## BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting  
Work Session

Friday, April 18, 2022 at 9:00 am

BOCC Conference Room, Room 232, 128 N 2nd Street, Yakima, WA 98901 or Zoom

Yakima County Welcomes You to Join Our Open Public Meeting In-Person or Virtually.

**Meeting Link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84767080878?pwd=MjBKcjFsRmpWYlI1NW9qU1V4VnVFdz09>

**Meeting ID:**

847 6708 0878

**Meeting Passcode:**

352892

**Meeting Phone Number:**

1-206-337-9723 (ID & Passcode Above)

4/18/2022 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Chair Amanda McKinney, Commissioner LaDon Linde, Commissioner Ron Anderson, Legal Counsel Don Anderson, Clerk of the Board Julie Lawrence, Deputy Clerk of the Board Erin Franklin, Human Resources Director Jacqui Lindsay, Financial Services Director Craig Warner

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

3. CORPORATE COUNSEL (30 Minutes)

1. Solar Project Conflict Discussion - Don Anderson presented a question he received from K&L Gates, the law firm that represents the Board of County Commissioners. The firm wanted to know whether or not the Board would provide them with a waiver to also represent BayWa r.e. Solarware. This would usually be a conflict of interest, as the County would be involved in the permitting process for BayWa's solar project in Yakima County, and BayWa already has a conditional use permit issued by Yakima County. The Commissioners each agreed that a waiver should not be given, stating that they wished to remain neutral to BayWa's projects, and the Board should have the firm's priority since they've had a longer working relationship. Corporate Counsel was instructed to respond to K&L Gates with the Board's answer. The Board also agreed to revisit the topic of green energy and pursue outlining local authority to approve or deny solar farms, etc.

2. Marijuana Disapproval Letters - Don Anderson detailed how Corporate Counsel forwards marijuana application request notifications from the Liquor and Cannabis Board to Ken Harper at Menke Jackson Beyer, LLP. The firm then sends cease & desist letters to all marijuana business registered in Yakima County, as any violation of the zoning code is considered a nuisance, and a warrant of abatement can be requested. This is how the County's abatement against the marijuana business is enforced. Commissioner McKinney reminded the Board that she had asked her name to be taken off the letter, as she doesn't necessarily support an all-out ban. Commissioners Linde and Anderson reminded the Board that Yakima County held two different public votes supporting the ban, which the Board upheld. Commissioners Linde and Anderson, making up a majority, instructed Corporate Counsel to tell the law firm to continue sending cease & desist letters to marijuana businesses.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES (30 Minutes)

Jacqui Lindsay reminded the Board that in August 2021, Dispatch employees at the Sheriff's Office were granted premium pay of almost 14% with a sunset clause of December 31, 2021. The Sheriff's Office has now requested that the new proposed 5% County pay plan increase include Dispatch's premium pay for the rest of the year, with the rationale that the department is still struggling to recruit and maintain employees. Jacqui shared that the department is down to 4 regular dispatchers, 8 on-call, and 2 leads. She added that Dispatch pay is about \$22 per hour, as opposed to \$24-\$30 for Dispatch positions at other departments. All three Commissioners were in favor of allowing the 5% pay increase to include Dispatch's premium pay until the sunset clause expires.

5. HUMAN SERVICES (15 Minutes)

Julie Lawrence updated the Board that Director of Human Services, Esther Magasis, had pulled Agreement 124-2022 from the upcoming April 19th Regular Agenda Meeting in order to make modifications. The Board agreed to table discussion of that agreement for the time being.

6. COMMISSIONER UPDATES/ GENERAL DISCUSSION

Commissioners gave updates on individual committee/appointed board meetings for the week of April 11, 2022-April 15, 2022.

7. ADJOURN

Commissioner Anderson MOTION: To Adjourn

Commissioner Linde SECOND

Approved unanimously to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at: 10:07 a.m.

All work sessions 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

MAY 03 2022

BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda McKinney, Chair

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LaDon Linde, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Anderson, Commissioner

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