

083085 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, June 15, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** Michael Largent, Chairman, Arthur D Swannack (remotely) and Dean Kinzer (remotely) Commissioners, Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board (remotely) and Connie Ellis, Deputy Clerk of the Board attended.

9:00 a.m. - Call to Order/Board Business/BOCC Workshop.

Remotely: Annie Pillers, Ellary Holliday, Tom Handy, Kelli Campbell, Jessica Jensema, Bill Tensfeld, Sandy Jamison, Bill Spence, Bailey Wiedmer, Hailey Lewis, Cathrine Wigen, Jacob Jones, Lance Bishop, Dean Cornelison, Brandy Dean, Janet Schmidt, Sharron Cunningham, Corey Mitzemberg, Telephone (9:00 a.m.), Whitman County, and Bailey Wiedmer (9:15 a.m.).

083086-083087 1-2. The following items were discussed but no action was taken.

- Letter from Employee
- TimeClock Plus
- Administrative Services Salary
- Dissolving IT Funds
- Budget Process Letter
- Property Tax
- 2020 Budget Amendments
- Return to Work Guidelines
- Phase 3 Safe Start Plan
- Whitman County Property (Colfax)

9:25 a.m. - Recess.

9:45 a.m. - Flag Salute.

Remotely: Lance Bishop, Ellary Holliday, Sharron Cunningham, Kelli Campbell, Sharron Cunningham, Bill Spence, Hailey Lewis, Whitman County, Craig Wines, Jacob Jones, Chris Nelson, Bill Tensfeld, Jtibbits, Dean Cornelison, Telephone, and Jessica Jensema.

D083087A 3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda:

083088 4. Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to accept the consent agenda as presented.

083089 5. Treasurer's Wire Transfers and Check Report in the amount of **\$4,360.51**, Payroll warrants numbered **349317-349324** for **\$661,081.68** and General Claims/Veterans' Relief warrants numbered **349444-349560** for **\$210,837.69** approved.

083090 6. June 1, 2020 minutes approved.

083091-083092 7. Personnel change orders approved.

083093 8. Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to reappoint Scott Kruse, Dean Wigen, Jamie Keller, and Jake Opgenorth all to 3 year terms to expire on June 30, 2023 on the Emergency Communications Advisory Committee.

083094 9. Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to appoint Anna "Danielle" Hodgden for an unexpired three year term to expire on December 31, 2021 to the Developmental Services Board.

083095 10. Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to sign the resolution authorizing the dissolution of the Information Technology Operations-GIS Fund #515.32.022 as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 083095
OF
THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR WHITMAN COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, met in regular session on Monday, June 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington recognizes the need to eliminate the Information Technology Operations-GIS Fund #515.320.022 originally created on November 5, 2018 and to move any assets to Fund #001.000.000 Account #131.10.999000000 where the cash originated and move revenues, expenditures, and budget to the Current Expense/IT Operations fund #001.320.000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County agree to eliminate the Information Technology Operations-GIS Fund #515.320.022 on December 31, 2019, move any assets to Current Expense Fund 001.000.000, and move revenues, expenditures, and budget to the Current Expense/IT operations fund #001.320.000.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED 15th day of June 2020 and effective as of December 31, 2019.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

Michael Largent, Chairman

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board
BY: Connie Ellis
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Arthur D Swannack, Commissioner

Dean Kinzer, Commissioner

083096 **11.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to sign the resolution authorizing the dissolution of the Information Technology Operations Fund #515.32.000 and move any assets to Fund #001.000.000 Account #131.10.999000000 where the cash originated and move revenues, expenditures, and budget to the Current Expense/IT Operations Fund as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 083096
OF
THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR WHITMAN COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, met in regular session on Monday, June 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington recognizes the need to eliminate the Information Technology Operations Fund #515.320.000 originally created on February 22, 2011 and to move any assets to Fund #001.000.000 Account #131.10.999000000 where the cash originated and move revenues, expenditures, and budget to the Current Expense/IT Operations fund #001.320.000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County agree to eliminate the Information Technology Operations Fund #515.320.000 on

December 31, 2019, move any assets to Current Expense Fund 001.000.000, and move revenues, expenditures, and budget to the Current Expense/IT operations fund #001.320.000.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED 15th day of June 2020 and effective as of December 31, 2019.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

Michael Largent, Chairman

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board
BY: Connie Ellis
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Arthur D Swannack, Commissioner

Dean Kinzer, Commissioner

083097 **12.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to approve the Road and Solid Waste Bargaining Units Time System Agreement as presented.

