



BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Work Session

Monday, May 23, 2022, at 9:00 am

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

5/23/2022 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Chair Amanda McKinney, Commissioner Ron Anderson, Legal Counsel Don Anderson, Clerk of the Board Julie Lawrence, Deputy Clerk of the Board Erin Franklin, County Engineer Matt Pietrusiewicz, Facilities Director Brian Griff, Human Services Director Esther Magasis, Financial Services Director Craig Warner, and guests.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

3. COUNTY ROADS (30 Minutes)

Matt Pietrusiewicz shared about Yakima County's Bike Plan (2019, updated from 2014). \$2,000,000 in grant funding was secured from the State for the addition of a bicycle/pedestrian lane along the new East/West Corridor, connecting the City of Yakima to unincorporated Yakima County for cyclists and pedestrians. There are also plans to add a bicycle/pedestrian lane on Ahtanum Road from 26th Avenue to 52nd Avenue, and hopefully on to the Wiley City area eventually. Based on meetings with the public in 2019, there are a number of other future bicycle lane possibilities, including: Union Gap to Sunnyside (no specific route identified yet), Toppenish to White Swan (potentially Branch Road), Yakima to Naches (possibly as far as the Oak Creek Feeding Station), and the Yakima Loop (starting in Union Gap, up Ahtanum Road toward 64th, and then toward the Fred Meyer area). Matt summarized that Yakima Valley residents are primarily looking for connectivity and safety when it comes to establishing these routes. The Commissioners voiced their excitement for how these plans will provide greater connection in our community.

4. FACILITIES SERVICES (30 Minutes)

Brian Griff updated the Board on the condition of the boilers at the Juvenile Justice Center. The six boilers at the facility (four for heating, two for water) are original and have been maintained for 27 years now (exceeding the projected 15-20 year mark). However, three out of the four heating boilers went out last spring and had to be repaired, and Brian's concern is that this could happen again, potentially during winter months. Replacement parts like the burner tubes that keep burning out are also much harder to procure currently. Facilities had a contractor come through about nine months ago and quote about \$200,000 to replace all the boilers. After reexamining the project, Brian shared that he believes the County could direct-buy new boilers and install them using Facilities' in-house journeyman plumber, HVAC technician, and electrician for under \$75,000. The Commissioners gave their approval to begin this project, and expressed their gratitude for the talent, hard work, and tenacity of the staff at Facilities. Brian asked whether the funding for this project should come from Facilities' reserves, or from REET (Real Estate Excise Tax) funds as other capital improvement projects had. Craig Warner confirmed for the Board that REET could be utilized, and the Commissioners gave their approval. Commissioner Anderson requested the process be documented with photos at each stage for posterity.

5. COMMISSIONER UPDATES/ GENERAL DISCUSSION

The Commissioners gave updates on individual committee/board assignments for the week of May 16, 2022-May 20, 2022.

Commissioner Anderson informed staff and the public that due to construction in the Commissioners' Office this week, anyone needing to contact the Commissioners should either call the office or utilize the entrance to the Financial Services Department next door.

Craig Warner brought up the State Auditor's request in 2021 that the County institute a policy on recognition for awards. After doing some research, Craig discovered that there is an RCW on this topic geared toward State employees, not local government, that could still be useful in creating policy guidelines. Craig offered to put together a proposal for this policy to submit to the Board at a future meeting for approval and adoption. The Commissioners affirmed this plan.

A. Agreement 152-2022

Esther Magasis informed the Board that she was still waiting to hear back from Yakima Health District, the Office of Rural & Farm Worker Housing, and Yakima Neighborhood Health Services about the questions the Board posed at Friday's Work Session. The Board had asked if the Health District still required the County to have quarantine/isolation beds available to the community, if LNI still had the same quarantine/isolation requirements as last year for farm workers, and if Yakima Neighborhood Health Services could provide more data about the COVID hotel/motel voucher program. Esther noted that some updates had been made to the LNI requirements in January 2022, but stated that she wants more clarification from the Housing Office.

Commissioner McKinney requested tabling Agreement 152-2022 until all the information is available, hopefully by this Friday's Work Session. Esther confirmed that waiting an additional week would not be problematic – the purpose of Agreement 152-2022 is to bring the budget of an existing agreement into line with State requirements, not to approve a new contract.

6. ADJOURN

Commissioner Anderson MOTION: To Adjourn

Commissioner McKinney SECOND

(Commissioner Linde absent.)

Motion Passes to Adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 9:55 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 3 1 2022

BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Amanda McKinney, Chair

LaDon Linde, Commissioner

Ron Anderson, Commissioner
*Constituting the Board of County Commissioners
for Yakima County, Washington*