



BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Weekly Agenda Meeting

Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 10:00 am

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

8/15/2023 - 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

No Public Comment Received.

4. 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.

5. AUDITOR

A. Resolution 193-2023

Approving Amendments to the Current Certification of Auditing Officers and Alternate Auditing Officers for Various County Funds.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.

6. COMMISSIONER

A. 7.14.23 Work Session Minutes

B. 7.17.23 Work Session Minutes

C. Resolution 195-2023

Appointing Carla Smith Schneider to the Yakima Homeless Coalition Executive Committee.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.

D. Resolution 196-2023

Appointing Miriam Saavedra to the Yakima Homeless Coalition Executive Committee as Alternate.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.

7. CORPORATE COUNSEL

A. Resolution 194-2023

Denying Claim No. 30-2023 Filed by Sarah Laidler.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.

B. Agreement 215-2023

Agreement Regarding the Transfer of Assets and Liabilities of the Dissolved Cowiche Sewer District.

Fiscal Impact: \$0

8. COUNTY ROADS

A. Resolution 198-2023

Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for the Purchase of Snow and Ice Control Products for ER&R Public Services County Roads.

Fiscal Impact: Cost of Advertising.

B. Agreement 214-2023

Personal Services Agreement with Korn's Appraisal Service for Fee Appraisal and Review Appraisal Services.

Fiscal Impact: Not to Exceed \$200,000.

9. FACILITIES SERVICES

A. Agreement 202-2023

Public Works Contract with Overhead Door Company of Yakima to Replace the Service Entry Sally Port Door at the Yakima County Main Jail.

Fiscal Impact: \$20,457.18.

10. HUMAN SERVICES

A. Agreement 203-2023

Grant Contract with Grace City Outreach to Operate a 24-Hour Low Barrier Shelter.

Fiscal Impact: \$222,960 Awarded to Grace City Outreach.

B. Agreement 204-2023

Grant Contract with Grace City Outreach to Administer an Outreach Program.

Fiscal Impact: \$32,370 Awarded to Grace City Outreach.

C. Agreement 205-2023

Grant Contract with Grace City Outreach to Operate an Emergency Shelter for Youth and Young Adults.

Fiscal Impact: \$50,000 Awarded to Grace City Outreach.

D. Agreement 206-2023

Grant Contract with Generating Hope to Operate a 24-Hour Low Barrier Shelter in the South Valley.

Fiscal Impact: \$39,682 Awarded to Generating Hope.

E. Agreement 207-2023

Grant Contract with Generating Hope to Administer an Outreach Program in the South Valley.

Fiscal Impact: \$7,005 Awarded to Generating Hope.

F. Agreement 208-2023

Grant Contract with Northwest Community Action Center to Administer a Coordinated Entry Services Project.

Fiscal Impact: \$9,350 Awarded to Northwest Community Action Center.

G. Agreement 209-2023

Grant Contract with Northwest Community Action Center to Administer a Housing and Essential Needs Project.

Fiscal Impact: \$337,000 Awarded to Northwest Community Action Center.

H. Agreement 210-2023

Grant Contract with Northwest Community Action Center to Operate an Extreme Winter Weather Shelter in the South Valley.

Fiscal Impact: \$25,813 Awarded to Northwest Community Action Center.

I. Agreement 211-2023

Grant Contract with Northwest Community Action Center to Administer a Rental Assistance and Rapid Rehousing Program.

Fiscal Impact: \$211,225 Awarded to Northwest Community Action Center.

11. PROSECUTOR

A. Agreement 212-2023

Washington State Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA) Grant for Funding Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Positions Focused Upon Rush Filing Charges Against Repeat DUI Offenders.

Fiscal Impact: \$107,681.81 Awarded to Yakima County.

12. PUBLIC SERVICES

A. Agreement 213-2023

Contract with Prestige Worldwide Technologies, LLC, d.b.a. Hydro-Tech, for Potable Water Systems Control Valve Annual Maintenance.

Fiscal Impact: Estimated Annual Cost Not to Exceed \$34,000.

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 presented a tentative timeline for moving forward with updating Yakima County Code regarding solar facilities. Staff has prepared a draft to present to the Planning Commission now that they have a full board to review it; part of this process will involve receiving additional public comment, which will then help iron out the final details of the draft. The goal is to present the draft to the Planning Commission at their work sessions between September and October, and then at a hearing in November or December. The BOCC would then be able to begin their own review in January 2024 and hold a public hearing in February. If the BOCC votes to approve another extension to the current solar moratorium, it would give the Board until February 15th to adopt the code updates. Finally, Tommy explained the three key solar farm siting issues still needing to be resolved before the code is updated: agricultural land, water right retention, and fire protection.

Public Comment: No Public Comment Received.

Commissioner Comment: Commissioner Linde's question about any written public comment reminded Tommy of the topic of large lithium battery storage facilities, which can be part of solar facilities but can also be standalone facilities. Corporate Counsel advised that this would need to be a separate moratorium if desired by the Board, which Tommy stated would not take long to put together. However, as the topic is connected, Tommy will ensure that relevant language is added to the code update draft. Commissioner McKinney stated that she would be in favor of this, in order to cover the siting of these facilities, as well.

Commissioner Curtis noted that the Yakima Herald's editorial board had recently written about the siting of solar facilities, besides receiving six or so letters to the editor. He voiced support for the accelerated timeline as laid out by Tommy, and asked his thoughts on whether the Commissioners should discuss the three key issues before going to the Planning Commission, or allow solutions to develop organically through the Planning Commission's process. Tommy stated that he would like to have conversations about aspects of these issues with the Board ahead of time. Unlike EFSEC, the County can be appealed on its siting decisions, and if Corporate Counsel needs to defend those decisions, Planning would like to be sure the Commissioners are supportive of their process and policies. Commissioner Linde noted the need for balance when addressing these siting concerns, in order to increase businesses' willingness to go through the County's process instead of trying to bypass it with EFSEC. Commissioner McKinney observed that the governor has put counties in a bad position by pushing his green energy agenda over local government's responsibility through the Growth Management Act to protect agricultural land.

In response to Commissioner Curtis' question, Tommy explained that once the proposed code updates are put in Planning Commission draft form, copies can be sent out to community stakeholders and other interested parties for more specific public comment. Commissioner McKinney then voiced additional concerns about the lack of concrete fire safety plans for solar facilities that could subsequently result in wildfires, and the governor's lack of understanding regarding what could happen to water rights on agricultural land being leased to solar companies. Farmers would have to relinquish their water rights after 5 years if they are not being used; this would completely change the face of Eastern Washington. Commissioners Linde and Curtis concurred. Commissioner Curtis proposed holding additional Work Sessions to talk through the three key issues in late August or early September before this matter goes to the Planning Commission, to ensure a good work product without holding up the process.

14. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Resolution 197-2023

Approval of Findings of Fact in Support of Resolution 200-2022 Extending a Zoning Moratorium on Moderate to Large-Scale Solar Facilities Within the Unincorporated Areas of Yakima County.

Fiscal Impact: \$0.

Commissioner Curtis MOTION: To Approve Resolution 197-2023

Commissioner McKinney SECOND

Motion Passes Unanimously.

15. NEW BUSINESS

No New Business.

16. ADJOURN

Commissioner McKinney MOTION: To Adjourn

Commissioner Curtis SECOND

Motion Passes to Adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 10:29 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

AUG 29 2023

BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

LaDon Linde, Chair

Amanda McKinney, Commissioner

Kyle Curtis, Commissioner
*Constituting the Board of County Commissioners
for Yakima County, Washington*