083098 **13.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to sign the Washington State Military Department FY21 SECO County Basic Service Operation contract and Signature Authorization form as presented.

083099 **14.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to sign the 2020-2021 E911 County Basic Service Operating Grant Application Data form as presented.

083100-083100A **15.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to approve and sign the Whitman County/Department of Enterprise Services Interagency Agreement 2020-136 A(1) Amendment No. 1, M&V Agreement No. 2020-136 B(2), Contract No. 2020-136 G(1-1) for McKinstry Phase 4 courthouse roofing, jail plumbing and jail lighting projects, and the Interagency Agreement between Whitman County and Washington State Department of Enterprise Services IAA No. K6182; Project No. 2020-136 as presented.

083101 **16.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to authorize the publishing of a notice of hearing for budget amendment #2 to the 2020 Whitman County Budget.

083102 **17.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to sign the resolution adopting the (revised) Temporary Emergency Leave in Response to a Shelter-In-Place/Stay-at-Home Order policy as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 083102
BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

IN THE MATTER OF the action of the update and adoption of the Whitman County Policy **Temporary Emergency Leave in Response to a Shelter-in-Place/Stay-at-Home Order;**

WHEREAS, this action is necessary and in the best interest of Whitman County and its employees,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by this Board that the above is approved as the attached **POL-8001-HR Temporary Emergency Leave in Response to a Shelter-in-Place/Stay-at-Home Order.**

Dated this 15th day of June 2020 and effective as of June 15, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

Michael Largent, Chairman

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board
BY: Connie Ellis
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Arthur D Swannack, Commissioner

Dean Kinzer, Commissioner



**Temporary Emergency Leave in Response to a
Shelter-in-Place/Stay-at-Home Order**

Policy: POL-8001-HR • Effective Date: 06/15/20 • Res. # 083102
Cancels: 082885-A • Reference: None

This policy applies to all Whitman County employees unless otherwise stated in a collective bargaining agreement.

1. Duration and scope of temporary emergency leave:

This policy is effective upon the official order of the federal, state or local government to shelter-in-place/stay-at-home. It will cease having authority: once that order has expired or is rescinded; or upon termination by the Board of County Commissioners whichever comes first. Emergency leave will operate in cooperation with the parameters of the shelter-in-place/stay-at-home order.

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will periodically review the status of the stay at home/shelter-in-place order and its impact on county operations. The BOCC may suspend, modify or end the use of emergency leave prior to the end of the order as circumstances warrant. This may include, but is not limited to: financial hardship on the county; when the end of the order is unclear; etc. The BOCC may also reinstate emergency leave as circumstances change under the order.

~~The Elected Official/Department Head is authorized to determine if employees work on site or telecommute.~~ Should the federal, state or local government effect a shelter-in-place/stay-at-home order, paid emergency leave may be granted to eligible employees in accordance with this policy. It is meant to avoid penalizing employees who must remain at home due to such government orders and are unable to perform work on and off site as determined by the county.

2. Parameters:

1. Emergency leave is in addition to an employee's accrued sick and vacation leave.
2. Qualified employees cannot be required to use their accrued leave before emergency leave.

3. Emergency leave applies only for the duration of the shelter in place order.
4. Emergency leave is accessible if the employee is sent home in response to the order and cannot telecommute. Being sent home includes circumstances where:
 - The elected official/department head determines the employee will not work on site or telecommute.
 - The employee is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to the emergency.
 - The employee has been recommended by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to the emergency.
 - The employee is seeking medical treatment directly related to the emergency.
 - The employee is caring for an individual who is subject to a quarantine or isolation order as described above.
 - The employee is caring for a son or daughter whose school or place of care has been closed, or the childcare provider is unavailable and where the closure is directly related to the emergency.
5. Employees are responsible for notifying their supervisor of the need for emergency leave as soon as they become aware of the need or, in the case of unforeseeable circumstances, as soon as reasonably possible.

