

## COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting  
Adams County Courthouse  
Ritzville, Washington

July 13, 2022 – 9:00 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 Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

### Board Workshop

Board of Health – Dr. Brzezny, Adams County Health Officer, reported the following:

- U.S. COVID statistics, noting cases are increasing; hospitalizations are up; deaths are up, however, not in proportion to case increases.
- No evidence of increased infection severity with the BA.4 and BA.5 variants compared to other Omicron subvariants; the FDA has recommended the development of boosters that target the original coronavirus strain, as well as the BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants, to be ready for use by Fall, 2022.
- Washington COVID trends.
- Washington hospital and ICU occupancy.
- Adams County seven (7) day incidence rate.
- Eighteen (18) months of new cases per day data in Adams County.
- The pandemic is far from over; evolving SARS-2 BA.2.75 has eighty-two (82) mutations compared to the original ancestral strain.

- COVID vaccination now recommended to all people six (6) months of age and older.
- COVID booster now recommended to all those > five (5) years of age.  
Longer interval between doses one (1) and two (2) may be considered for all population six (6) months through sixty-four (64) years of age particularly males six (6) months through thirty-nine (39) years of age.
- Monkeypox – significant increase in cases worldwide; fifteen (15) cases reported in Washington – fourteen cases confirmed in King County, one non-Washington resident. Eleven out of fifteen cases in Washington are associated with international or domestic travel.
- Active Tuberculosis in Adams County – three individuals with active TB in Adams County; two in their second (maintenance) phase of therapy; one with adherence issues (the situation has been escalated to the courts).
- Anecdotal reports of increase in foodborne illness regionally .
- Three (3) cases of infant botulism in Grant County this year.
- Culex mosquitoes in locally collected samples.
- Harmful algae blooms spotted in north central Washington lakes.
- Internationally – diphtheria cases reported from Australia; polio-causing viruses detected in wastewater in London and Jerusalem (one case) over several months (original polio virus compared to evolving virus).

Commissioner Weise introduced newly appointed Board of Health members Karen Potts; April May; and, Timm Taff.

#### Integrated Health Care Services

Integrated Health Care Services Director Guse provided agency updates. Vacant positions within IHCS were reviewed. Additionally, citizen compliance complaints were reviewed.

#### Interagency Agreement between Othello Housing Authority and Adams County Integrated Health Care Services

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to authorize the Chairman to sign Interagency Agreement between Othello Housing Authority and Adams County Integrated Health Care Services for a unit rate increase for emergency housing. **Motion carried.**

2022-2024 Consolidated Contract CLH31001, Amendment #5

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to authorize the Chairman to sign Consolidated Contract CLH31001, Amendment #5, between the State of Washington Department of Health and Adams County Integrated Health Care Services for increased funding of \$8,100 for a total contract award of \$2,228,299 for the period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. **Motion carried.** *(Adds 2022 allocation for WIC nutrition education training for staff; 2022 annual allocation for VFC OPS for vaccine promotion services.)*

Regional On-Site Sewage System Loan Program

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to authorize the Chairman to sign Memorandum of Understanding for Regional On-Site Sewage System Loan Program between the Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) and Counties; Washington State Department of Health; and Washington State Department of Ecology for the purpose of providing a program to offer loan assistance to citizens of the participating local jurisdictions to address failing or malfunctioning on-site sewage systems to protect public health and water quality. **Motion carried.**

Board of Health

Commissioner Thompson moved, Blankenship seconded, to have the new Board of Health members draw numbers to determine member terms. Discussion followed. Commissioner Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to suspend Commissioner Thompson's motion until such time as a chairperson is elected. **Motion carried.**

Timm Taff moved, Blankenship seconded, to elect Jay Weise as Chair of the Adams County Board of Health for a one-year term effective July 13, 2022 through July 1, 2023. **Motion carried.**

Timm Taff moved, Karen Potts seconded, to elect April May as Vice-Chair of the Adams County Board of Health for a one-year term effective July 13, 2022 through July 1, 2023. **Motion carried.**

Commissioner Blankenship moved to reintroduce Commissioner Thompson's motion to have the new Board of Health members draw numbers to determine member terms with the following results: Karen Potts, two (2) year term; Timm Taff, three (3) year term; and, April May, one (1) year term. **Motion carried.** The staggering of terms will assure that all member terms do not expire in the same year.

Chairman Weise reviewed a *draft* agenda format for the Adams County Board of Health. The Board of Health, by consensus, approved the agenda format, as presented, to follow in preparing for future Board of Health meetings.

Member Taff moved, Weise seconded, to adjourn the Board of Health meeting. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

**Recess @ 11:43 a.m.**

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

### **Board Workshop**

#### **Public Works**

Engineer Yaeger provided updates on the Snowden Road project; the Booker Road Overlay project; and, the Cunningham Road Widening project.

#### **West 1st Avenue and Danielson Road HMA Paving Preservation Projects**

Engineer Yaeger reviewed bids for the West 1st Avenue (CAPP project #22-0002); and, Danielson Road (CAPP project #22-0013) HMA Paving Preservation projects.

Commissioner Weise moved, Blankenship seconded, to approve the award of the 1st Avenue; and, Danielson Road Pavement Preservation projects to Granite Construction Company, Yakima, Washington, as the lowest, responsive bidder, in the amount of \$292,150.00. **Motion carried.**

#### **Road Maintenance**

Engineer Yaeger and Public Works Director O'Brien provided updates on seal coat operations along with miscellaneous maintenance projects in all three districts.

#### **Adams County Fairgrounds**

Public Works Director O'Brien reported on an increased daily use, on a non-paying basis, of the restroom/showers at the fairgrounds. The facility is being used by people entering the grounds by vehicle and not by renters paying for a camp site. Director O'Brien will review several options prior to final action being decided.

#### **Operations and Maintenance**

Public Works Director O'Brien provided updates on the Ritzville Health

Department noting the roofers are expected to complete their work this week, however, the electrical portion of the project may require a change order. Apollo has completed the demolition necessary for the boiler replacement project at the jail. O'Brien met with City of Othello representatives regarding the evidence building project, noting a short meeting will be held later today to discuss the findings.

#### Courthouse Windows Replacement Project

Public Works Director O'Brien reviewed an updated construction cost for the replacement of courthouse windows through the Historic County Courthouse Grant Program noting the county would be responsible for matching funds of \$405,000. The Board, by consensus, will not move forward with applying for a grant through DAHP for courthouse window replacement.

Commissioner Weise left the meeting at 2:25 p.m. to attend a scheduled meeting in the Public Works building.

#### Othello District Court Services

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to delegate Prosecutor Flyckt to review and amend, if necessary, a press release regarding Othello District Court Services prior to submitting for publication.

**Motion carried.**

**Recess @ 2:25 p.m.**

**Reconvene @ 2:35 p.m.**

#### Adams County Shop and Storage Addition (Lind)

Based on the recommendation of the Public Works Department, Commissioner Blankenship moved, Thompson seconded, to award the Adams County Shop and Storage Addition project to Dug Excavation, Othello, Washington, as the lowest, responsive bidder in the amount of \$243,000. **Motion carried.**

**Adjournment @ 2:42 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