

## COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Adams County Courthouse  
Ritzville, Washington  
Regular Meeting

May 2, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.  
(Tuesday)

### **Call to Order**

Chairman Weise called the meeting to order.

### **Present:**

Chairman Jay R. Weise  
Vice-Chairman Dan C. Blankenship  
Commissioner Miguel A. Garza

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Weise led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comment – None**

### **Approval/Addition of Agenda**

Commissioner Weise moved, Blankenship seconded, to *add the following items to the agenda; and, approve the agenda as amended.*

1. Interlocal Agreement with Spokane County
2. Interlocal Agreement with Benton and Franklin Counties

**Motion carried.**

### **Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Garza moved, Blankenship seconded, to *approve the consent agenda as presented.* **Motion carried.**

### **Minutes**

Approve Preliminary Minutes of April 18 and 19, 2023

### **Vouchers**

Approve Vouchers audited and certified by the Adams County Auditor as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 and recorded on a listing, which was made available to the Board. These vouchers were listed as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Control Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001	23-5739 – 23-5772	\$140,706.32
103	23-5773	\$ 56.33
106	23-5774	\$ 231.91
112	23-5775 – 23-5778	\$ 2,532.76
502	23-5779 – 23-5785	\$ 15,187.92
108	521	\$ 846.22
115	522 – 525	\$ 530.00
321	526	\$ 3,448.36
401	527 – 531	\$ 13,436.09
590	532 – 547	\$ 17,560.79
	TOTAL	\$194,536.70

### **Correspondence – None**

### **Board Updates**

Commissioner Garza reported he attended the Law and Justice Committee meeting; the Washington Association of Counties virtual update; and, the virtual legislative update. Additionally reported on was the jail improvement meeting held yesterday.

Commissioner Blankenship reported he is preparing a press release regarding proposed state funding. Broadband project updates were provided.

Commissioner Weise reported on the Martin Hall Consortium meeting, noting conversations are taking place regarding Grant County no longer using the facility and the loss of revenue that will bring. Additionally, Weise reported he spent an afternoon with consultant John Culton discussing various ways the county may be able to assist Adams County towns/cities with housing, etc.

### **Board Discussion/Decision Items**

#### **Human Resources**

Human Resource Manager Campbell rescheduled her morning appointment to appear later in the day.

#### **Juvenile Detention Agreements**

The Board reviewed Agreement for Mutual Use of Juvenile Detention Center Facilities between Adams County and Benton and Franklin Counties; and, Interlocal Juvenile Detention Housing Agreement between Adams County and Spokane County.

The agreements will allow Adams County to house juveniles in detention in a place other than Martin Hall should there arise a situation where it becomes necessary to separate incarcerated juvenile offenders.

### **Public Works**

Public Works Director O'Brien and Engineer Yaeger provided updates on road maintenance; maintenance and operations; and, fleet management.

### **Equipment**

Director O'Brien reported the Department of Transportation has a salt brine machine, as well as tanks, available for sale at a cost of \$5,400. The Board provided consensus **authorization for the Public Works Department to move forward with the purchase of the salt brine machine at a cost of \$5,400.**

### **Annual Leave Sharing**

Director O'Brien requested, and received, **consensus authorization for annual leave sharing for employee Jennifer Saunders.**

### **Engineering**

Engineer Yaeger provided updates on Deal Road #2 Project; Hatton Road Safety Project; and County Wide Crushing Project.

### **Herman Road #2 Project (CRP-200)**

Commissioner Garza moved, Blankenship seconded, to **approve Resolution No. R-023-2023 In the Matter of Establishing the Herman Road #2 Project as County Road Project 200 for an estimated total project cost of \$3,094,000.00. Motion carried.**

### **Other Business**

The Board discussed the 2007 Waste Management Permit Agreement regarding an agricultural products contingency plan. Should Waste Management exercise their right to open the landfill they must present a contingency plan to the Board of Commissioners. The Board must approve the plan prior to the start of construction of the first cell. To date, there has been no evidence of consultation with the Wheat Growers Association or the Cattlemen's Association.

### **Juvenile Department**

The Board reviewed the proposal from Juvenile Director Juan Garza to eliminate the JDAI contract and the budget impact of such. No action was taken pending additional consideration.

### **District Court**

Payroll Deputy Bowman reviewed a salary placement request for District Court employee, Margarita Alfaro. Ms. Alfaro has been in the position of Court Administrator, classified at EE1/S2 on the Adams County Exempt Level Employee Salary Schedule. Judge Benzel has notified the payroll department of Ms. Alfaro stepping down from the Administrator position, and taking the position of Lead Clerk, and requested a salary placement of Range F, Step 4, on the Adams County Courthouse Bargaining Unit Salary Schedule. Payroll Deputy Bowman requested Board clarification regarding the requested step placement. No action was taken pending further consideration.

### **Executive Session**

At 11:29 a.m. Chairman Weise announced the Board would recess into Executive Session for twenty (20) minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – “To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency.” Additionally present was Prosecutor Flyckt.

At 11:49 a.m. the Board reconvened from Executive Session. No action taken.

### **Permanent Minutes Signed**

April 11 and 12, 2023

**Recess @ 11:50 a.m.**

**Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.**

### **District Court**

Judge Russell, District Court, Position No. 1, requested the Board table the matter of salary placement of Margarita Alfaro until such time that Judge Benzel, along with Judge Russell, were able to participate in the discussion. Commissioner Weise noted that any decision made will be a matter of policy. Judge Russell maintained that Judge Benzel should be allowed to speak on the matter as certain representations may have been made to Ms. Alfaro. No action was taken.

**Closed Session**

At 1:42 p.m. Chairman Weise announced the Board would recess into Closed Session for fifteen (15) minutes under RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) – “that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.” Additionally present were Prosecutor Flyckt; Civil Attorney Barden; and, Human Resource Manager Campbell.

At 1:57 p.m. the Board reconvened from Closed Session.

**Adjournment @ 1:59 p.m.**

Submitted:  
s/Patricia J. Phillips, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
s/Jay R. Weise, Chairman  
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Vice-Chairman  
s/Miguel A. Garza Commissioner

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ADAMS COUNTY,  
WASHINGTON

In the matter of (Herman Road #2)...**Resolution R-023-2023**

County Road Project  
No.200

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS that it is their intention to rehabilitate and make improvements to the Herman Rd #22601 from MP 4.10 to MP 8.12 Work to include grading, draining, widening of roadway, clear zone improvements, and asphalt surfacing to reestablish crown and super elevation on curves.

Length of project: **4.02 miles**                      Width of roadbed: **38 feet**                      Surface: **30 feet**  
Type and depth of surfacing: **2" HMA**  
Estimated date of beginning: **January 2024**  
Estimated date of completion: **December 2026**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing proper road there is hereby appropriated the sums in the following detail.

	County Road Fund
Preliminary Engineering	\$ 161,000.00
Right-of-way	\$
<u>Items of Work</u>	
County Force	\$
Contract	\$ 2,792,000.00
Construction Engineering	\$ 141,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,094,000.00</b>

The county road purpose herein described is HEREBY DECLARED to be a public necessity and the County Road Engineer is HEREBY ORDERED AND AUTHORIZED to report and proceed thereon as by law provided.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this purpose by Contract in accordance with Standard Road and Bridge Specifications of the State of Washington as adopted by this Board.

Adopted this 2nd day of May, 2023

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
s/Jay R. Weise, Chairman  
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Vice-Chairman  
s/Miguel A. Garza, Commissioner

ATTEST:  
s/Patricia J. Phillips, CMC  
Clerk of the Board