The elected official/department head may require a verification of the absences exceeding three work days. Depending on the nature of the emergency, the employee must be given at least thirty days to provide the verification. The reason for the verification is to verify the absence is an authorized purpose under this policy. The verification is not required to explain the nature of the condition and

The verification may not result in unreasonable burden or expense to the employee. If the employee believes it will result in being unreasonable, he/she may submit a written justification to the elected official or department head which explains why compliance is a problem. The justification must include: explanation that the leave is authorized under this policy; and an explanation of how the verification requirement is an unreasonable burden or expense.

The elected official/department head must review the written justification and consider alternatives within ten calendar days. Alternatives must include, but are not limited to: accepting the written justification provided by the employee; and ways to mitigate the employee's expense.

When possible, employees shall complete a leave request form as provided by each department.

6. Under emergency circumstances, employees may be called back to work depending on the need of the department. If called back to work, the employee will no longer be on emergency leave and be paid wages in accordance with Whitman County policy.
7. Emergency leave is in addition to any overlapping leave expansions set by the federal or state governments. It does not overlap with the benefits of such expansions. Emergency leave is not used if the same hour of work is already being paid for by another form of leave. Emergency leave may, however, be used instead of other emergency leave expansions.
8. Emergency leave is not permitted under the circumstances listed below. In these cases regular pay or accrued leave banks will be accessed:
 - The employee is working on-site.
 - The employee performing telecommuting hours.

- The employee absent for a reason other than a shelter-in-place/stay-at-home order.
- The employee is off work due to vacation or another reason unrelated to the emergency.
- The employee is sick or has gone to the doctor for his/her self or a loved one for a reason not related to the current emergency.

9. Emergency leave is not an accrual or bank of leave. It is not subject to carry over or pay out.

10. Emergency leave may be used for no more than the employee's regular work day.

083103 **18.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Swannack **seconded** the motion and carried to approve the Whitman County Return to Work Guidelines - COVID-19 Pandemic.

083104 **18A.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Swannack **seconded** the motion and carried to approve the Phase 3 Safe Start Plan for Whitman County. (**See also 083113A - #18B**)

083105 **Not Used.**

10:00 a.m. - Public Works.

Present: Mark Storey and, Marc LaVanway (10:00 a.m.)
Remotely: Lance Bishop, Ellary Holliday, Sharron Cunningham, Kelli Campbell, Sharron Cunningham, Bill Spence, Hailey Lewis, Whitman County, Craig Wines, Jacob Jones, Chris Nelson, Bill Tensfeld, Jtibbits, Dean Cornelison, Telephone, and Jessica Jensema (10:00 a.m.).

083106 **18C.** The following Public Works related issues approved/updated:

ACTION ITEMS:

D083106A **19.** The following bids were received for the Steptoe Area and Rosalia Roads Overlay.

BIDDER		AMOUNT
Poe Asphalt/Clarkston, WA	Basis of Award	\$189,327.44
	Alternate	<u>\$112,783.44</u>
	Total Bid	\$302,110.88
Inland Asphalt Co/Spokane, WA	Basis of Award	\$179,742.60
	Alternate	<u>\$119,942.60</u>
	Total Bid	\$299,685.20
Shamrock Paving/Spokane, WA	Basis of Award	\$182,453.50
	Alternate	<u>\$113,016.50</u>
	Total Bid	\$295,470.00

The commissioners will make an award on June 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

D083106B **20.** The following correspondence was received:

083107 **20A.** An email was received from the Washington Department of Health approving Whitman County to move into Phase 3 of Governor Inslee's Safe Start plan.

083108 **20B.** A copy of the letter to Whitman County Auditor, Sandy Jamison from the Whitman County Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials was received reporting

their findings and conclusions. They determined there will be no salary adjustments to the elected officials, effective January 1, 2021.

083109 20C. See 083115-24B.

083110 20D. A letter was received by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board notifying the county Etta's Herbals LLC is licensed for non-retail and marijuana processor privileges are due to expire on November 30, 2020.

083111 21. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

10:05 a.m. - Recess.

10:45 a.m. - Public Works.

