

WHITMAN COUNTY BOARDS/COMMITTEES DESCRIPTION

Board/Committee

No. of Members
Term Length
Established
Function

BLUE RIBBON ADVISORY TASK COMMITTEE (BRATC)

12
4 Years
1999
R.C.W. 82.14.370
Sales tax is collected from each county and a percentage of the state's portion is returned to the county. The purpose of this board is to review applications for the .09 money for public facilities municipal infrastructure to further economic development.

Board/Committee

No. of Members
Term Length
Established
Function

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT (BOA)

5
6 Years
1969
R.C.W. 36.70.00-290 W.A.C. 458-30-345 CODE 19.06
To hear conditional use permits and variances related to real estate transactions.

Board/Committee

No. of Members
Term Length
Established
Function

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING (CIP)

12 (3 vacancies)
On-Going
1992
R.C.W. 47.28.140
Improvements to county bridges, roads, buildings and property.

Board/Committee

No. of Members
Term Length
Established
Function

CITIZENS COMMISSION ON SALARIES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS (SALARY COMMISSION)

10 (3 vacancies)
1-4 Years Initially; 4 Years Thereafter
2004
R.C.W. 43.03.300
To set the salaries for all counties elected officials except judges.

Board/Committee

No. of Members
Term Length
Established
Function

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC)

3
6 Years
1959
R.C.W. 41.14.010
The general purpose is to establish a merit system of employment for County deputy sheriffs and other employees of the office of County Sheriff, thereby raising the standards and efficiency of such offices and law enforcement in general.

Board/Committee

No. of Members
Term Length
Established
Function

DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD (DSAB)

11 (2 vacancies)
3 Years
1978 (Existed 18 years prior to 1978 as a part of the Epton Society Board)
R.C.W. 71A.14.020

- 1) To plan and develop age appropriate services for citizens in Whitman County who meet eligibility requirements for being developmentally disabled.
- 2) To negotiate and monitor biennial contract with the Washington State Division of Developmental Disabilities and local providers for funding and services.
- 3) To advocate/represent the needs of people who are developmentally disabled. Mediate issues between people, providers, etc.
- 4) Develop a sense of community involvement, dedication and integration with program recipients, providers, parents, and community members.
- 5) Include citizens on County Developmental Disabilities Boards and committees, ie. Community involvement.
- 6) Provide Specialized Recreation/Special Olympics programming, pre-school (birth through age 2) services, vocational training and employment and retirement programs.
- 7) Coordinate with state, local officials and other agencies on developmental disabled issues/services.

Board/Committee	EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (ECAC)
No. of Members	11
Term Length	1-3 Years Initially; 3 Years Thereafter
Established	2006
Function	R.C.W. 38.52.550, 78.73.030, and 39.34 Operating guidelines adopted by the regional emergency medical services and trauma care council in consultation with the local emergency medical services and trauma care councils, emergency communication centers and the emergency medical program director in accordance with state wide minimum standards. Communications systems means a radio and landline network which provides rapid public access coordinated central dispatching of services and coordination of personnel, equipment, and facilities in an emergency medical services and trauma care system.
Board/Committee	GREATER COLUMBIA BEHAVIORIAL HEALTH (GCBH)
No. of Members	3
Term Length	2 Years
Established	1990
Function	R.C.W. 71.24.025 Greater Columbia Behavioral Health is committed to the development, implementation, and maintenance of a model mental health system of care that incorporates principles and practices of managed care and maintains the public trust. Behavioral Health Resources responds to community needs by enhancing people's abilities to lead healthy lives through education, advocacy and comprehensive mental health and chemical dependency services.
Board/Committee	HEARING EXAMINER BOARD (HEB)
No. of Members	3
Term Length	Depends On Base Body
Established	1979
Function	R.C.W. 36.70.970; Whitman County Code 19.07.010 To hear appeals from administrative decisions regarding rural residential land use.
Board/Committee	LAW & JUSTICE PLANNING COUNCIL (LJPC)
No. of Members	13
Term Length	2 Years
Established	1992
Function	R.C.W. 72.09.300 To develop a local law and justice plan for the County; seeking means to maximize local resources including personnel and facilities, reduce duplication of services, and share resources between services, and share resources between local and state government in order to accomplish local efficiencies without diminishing effectiveness.
Board/Committee	LAW LIBRARY BOARD (LLB)
No. of Members	7
Term Length	4 Years (Bar Association Members); On-Going (Judges)
Established	Prior to 1946
Function	R.C.W. 27.24.020 The Law Library Board Trustees shall have the power: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To make and enforce rules for their own procedure and for the government, care and use of the County law library and for the guidance of employees; 2) To remove any trustee, except as ex-officio trustee, for neglect to attend the meetings of the Board; 3) To employ a librarian and assistants and to prescribe their duties, fix their compensation and remove them at will; 4) To purchase books, periodicals, and other property suitable for the library and to accept gifts and bequests of money and property for the library and to sell property, this is unsuitable or not needed for the library. 5) To examine and approve for payment claims and demands payable out of the County Law Library fund.

