



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 5, 2026

9:00 AM - CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular meeting of the Columbia County Board of Commissioners was held on January 5, 2026, with Chairman Ryan R. Rundell, Commissioner Jack G. Miller, Commissioner Marty J. Hall, Clerk of the Board Virginia Schmidt and Deputy Clerk Ashley Kilts present. List of attendees is attached.

Commissioner Hall turned over the chairmanship to Commissioner Rundell for 2026.

9:00 AM - PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Time was allowed for public comments. No comments were made.

9:10 AM - COLUMBIA COUNTY TREASURER

Treasurer Carla Rowe was present to discuss the possibility of including a letter to local tax payers with information on updates from the County; updates on the surplus auction of the old Planning Building were also given. No action was taken.

At 9:15 am, the Board recessed until 9:55 am.

10:00 AM - VICKI OSTRANDER - WWCCACAC

Vicki Ostrander and Jerry Cummins were present to review the bi-annual report from the Walla Walla Columbia County Accessable Communities Advisory Committee.

10:30 AM - PUBLIC HEARING: FACILITIES FEES

A public hearing was held at 10:30 am to discuss the proposed changes to the fee schedule for the fairgrounds facilities. A list of those present is attached. The proposed fee schedule was reviewed and time was allowed for public comment. No public comments were taken. The hearing closed at 10:37 am.

The Board directed Tyler to research the costs associated with events for the facilities. The resolution was tabled until the next regular meeting.

11:30 AM - COLUMBIA COUNTY HUMAN RESOURCES

Kristi presented a contract with Ard Law Group for prosecutorial services.



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Commissioner Hall moved to approve the contract with Ard Law Group for the case specific to the replevin. The motion unanimously carried.

At 11:35 am, an executive session was held for 30 minutes with Kristi Zinn to discuss personnel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). At 12:05 pm, the session was extended by 25 minutes. The session closed at 12:30 pm; no action was taken.

Commissioner Hall moved to approve a 2% COLA for the Coroner and the BOE Secretary. The motion unanimously carried.

MISCELLANEOUS

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the meeting minutes of December 15 & 22, 2025. The motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Hall moved to approve the voucher for the office of minority and women's business enterprises in the amount of \$399.25. The motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Hall moved to appoint Delphine Bailey to the EMSTCC as a member at large for the appropriate term. The motion unanimously carried.

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the 2026 salary matrix as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

The work session scheduled for January 12, 2026, will be held in the afternoon.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly declared adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Submitted by: 
Virginia Schmidt
Clerk of the Board

Approved:


Ryan R. Rundell, Chairman



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Jack G. Miller, Commissioner



Marty J. Hall, Commissioner

SCANNED

Columbia County Commissioners

Meeting Sign-In Sheet

Meeting Date: 1-5-26

Place/Room:

Please Print Name: All Comms + VS + AK

Time: 9:00 am

1 Dave Schreck

2 Barbara (-)

3 Carla Rowe

4 Will Hutchens

5 Vicki Alexander

6 Jerry Cummins

7 Joe Huebner

8 Tyler Huff

Pub hearing

10:30

9 Kristi Zinn

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