Present: Mark Storey and Marc LaVanway (10:45 a.m.)
Remotely: Lance Bishop, Ellary Holliday, Tom Handy, Whitman County, Craig Wines, Dean Cornelison, espy, Paul Spence, Brandon Kruger (10:45 a.m.), and Leif Rosenlund (10:50 a.m.).

DIVISION UPDATES:

D083111A 22. The following division updates provided by Public Works staff.

Engineering Division:

083112 22A. Dean Cornelison reported the temporary road closure at the Almota 4 Road project will end this afternoon. The full road closure is scheduled to be open to passable traffic on June 19th. With all the wet weather, it may be delayed. Alternate routes will still be encouraged.

Maintenance Division:

D083112A 22B. Brandon Kruger reported the crew will be chip sealing for the next two weeks. This year the mileage has been cut back to approximately 18 miles.

D083112B 22C. The crew has been taking advantage of the moisture and has been grading roads. Lately there has been a little too much moisture so there has been minor clean-ups to do. They are ahead of schedules on hauling rock and grading.

083113 22D. Mr. Kruger informed the commissioners a used compact track loader was purchased through the Small Works Roster process. Western States Equipment Company was awarded the quote for a 2017 Caterpillar 259D Multi Terrain Loader with a bid amount of \$39,428.97 (without tax). The department has a \$30,000 grant to offset the amount.

083113A 18B. Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Swannack **seconded** the motion and carried to end Whitman County's Temporary Emergency Leave effective June 16, 2020.

ACTION ITEMS:

083114 23. The following bids were received for the Solid Waste Moderate Risk Waste building remodel.

BIDDER		AMOUNT
Mangum Construction LLC/Clarkston, WA	Basis of Award	\$ 812,278.00
Halme Builders/Davenport, WA	Basis of Award	\$ 965,500.00
Kenaston/Lewiston, ID	Basis of Award	\$1,030,760.00

The commissioners will make an award on June 29, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. directly following the Steptoe Area and Rosalia Roads Overlay bid award.

D083114A 24. Approved documents signed.

11:10 a.m. - Recess.

1:30 p.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued.

Remotely: Mike Berney, Greater Columbia Behavioral Health (GCBH), Jim Logan, Lance Bishop, Ellary Holliday, Craig Wines, Marshall, Tom Handy, Rachel Jensen, Stacy Aune, Ryan, Anthony Kuipers, Annie Pillers, Hailey Lewis, Jami iPhone, Charly, Lisa Baser, Sara Fluor, Ronald's iPhone, Bill Spence, and Katy Heaton (1:30 p.m.)

D083114B 24A. Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to amend the agenda adding item #24B.

108115 24B. Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer **seconded** the motion and **carried** to authorize the chairman to sign the Washington State Department of Commerce Coronavirus Relief Fund for Local Governments (CARES Act) Contract Number 20-6541C-038 as presented.

083116 25. Mr. Berney reviewed the regular Executive Committee Board meeting held on May 7 and June 4, 2020 of the Greater Columbia Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization (GCBH-ASO).

D083116A 25A. ASO Issues: Executive Session(s):
No executive session was needed.

D083116B 25B. ASO Issues: Approval of warrants and vouchers:
Warrants and vouchers for April (\$1,490,726) and May (\$1,621,781) relating to ASO operations were approved. Whitman County voted in favor for both months. The votes were unanimous.

D083116C 25C. ASO Issues: State Updates:
The Governor vetoed the bill exempting ASOs from having to pay B & O tax. All ASOs that are LLC's (which the state required) are requesting to be exempt since they are essentially only passing funding through to providers. If this cannot be changed, it will mean less funding going toward services.

D083116D 25D. The state opened an RFP to allow qualified managed care companies (MCOs) that are not in all regions (United Health Care) to operate in those regions.

D083116E 25E. ASO Issue(s): ASO Updates:
The Executive Committee has decided to meet monthly for the time being. Training for the new Rain Tree Information System has begun with ASO staff. The Greater Columbia Accountable Community of Health will be presenting at the July Executive Committee meeting. The self-imposed corrective action plan (CAP) to deal with the significant fiscal problem within the GCBH crisis system was approved. Whitman County voted in favor of the CAP. The vote was unanimous. This is a state-wide problem. The CAP included some use of reserves, reduced payments to crisis providers, reduced crisis options, shifting of some funds and additional state funding in SFY 2021. The system is stabilized for now. ASO financial statements are complete through May. There are no significant compliance issues to report.

