

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting County Public Services Building – Conference Room Othello, Washington

December 13, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.
(Wednesday)

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

Public comment was received from:

<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Tammy Foley	Othello	Adams County Pet Rescue
Kim Bailey	Othello	Adams County Pet Rescue
Kimmy Sanders	Othello	Adams County Pet Rescue
Patty Stemhagen	Othello	Adams County Pet Rescue
Dale Wyman	Othello	Adams County Pet Rescue

Additionally, a letter from Michelle Inserra, President, Friends of Tri-Cities Animal Shelter, was read by Patty Stemhagen during the public comment period.

Approval/Addition of Agenda

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

2024 Adams County Budget

It being the time of 9:30 a.m. and the place set for the public hearing to consider the 2024 Adams County Budget; Chairman Weise convened the public hearing.

Chairman Weise provided an overview of the proposed budget.

Public comment was received from:

Kim Bailey, Othello
Tammy Foley, Othello.

Chairman Weise recessed the hearing at 10:05 a.m. to reconvene per legal notice on Tuesday, December 19, 2023.

Board of Commissioner Meeting Recess @ 10:06 a.m.

Board of Health Meeting Call to Order @ 10:06 a.m.

Present: Board of Health members Commissioners Blankenship, Weise, and Garza. Board of Health members April May and Karen Potts attended virtually. Additionally present were Vicki Guse, Integrated Health Care Services Director; Brendan Abonyi, Adams County Environmental Director; and, Dr. Brzezny, Adams County Health Officer.

Approval/Addition of Board of Health Agenda

Commissioner Garza moved, Blankenship seconded, to *approve the Board of Health agenda*. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment – None

Health Officer Update

Dr. Brzezny, Adams County Health Officer, provided updates on the following:

- RSV virus, noting a significant increase in cases.
- A rise in influenza cases.
- A decrease in COVID cases.
- Emergency departments are seeing more people with respiratory illnesses.
- IHCS Director Guse sent out advisory letters to the community regarding influenza and other respiratory viruses.
- Tuberculosis – flatter season compared to last year, no new concerns since last report. IHCS Director Guse sent out a notice regarding statewide outbreak of tuberculosis within correctional facilities.

Additionally, Director Guse reported issues with the refrigerator used to store vaccines in Ritzville. Guse will research the purchase of a new refrigerator.

Brendan Abonyi, Environmental Health Director, provided updates on Waste Management. Director Guse reviewed the permitting process, noting the current fee schedule for the Waste Management operational handling permit is \$55,000. The Board provided **consensus authorization for Guse to bill Waste Management for the current permit fee of \$55,000.**

Additionally, Director Abonyi provided updates on a proposed food ordinance for businesses; swimming pool inspections; vector control; and, solid waste inspections.

Board Update – None

Board Discussion/Decision Items – None

Other Business – None

Executive Session – None

Board of Health Adjourned @ 11:11 a.m.

Board of Commissioner Meeting Reconvened @ 11:11 a.m.

Board Workshop
Integrated Health Care Services

Director Guse introduced Recovery Navigator Program (RNP) Case Manager Olga Preciado and Recovery Navigator Program (RNP) Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Suarez-Gomez. Preciado provided a review of the program.

Behavioral Health Contract

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Garza seconded, to *approve Amendment to the Provider Services Agreement between Molina Healthcare of Washington, Inc., and Adams County for the provision of Medicaid health care services to members for an increase of the WISE monthly case rate per enrolled youth.* **Motion carried.**

Recess @ 11:29 a.m.

Reconvene @ 11:35 a.m.

Executive Session

At 11:35 a.m. Chairman Weise announced the Board would recess into Executive Session for thirty (30) minutes under RCW 42.030.110(1)(g) –

“...to review the performance of a public employee.” Integrated Health Care Services Director Guse was present.

At 12:05 p.m. the Board reconvened from Executive Session.

Recess @ 12:05 p.m.

Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.

2024 Budget

The Board, along with Auditor Hunt, spent the afternoon session reviewing the proposed 2024 Adams County Budget

Adjournment @ 2:41 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