



BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting
Work Session

Monday, August 1, 2022, at 9:00 am

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

8/1/2022 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting Called to Order at 9:01 a.m.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

3. COMMISSIONER UPDATES/ GENERAL DISCUSSION

The Commissioners gave updates on individual committee/board assignments for the week of July 25, 2022- July 29, 2022. Commissioner McKinney highlighted her recent trip to the National Drug Court Professionals Conference. There were over 7,500 attendees, including court staff from Yakima County. Her biggest takeaway from the conference is that treatment is the most important tool in helping with drug addiction and mental health. Legislation is key: when laws prevent compelled treatment, an unfortunate byproduct is that many people don't get the help they need, and addiction, overdose, and crime increase. Drug Court is a highly effective tool that brings the best of both worlds – treatment and probation. Clients are required to follow the judge's orders to not only to attend treatment, but to set and achieve personal goals to become productive members of society, such as a getting a driver's license, purchasing car insurance, getting a job, etc. There are structures in place for positive reinforcement, as well as consequences for not following the judge's orders (such as community service). Clients are taught to see themselves as valuable human beings and to live in accordance with that mindset, hopefully distancing themselves from peer groups that would try to entice them back to their former lifestyle. Commissioner McKinney hopes to arrange a time for the Yakima County staff that attended the conference to come together and share what they learned.

Commissioner Linde concurred with her thoughts, referencing recent discussions with the Health Board.

Commissioner McKinney noted that Human Services Director Esther Magasis will give a report after the Systems Intercept Mapping project is complete, at which point the commissioners will have a better idea of where and how to allocate the mental health sales tax funding to further address these issues.

ARPA Application Discussion: Craig Warner has reached out to Public Services Director Lisa Freund, County Engineer Matt Pietrusiewicz, and Corporate Counsel Dan Clark about the initial ARPA application eligibility review. However, due to sick leave or preplanned vacation time, they have not yet had a chance to meet. Craig has also been hard at work on budget projections. In the meantime, he is sending out details from the Federal Treasury Office to the team for comparison. Craig is hopeful that they will begin this week and still meet the mid-August deadline.

Craig also had a question for the Board about a request from the Sheriff's Office about adding a School Resource Officer position at the Mt. Adams School District. Jacqui Lindsay clarified that the request is for 25% of the salary (\$35,000), and that the Sheriff's Office could cover the position for the remainder of 2022, but would need help covering it for 2023 and potentially beyond. The commissioners had previously agreed to the addition of this position, but the job itself has not yet been posted. Craig's concern was that these decisions be made in time to hire for the new school year. The Board requested that the job be posted and concurred that they would help cover the position through 2023 and then reassess the budget. They plan on utilizing the General Fund and likely not ARPA funding.

Letter to Governor Inslee: Commissioner McKinney asked whether or not Commissioners Linde and Anderson had voted on sending a letter to Governor Inslee requesting that he rescind his proclamation requiring all state workers and volunteers to be vaccinated. The Health Board voted and agreed to send this same letter at a previous meeting. Commissioners Linde and Anderson felt comfortable with the letter sent from the Health Board and did not feel the need to send another copy from the Board of Yakima County Commissioners. Commissioner McKinney directed Julie to send the same letter to Governor Inslee on just her letterhead for District 1 instead of the Board's letterhead.

4. NEW BUSINESS

The commissioners did not have any new business to discuss.

5. ADJOURN

Commissioner Anderson MOTION: To Adjourn

Commissioner Linde SECOND

Motion Passes to Adjourn. Meeting Adjourned at 9:41 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