D083116F 25F. ASO Issue: Contract Issues:
The Executive Committee reviewed a contract amendment that added funding to divert individuals that might be affected by the Trueblood court decision. The Executive Committee reviewed a draft contract from the State that would go into effect on July 1, 2020. The contract changes dealt primarily with updated wording and housing support. Whitman County voted in favor of the contract. The vote was unanimous.

D083116G 25G. ASO Issue: Other Business:

Ron Anderson, from Yakima County, did not need to be replaced as an officer of the Executive Committee. The Palouse River Counseling continues to provide most services via tele-health or telephone. There is "a bit of an issue" with providing services to clients who are living out of state.

2:00 p.m. - Fair Board Report.

Present: Bill Tensfeld, Janel Goebel, Janet Schmidt, and Heather Netz (2:00 p.m.).
Remotely: Lance Bishop, Ellary Holliday, Marshall, Rachel Jensen, Stacy Aune, Jim Logan, Hailey Lewis, Lisa Baser, Bill Spence, Katy Heaton, Cindy, Sarah Kane, Sarah Appel, Kacie, Sarah Druffel, Eric Reiber, Missy Repp, Cathrine Wigen, Jessica Jensema, Jen, Craig Wines, Tom Handy, Anthony Kuipers, Ryan Pfaff, Annie Pillers, Jami's Iphone, Sara Fluor, Charly Hennigar, Iphone (bkriebold), Shannon, Paige Collins, Jalayna's Iphone, Jana Mathia, Lori, Abbie DeMeerleer, Tami Schwartz, Bailey W, Maya Aune, Sharron, Kberquist, Kpierson, Missy Kjack, Nathan Moore, Samsung SM, Kellie's Iphone, Iphone, Rob's Iphone, Brandy, Chelsey Startin, Shannon, Tyler Bober, Ronald's Iphone, Corey M, Sid's Ipad, Jonathan, Shawna Kneale, Newsroom, Iphone, Iphone, and 509-397-6270 (2:00 p.m.).

083117 **26.** The discussion opened with Nathan Moore asking Abbie DeMeerleer to read the commissioners' motion of a needed plan from the fair committee. She read the commissioners voted "To suspend fair related expenditures until such time as the Fair Board has made provisions to conduct fair operations under the Governor's Phase 3 State Reopening Plan. Plan will include sufficient time to implement, assurance of sufficient staffing and volunteers to conduct planned events under Phase 3 restrictions, and a realistic plan to cover additional costs over what is currently budgeted for the fair. This plan will be considered by the Board of County Commissioners at their meeting on June 15, 2020."

Chairman Largent reiterated, this is not something the Board of County Commissioners is imposing. It is something the county has to plan around due to the realities we, as a state, are faced with. He continued, during one of his last comments Governor Inslee mentioned Eastern Washington was seeing a rise in positive cases, adding it will likely continue to increase this fall. It would seem as though Dr. Weisman's forecast of not getting to Phase 4 in 2020 is much more of a reality. Chairman Largent said he can't imagine guidelines for fairs to be less restrictive than right now. Before opening up for discussion, he stated he would like to note two important things. 1) It is unlikely the county will be in Phase 4 by September, and 2) Phase 3 guidelines allow for 50 people or less in a public gathering.

Abbie DeMeerleer asked to read a statement that the committee came up with for the 2020 Palouse Empire Fair COVID-19 Phase 3 Management Implementation Plan. She read, "At the May 18th Commissioners meeting, the Fair Board was tasked with determining provisions to conduct fair operations under the Governor's Phase 3 state reopening plan. According to the Commissioner's motion/directive, the Fair Board's plan would have to include sufficient time to implement, offer assurances of sufficient staffing and volunteers to conduct planned events under Phase 3 restrictions and have a realistic plan to cover additional costs over what is currently budgeted for the fair. A committee was convened to consider and plan while navigating the frequently changing health and safety mandates in our state, exploring and understanding nuances of the fair budget and staff roles/responsibilities, and considering the potential influx of thousands of new temporary county resident's just weeks before the scheduled fair that could negatively impact the county COVID caseload. The committee worked tirelessly to honor the tradition of the fair as well as the desire to ensure and provide for all aspects of the fair (4H/FFA/Open). The committee also had to balance good, safe citizenship framed by social distancing in the face of a limited and negative county financial forecast. The committee explored and wrestled with numerous ideas and possibilities, included in the body of this document, but without clearer direction from the state and more time typically allotted for planning a comprehensive fair, the committee was unable to create

the complete and detailed plan required by the Commissioners in order to have them reinstate necessary fair expenditures.

