

**BOARD OF SKAMANIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**Skamania County Courthouse  
240 NW Vancouver Ave. Lower Level, Room 18  
Stevenson, WA 98648**

**Minutes for Meeting of January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

The Board met for a staff meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Commissioners T.W. Lannen, Richard Mahar, and Asa Leckie, Chair, were present. Reports were presented by Senior Services Program Manager Sophie Miller, Community Events and Recreation Manager Alex Hays, Probation Officer Chris Wood, Human Resources Administrator Sara Slack, Financial Management Administrator Heidi Penner, and Clerk of the Board Lisa Sackos.

The meeting recessed at 9:14 a.m.

The Commissioners' business meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, at the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, Washington with Commissioners T.W. Lannen, Commissioner Richard Mahar, and Commissioner Asa Leckie, Chair, present.

The Pledge of the Allegiance was led by Lisa Sackos, Clerk of the Board.

Public comment was provided by Mary Repar, Stevenson resident, regarding general, public accessibility during winter weather.

Commissioner Leckie, Chair, pulled items number two from the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahar, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Minutes for meeting January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
2. ~~Contract renewal with Skamania County Economic Development Council to promote and support economic development with Skamania County.~~
3. Contract with CFM Advocates to provide state government lobbying services.
4. Contract with Washington State University Extension to provide Cooperative Extension services to Skamania County.
5. Annual Treasurer's 2023 Tax Roll Cancellation Report.
6. Interlocal agreement with City of Stevenson for promotion and operation of events in Stevenson, Washington to attract tourists.
7. Contract with Skamania County Chamber of Commerce for 2024 lodging tax funds to promote tourism.
8. Approve publication of ADA Barriers Survey on County webpage.
9. Contract amendment #1 with Michael Baker International to reflect 12 months of data hosting.
10. Authorize the Sheriff's Office to purchase two multi-band radios for new patrol vehicles.
11. Agreement with Vancouver Police Department to transfer Canine Remi and equipment.
12. Authorize the Sheriff's Office to purchase new rifles, magazines, and optic.
13. Agreement renewal with the Washington State Military Department for the Emergency Management Performance grant.

Commissioner Mahar moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, and the motion carried unanimously to approve vouchers for the period dated January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, totaling \$517,059.80 with the Current Expense amount of \$188,873.22, covering warrant numbers 196271 through 196364.

Commissioner Mahar moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, and the motion carried unanimously to approve vouchers for the period dated January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, totaling \$23,878.57 with the Current Expense amount of \$18,543.87, covering warrant numbers 196365 through 196381.

Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahar, and the motion carried unanimously to approve payroll for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, through January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in the total amount of \$704,319.33 with \$405,357.83 being Current Expense, covering warrant numbers 44494 through 44513 and direct deposit numbers 80793 through 80969.

Commissioner Mahar moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, to table the agenda item to appoint Lucy Lauser as a Government Representative to the Homeless Housing Council. Commissioner Mahar rescinded his original motion then moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, to pull the agenda item to appoint Lucy Lauser as a Government Representative to the Homeless Housing Council. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahar, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the application from Skamania County to use .09 funds for the 2024 contract with Skamania County Economic Development Council.

Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahar, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the application from Skamania County to approve the contract renewal with Skamania County Economic Development Council to promote and support economic development with Skamania County.

Commissioner Mahar moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Natural Resource Technician positions at 75% with pay range 16, effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Commissioner Mahar reported on various meetings he attended.

The Board met for Department Head reports.

- David Waymire, Public Works Director, reported on Engineering, County Road, Building Division, Community Development, ER&R, Solid Waste, Information Technology, Building and Grounds, and the Wind River Business Park.
- Tamara Cissell, Community Health Director, reported on the status of the Hegewald Center, building expansion, Behavioral Health, Public Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Housing.

Commissioner Mahar continued reporting on meetings he attended.

The Board met with Human Resources Administrator Sara Slack for Safety Committee reports:

- Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahar, and the motion carried unanimously to approve 2023-E-15 and agree with the Supervisor and Safety Committee that this was a preventable accident.

- Commissioner Mahar moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, and the motion carried unanimously to approve 2023-E-16 and agree with the Supervisor and Safety Committee that this was unpreventable.
- Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahar, and the motion carried unanimously to approve 2023-E-17 and agree with the Supervisor and Safety Committee that this was preventable.

The meeting recessed at 10:42 a.m. and reconvened the same day at 11:00 a.m. with Commissioner T.W. Lannen, Commissioner Richard Mahar, and Commissioner Asa Leckie, Chair, present.

The Board met in a workshop with the Financial Management Group, Elected Officials, Department Heads, and Managers to discuss County finances.

The meeting recessed at 11:11 a.m. and reconvened the same day at 1:31 p.m. with Commissioner T.W. Lannen, Commissioner Richard Mahar, and Commissioner Asa Leckie, Chair, present.

The Board met in a workshop with Community Events Program Manager Alex Hays to discuss rental rate increases.

The meeting recessed at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened the same day at 2:16 p.m. with Commissioner T.W. Lannen, Commissioner Richard Mahar, and Commissioner Asa Leckie, Chair, present.

The Board met with Columbia Gorge Commission Executive Director Krystyna Wolniakowski, and Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area Forest Supervisor Donna Mickley for updates.

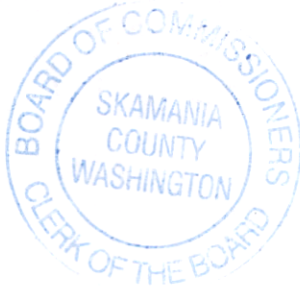
Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Mahar, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the letter to Vanessa Countryman, Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, in opposition to the attempt by the New York Stock Exchange to create natural asset companies.

Commissioner Lannen and Commissioner Leckie reported on various meetings they attended.

Commissioner Mahar moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, and the motion carried unanimously to adjourn the Skamania County Board of Commissioners meeting for Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

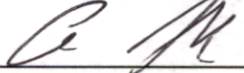
The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

**ATTEST:**



  
 Lisa Sackos, Clerk of the Board

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
 SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

  
 Asa Leckie, Chair

  
 Richard Mahar, Commissioner

  
 T.W. Lannen, Commissioner