

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting Adams County Courthouse Ritzville, Washington

March 9, 2022 – 9:02 a.m.
(Wednesday)

Call to Order

Chairman Weise called the meeting to order.

Present:

Chairman Jay R. Weise
Vice-Chairman Terrance J. Thompson
Commissioner Dan C. Blankenship

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Weise led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval/Addition of Agenda

Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to approve the Agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

Board of Health

Dr. Brzezny provided updates on the following:

- Omicron – the Omicron variant wave is abating at varied speeds.
- COVID-19 – the COVID-19 variant should continue to be considered a concern; however, hospitalizations are declining.
- Masking mandate – indoor mask mandate will be lifted effective March 12, 2022 for the general public and schools. Local health jurisdictions, schools and businesses may choose to continue to require masks, individuals may choose to continue to wear masks.
- SARS-2 scenarios – there are four (4) possible evolutionary SARS-2 scenarios:
 - A slide toward endemicity
 - Altered disease and symptoms
 - Emergence of new recombinant coronavirus
 - Exploitation of antibodies
- COVID will persist along access, education and income lines.
- Tuberculosis – two Adams County residents have been diagnosed with Tuberculosis.
- Illegal and legal drug abuse and the impact on society.

Integrated Health Care Services

Integrated Health Care Services Director Guse provided staff updates, noting Brendan Abonyi has been hired in the Environmental Health Department. Additionally, updates on staff activities were provided as well as current vacant positions.

IHCS Contracts

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to authorize the Chairman to sign the following contracts as presented:

- Letter of Agreement between Coordinated Care of Washington, Inc., and Adams County dba Adams County Integrated Health Care Services. (Increases capitation rates for Behavioral Health by 2%, retroactive to April 1, 2021.)
- 2022 Community Behavioral Health Enhancement Payment Agreement between Community Health Plan of Washington, a Washington State not-for-profit corporation (“CHPW”), and Adams County dba Adams County Integrated Health Care Services, effective January 1, 2022. (Agreement adds funding allocation for January, 2022 through December, 2022.)
- Consolidated Contract CLH31001, Amendment #2, between the State of Washington Department of Health and Adams County Integrated Health Care Services for increased funding of \$361,130 for a total contract award of \$1,874,296 for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. (Amendment rolls some prior unspent and normal annual funding allocations starting January, 2022 to HD program not yet allocated for 2022-2024 period.)
- Agreement #750-720-1738, Amendment #1, between Spokane Regional Health District and Adams County Health Department in the amount of \$9,000 effective July, 2021 through June 30, 2022. (Amendment extends Agreement end date to June 30, 2022.)

Motion carried.

Recovery Navigator Program

Gloria Ochoa, Substance Abuse Program Manager, reviewed the Recovery Navigator Program. The program will provide community-based outreach, intake, assessment, and connection to services and, as appropriate, long-term intensive case management and recovery coaching services to youth and adults with substance use disorders. The principles

of the program were reviewed as well as the work group model and the composition of such.

Recess @ 11:19 a.m.

Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.

Board Workshop

Public Works

Public Works Director O'Brien provided updates on road maintenance; solid waste; staffing; facilities; and, fairgrounds.

Deal Road Project #2

Assistant County Engineer Reynolds reviewed the Local Agency Agreement between the Washington State Department of Transportation and Adams County; and, the Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus between Washington State Department of Transportation and Adams County, to authorize preliminary engineering funding for Deal Road Project #2 (CRP-197). Action is anticipated March 15, 2022.

Sheriff's Evidence Building

Public Works Director O'Brien reviewed a proposed budget for expenses that will be incurred in preparation for the contract to be drafted with the Department of Commerce to construct the evidence building in Othello. To complete the project budget and submit the same on the project readiness survey to Commerce, a commitment of county funds not eligible for grant reimbursement in the amount of \$45,000 will need to be approved. O'Brien will discuss the matter with Auditor Hunt and prepare a proposal for Board consideration.

Additionally, O'Brien requested and received **consensus authorization to advertise for Request for Qualifications (RFQ's) from a consulting firm, or firms, with expertise in Land Boundary and Topographical Surveys and Environmental Studies/Soils Investigations regarding the Sheriff's Evidence Building project.**

Solid Waste

Public Works Director O'Brien, along with Commissioner Blankenship, attended a Zoom meeting on Monday afternoon with the Department of Ecology concerning the new level of interest on the part of Waste Management Inc., in utilizing the permit for their original solid waste landfill and recycling facility outside of Washtucna. Commissioner Blankenship noted, in deciding certain matters, he will recuse himself from the process due to a family interest in the Washtucna property.

Executive Session

At 1:54 p.m. Chairman Weise announced the Board would recess into Executive Session for thirty (30) minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – “to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation...”. No action is anticipated. Prosecutor Flyckt and Public Works Director O’Brien were present.

At 2:24 p.m. the Board reconvened from Executive Session. No action taken.

Adjournment @ 2:45 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/Terrance J. Thompson, Vice-Chairman
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Commissioner