The Fair Board and the committee appreciate the time given to start to puzzle out this difficult situation, but without the plan required by the motion passed submit the final decision regarding the status of the 2020 Palouse Empire Fair to the Whitman County Commissioners. The Fair Board, as well as interested county citizens, would be happy to revisit the planning for the 2020 fair if time could be provided to allow the Governor's Fair Taskforce to meet and potentially offer additional state guidance related to fairs statewide. Either way, the Fair Board looks forward to continuing to offer additional recommendations to the Commissioners on future fair-related issues."

Nathan Moore, committee chairman, thanked the commissioners for the opportunity to come up with a plan. He stated he believes the fair still could go on, but acknowledged it would look different. Public health and the budget were the two biggest obstacles, creating an almost impossible task for the committee. Bigger fairs are driven by carnival rides, entertainment and food. He stated the committee was not worried about the carnival or entertainment. The biggest concern with the budget is the unknown situation. A Governor's Fair Taskforce has been put in place and will be meeting on Thursday, June 18th. The committee needs clarification on what does "no more than 50 people" mean. Does it mean a total of 50 people, or 50 in each barn and building? If 50 are allowed in each building, the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds has 11 buildings which would mean a total of 550 people could attend at one time. That is more doable. He acknowledged many fairs cancelled this week. He stated the problem is, if there is no fair, it would mean a loss of over \$400,000 to kids in sales. He requested two more weeks to allow the Governor's Fair Taskforce to meet and recommend guidelines.

Chairman Largent reminded everyone that even after the taskforce met, they would have to give their recommendation to the State Secretary. There could be no decisions made in a two week time frame. He asked Mr. Moore if he knew of an expected timeline. Nathan Moore stated he was unsure.

Chairman Largent asked if the committee came up with plans for different scenarios that would include a total of 50 people, as well as 50 people in each building. Mr. Moore stated they did not. Commissioner Largent replied to make a good decision, the Commissioners would need a response from the Governor's office. This would take time, and two weeks was unrealistic. Mr. Moore replied, "The pulse is weak, but as long as there is a pulse...there is opportunity."

County Director and 4-H Youth Educator for Washington State University Whitman County Extension, Janet Schmidt informed everyone if by some chance we were able to have a fair, the State 4-H would not allow leaders to meet with kids unless our county is in Phase 4.

Commissioner Swannack asked about the rodeo. Mr. Moore stated the committee could not come up with something that would guarantee there would be no money loss at the gate. John Baser suggested having the rodeo without an audience. He added, "It may not make money, but it would look good for the rodeo to hold an event."

Commissioner Swannack commented after speaking with Environmental Health, he was unsure vendors could get permits for food booths. Lisa Baser replied, "I bet the task force will be able to help with that guidance if we give them a chance to meet." Chairman Largent reminded everyone it would not be up to the task force, decisions would be made by the Governor's office.

Commissioner Swannack asked about FFA and whether they were going by state or school by school. Nathan Moore replied the State Association does not dictate whether schools can participate. It is up to each school. He stated Colton would be participating. Jessica Moore added Oakesdale would be as well.

Chairman Largent asked for the Fair Board's recommendation. Sid Mays stated, since the committee could not come up with a budget and a plan which follows the guidelines set forth in Phase 3, the board voted 3 for and 8 against proceeding with the Palouse Empire Fair. He added, another concern was although the Governor's Fair Taskforce was formed, they still had yet to meet.

Chairman Largent thanked the committee for their time and efforts, but added "Time has run out. We have no choice, and no one likes it".

083118 **27.** Commissioner Swannack **moved** Commissioner Kinzer reluctantly **seconded** the motion and **carried** to accept the Fair Board's recommendation to cancel the 2020 Palouse Empire Fair due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's phase rules which make holding the fair prohibitive.