Board/Committee	LEOFF I DISABILITY BOARD (LEOFF)
No. of Members	5
Term Length	2 Years
Established	1981
Function	R.C.W. 41.26.725 The Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter (LEOFF) Disability Board approves and disapproves all applications for disability leave, medical treatment, and disability retirement for Whitman County members of the LEOFF I pension system. The Board consists of a mayor, one county commissioner, one active or retired firefighter, one active or retired law enforcement officer, and one member of the public-at-large appointed by the remaining members of the Board.
Board/Committee	LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LTAC)
No. of Members	5
Term Length	3 Years
Established	2004
Function	R.C.W. 67.28.180 This is a consumer tax on lodging charges for periods of less than 30 consecutive days for hotels, motels, rooming houses, private campgrounds, RV parks, and similar facilities. The funds are distributed by the State Treasurer to the levying cities and counties. They may be used for promotion of tourism or construction and operation of tourism-related facilities.
Board/Committee	NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL BOARD (NWCB)
No. of Members	5
Term Length	4 Years
Established	Prior to 1937
Function	R.C.W. 17.10.020, 17.10.050 Is to set noxious weed policy for Whitman County and to administer and coordinate functions of the Whitman County Noxious Weed Department.
Board/Committee	PALOUSE EMPIRE FAIR BOARD OF DIRECTORS (PEFB)
No. of Members	12
Term Length	3 Years (6 Commissioner District Representatives)
Established	1949
Function	The mission of the Palouse Empire Fair is to promote, develop, and improve the agriculture, livestock, business, industry and home life of the people of Whitman County: the holding and conducting of fairs, exhibits, entertainment and other educational activities and programs in the furtherance of the aforementioned objectives: the fostering of good fellowship, good sportsmanship, and good citizenship: and to encourage the conservation of the soil and other natural resources of Whitman County.
Board/Committee	PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD (PRB)
No. of Members	7
Term Length	6 Years
Established	1968
Function	R.C.W. 36.68.060 The Whitman County Parks and Recreation Board is directed to initiate, direct, and administer County recreation activities as well as improve, operate and maintain parks, playgrounds and other recreational facilities and recommend to the Board of County Commissioners acquisition of real property. To promulgate and enforce reasonable rules and regulations deemed necessary in the operation of parks, playgrounds and recreation facilities. The goals of the Park Board/Department include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Plan and respond to park and recreation needs of residents of the county; 2) Continue the quality level of park maintenance and protection of natural and man-made resources at each County park site and the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds; 3) Continue to be efficient in utilizing available funds, resources, personnel and supplies; 4) Cooperate and coordinate with related agencies for the provisions of the optimum level of park and recreation experiences for the residents of Whitman County. 5) Improve the overall quality of life and provide opportunities for economic development/tourism; 6) Provide diverse recreation/sports programs and environmental education to various age groups throughout the County.