Nathan Moore thanked the commissioners, adding he wished there was more time. Bill Ryan asked since the county is restricted to Phase 3, how is WSU allowing students to come back. Commissioner Swannack responded he is not sure about how they are handling sports. Having a vet student as a daughter, the current plan is to rotate students with 25% in class at a time. Colleges have to figure out and come up with a detailed plan the same as everyone else.

Eric Reiber thanked everyone on the committee for their hard work. He stated he thinks it is "fool hardy to kill it at this point". He believes time is the only thing the committee is short on. He ended by saying this decision is not in the best interest of our kids or community.

Commissioners fielded a few more questions. Pre-paid wrist bands and camping will be refunded. There is no chance of advancing to Phase 4 by June 27, and a Phase 4 opportunity is looking slim at this point. The fairgrounds are not closed to events that can abide by Phase 3 guidelines.

Before ending, Chairman Largent stated, "This is not the end of our fair. Next year will be bigger and better."

2:50 p.m. - Recess.

3:00 p.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued.

Remotely: Jonna Davis, Alisha Shaw (State Auditor's Office), Rob's iPhone, Lance Bishop, Ellary Holliday, Craig Wines, Tom Handy, Annie Pillers, Jessica Jensema, Bailey Wiedmer, Kristina Cooper, Sandy Jamison, Robin Cocking, Sharron Cunningham, Kelli Campbell, espy, telephone and Corey Mitzimberg (3:00 p.m.).

083119 **28.** Jonna Davis opened Whitman County's 2019 State Audit Entrance Conference.

She explained they will perform the Financial Statement audit for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, as well as the Federal Grant Compliance audit for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. Ms. Davis then briefly reviewed each level of reporting.

Alisha Shaw, Program Manager with SAO, stated her office is committed to protecting Whitman County's confidential and sensitive information. She informed commissioners the approximate cost of the audit will be \$50,500 plus any travel. She will continue to communicate directly with Sharron Cunningham.

Ms. Shaw ended by saying the State Auditor's Office received a "pass" rating, which is the highest level of assurance an external review team can give on a system of audit quality control.

3:10 p.m. - Recess.

D083119A THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, June 22, 2020** at **9:00 a.m.** Michael Largent, Chairman, Arthur D Swannack and Dean Kinzer Commissioners, Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board and Connie Ellis, Deputy Clerk of the Board attended. oard attended.

9:00 a.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued.

D083119B 29. Approved consent agenda items signed.

083120-083121 30. Treasurers Wire Transfers and Check Report in the amount of **\$1,229,025.79,** Payroll warrants numbered **349664-349675** for **\$483,658.55** and General/Veterans' Relief/Payroll warrants numbered **349581-349648** for **\$1,192,761.60** approved.

083122-083130 31. Personnel change orders approved.

9:05 a.m. - BOCC Workshop.

Remotely: Ellary Holliday, Lance Bishop, Kelli Campbell, Chris Nelson, Whitman County, Brandy Dean, Jessica Jensema, Annie Pillers, Mark Storey, Tom Handy, Bailey Wiedmer, Bill Tensfeld, Sharron Cunningham, Telephone, and Corey Mitzemberg (9:05 a.m.).

083131-083132 32-33. The following items were discussed but no action was taken.

- Administrative Services Position
- Almota 4 Road Project
- Budget Tracking
- Email from District Court
- Early Retirement Incentive
- Public Works/Financial Position
- Moderate Risk Waste Facility
- County Roads/Maintenance
- Campus Signage
- Letter from Inland Telephone
- WSAC Conference Call

083133 34. There were no COVID-19 Decisions.

9:20 a.m. - Adjournment.

D083133A Commissioner Swannack **moved** to adjourn the **June 15-22, 2020** meeting. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Kinzer and **carried**. The Board will meet in regular session, in their Chambers', in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington, on **June 29, 2020**. The foregoing action made this **22nd** day of **June 2020**.

ss/ DEAN KINZER, COMMISSIONER
ss/ ARTHUR D SWANNACK, COMMISSIONER

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board
BY: Connie Ellis
Deputy Clerk of the Board

MICHAEL LARGENT, CHAIRMAN
Board of County Commissioners