Board/Committee	PLANNING COMMISSION (PC)
No. of Members	9
Term Length	4 Years
Established	1958
Function	R.C.W.36.70.030, 36.70.070 The Planning Commission's duties include: Comprehensive planning, plan amendments, zoning amendments, zone changes, and other land use regulations. All Planning Commission actions are advisory to the Board of County Commissioners, except a denied zone change, which becomes final, if not appealed to the Board of County Commissioners.
Board/Committee	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT TEAM (PMT)
No. of Members	5
Term Length	1 Year
Established	1973
Function	R.C.W. 84.34.145 To advise the assessor on the cost of farming in Whitman County.
Board/Committee	RURAL LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (RL)
No. of Members	5
Term Length	5 Years
Established	1945
Function	R.C.W. 27.12.040 To represent the library both to the people and to the governing officials; to promote the best, possible use of all library resources in the area; make improvements and extend library services.
Board/Committee	SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD (SRSRB)
No. of Members	3
Term Length	On-Going
Established	2002
Function	R.C.W. 77.85.030 Snake River Salmon Recovery Region is comprised of salmon-bearing streams in Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin, and parts of Franklin and Whitman counties. Their "Lead Entity," Asotin County Conservation District, has established a framework for tribes, landowners, and agencies to collaborate on salmon recovery projects in that region. Many projects are to encourage alternative farm practices, thereby reducing sediment loads to streams and protecting riparian habitats.
Board/Committee	SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC)
No. of Members	18 (10 vacancies)
Term Length	3 Years (17 Members); 1 Year (WSU Environmental Science Club Member)
Established	1991
Function	R.C.W. 70.95.040, Resolution 045185 The Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was established by the County Commissioners pursuant to Chapter 123, 1984 Laws of Washington. The scope and charge of the committee is to: 1) Advise Whitman County on all aspects of solid waste management planning; 2) Assist Whitman County in development of programs and policies for solid waste; 3) Review and comment on proposed solid waste management rules, policies or ordinances prior to their adoption.
Board/Committee	SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (SEWEDA)
No. of Members	4
Term Length	3 Years
Established	1985
Function	R.C.W. 43.163.005, 43.162.010 Economic development is essential to the health, safety, and welfare of all Washington citizens by broadening and strengthening state and local tax bases, providing meaningful employment opportunities and thereby enhancing the quality of life. Economic development increasingly is dependent upon the ability of small-sized and medium-sized businesses and farms to finance growth and trade activities. Many of these businesses face an unmet need for capital that limits their growth. These unmet capital needs are a problem in both urban and rural areas which cannot be solved by the private sector alone.

There presently exist some federal programs, private credit enhancements and other financial tools to complement the private banking industry in providing this needed capital. More research is needed to develop effective strategies to enhance access to capital and thereby stimulate economic development. The Washington State Economic Development Commission is established to oversee the economic development strategies and policies of the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development

Board/Committee

No. of Members

Term Length

Established

Function

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD (TPB)

7 (1 vacancy)

2 Years

1992

Coordination agreement between Whitman County, Whitman County Cities and Spokane Regional Council.

- 1) To accomplish the objectives of the United Planning Work Program (UPWP) developed cooperatively between Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), local jurisdictions and the Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC) to fulfill the requirements of a Rural Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) as specified in the Washington State Law and Washington Administrative Code;
- 2) To make policy decisions on SRTC's UPWP as it relates to Whitman County's Regional Transportation Improvement Program, Regional Transportation Plan, and another other products mutually agreed upon or required as a part of the regional transportation planning program. Policy decisions shall include an assessment of consistency of the Transportation Improvement Program as well as comprehensive plans developed by Whitman County or the jurisdictions therein;
- 3) To have voting authority to approve, adopt and/or amend documents required as part of the RTPO program, establish and appoint citizen and technical committees and related activities to provide input to the transportation planning process in Whitman County;
- 4) To conduct reviews and evaluations of SRTC's transportation related activities for adequate performance as the lead agency for regional transportation planning.

Board/Committee

No. of Members

Term Length

Established

Function

WATER CONSERVANCY BOARD (WCB)

5

6 Years

2000

R.C.W. 90.80.

- 1) Voluntary water right transfers to reallocate water use in a manner that will result in more efficient use of water resources;
- 2) Voluntary water right transfers to help alleviate water shortages, save capital outlays, reduce development costs, and provide an incentive for investment in water conservation efforts by water right holders; and
- 3) Expediting the state administrative process for water right transfers.