

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Adams County Courthouse
Ritzville, Washington
Regular Meeting

October 28, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.
(Tuesday)

Call to Order

Chairman Garza called the meeting to order.

Present:

Chairman Miguel A. Garza
Vice-Chairman Jay R. Weise
Commissioner Dan C. Blankenship

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Garza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

Speaker

Herb Walter

Topic

Schoonover Road

Board Updates

Commissioner Garza reported attending the Law and Justice Committee meeting yesterday; and, perusing vouchers.

Commissioner Blankenship's reported focus was the Broadband project.

Commissioner Weise reported attending the Martin Hall meeting, noting the budget for Martin Hall is moving forward with no major changes in 2026 for Adams County.

Approval/Addition of Agenda

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Garza seconded, to *approve the agenda as presented*. **Motion carried.**

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Garza seconded, to *approve the consent agenda as presented*. **Motion carried.**

Payroll

Approve October 1-15, 2025 Payroll in the amount of \$580,945.23; and, Benefits in the amount of \$91,276.07 (Direct Deposit # Series 87411-87601; Benefit/Deduction # Series 1184947-1184956)

Vouchers

Approve Vouchers audited and certified by the Adams County Auditor as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 and recorded on a listing, which was made available to the Board. These vouchers were listed as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001	\$107,106.87
104	\$ 16,251.45
106	\$ 2,723.93
116	\$ 143.55
123	\$ 2,475.00
502 Hand Pay	\$ 5,000.00
108	\$ 2,450.81
115	\$ 10,038.66
321	\$ 4,343.25
401	\$ 7,750.96
402	\$ 1,507.94
501	\$ 3,049.88
590	\$ 47,323.03
TOTAL	\$210,165.33

Correspondence

Shawn R. Logan, Mayor, City of Othello re: Request for extension of the current interlocal agreement governing 911 dispatch services/backup 911 between the City and Adams County, and to continue access to Spillman

Board Discussion/Decision Items**Port of Othello**

The Port could not participate in the meeting due to technical issues.

Public Works

Central Services Director Igbinoba joined the public works session to review fiber hookups in the Othello and Ritzville county buildings, noting the Lind shop needs a solution. Interim Director Yaeger and Assistant

Director Reynolds provided pros and cons of working with an ISP provider for Broadband services. The county is already connected to services; therefore, it is not necessary to have services provided through an ISP.

Yaeger reported the following activities: Maintenance crews are winterizing pumps; cleaning culverts; and, repairing erosion damage. Additional updates were provided on solid waste; facilities; fairgrounds; and, the Schoonover Road project. The Board noted Herb Walter, Schoonover Hutterite colony, provided public comment earlier regarding a request to change the name of Schoonover Road.

Bridge #411-3 Sackman Road Bridge Replacement Project (CRP-201)

Engineer Yaeger provided updates on the 2025/2026 Bridge #411-3 Sackman Road Bridge Replacement Project, noting bid proposals were opened and read publicly on October 15, 2025. On October 16, 2025, counties were notified of a change to the DBE requirement and were advised of options moving forward.

The county engineer requested the board approve a rejection of all bids and further recommended rebidding the project in the Spring of 2026 to allow for final guidance from WSDOT for the necessary changes to the specification of the contract. Additionally, rebidding in Spring, 2026 will allow the project construction to be completed within a timeline that allows for construction within the irrigation canal while the canal is dry (end of October 2026 to mid-March 2027).

Based on the recommendation of the Public Works Department, Commissioner Blankenship moved, Weise seconded, to *reject all bids submitted for the Bridge #411-3 Sackman Road Bridge Replacement Project, CRP-201, as a change to the DBE program, during bidding and notification a day after bid opening, has affected the timely completion of the project and proceeding with award is not in the public's best interest.*
Motion carried.

2026 Budget Workshop

Central Services

Director Igbinoba reviewed Fund #502. No capital outlay expense was identified. A request was made for the vacant technician assistant position to be filled.

Assessor

Assessor Rodriguez reviewed Fund #040, noting no major changes from last year. No capital outlay expense was identified.

Other Business – None

Executive Session – None

Recess @ 11:41 a.m.

Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.

2026 Budget Workshop

Coroner

Coroner Cutforth reviewed Fund #090, noting a requested increase in the professional services line item. No capital outlay expense was identified.

Franchise Agreement – Adams County Public Works

Chairman Garza opened the public hearing to consider the Adams County Public Works Franchise Agreement at 1:30 p.m.

Engineer Yaeger reviewed the terms of the franchise agreement and provided a description of the roadway locations for which the franchise was requested.

Press from the *Adams County Ritzville Journal* was present.

No public comment was provided.

Chairman Garza closed the public hearing at 1:38 p.m.

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Weise seconded, to *approve Resolution No. R-031-2025 In the Matter of Grant of Franchise to Adams County Public Works*. Motion carried.

2026 Budget Workshop

Auditor

Auditor Hunt reviewed Fund #023 revenues and expenditures for 2026. Classification of a deputy payroll position was requested. A capital outlay expense of \$80,000 was requested. Additionally, Hunt reviewed Fund #099 – Non Departmental noting increases in software costs.

Adjournment @ 3:14 p.m.

Submitted:
s/Patricia J. Phillips, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
s/Miguel A. Garza, Chairman
s/Jay R. Weise, Vice-Chairman
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Commissioner

RESOLUTION NO. R-031-2025

**ORDER OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**IN THE MATTER OF GRANT OF FRANCHISE TO ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC
WORKS**

WHEREAS, Adams County Public Works filed an application, dated October 7, 2025, for a new franchise to construct, operate, and maintain a new County Owned Fiber Optic Communication

Transmission, Distribution Lines, Facilities and Associated Appurtenances upon, under, over, across, and along the rights-of-ways of the county roads of Adams County, Washington, more particularly described as follows:

A new fiber optic transmission and distribution line, equipment, appurtenances and facilities will be constructed upon, under, over, across, and along the rights-of-ways of the county roads of Adams County, Washington, more particularly described as follows:

The fiber optic transmission and distribution lines and its associated facilities will be constructed across and/or along the following County roads:

- T 15 N, R 28 EWM Sections 7 through 18, 23, 24, and 34 through 36 Existing County Roads within these sections, townships, and ranges: Bench, Canyon Court, Field, Hampton, Hatton, Hillcrest, McKinney, Ridge View Loop, and Schaake.
- T 15 N, R 29 EWM Sections 4 through 36 Existing County Roads within these sections, townships, and ranges: Athey, Atkinson, Bayley, Bench, Buena Vista Drive, Canal, Covey, Crain, Crestline Drive, Crestline, Cunningham, Fairgrounds, Field, Hampton, Hatton, Highland, Hi-Lo, James, Kristina, Lo-Lo, Lynette, McKinney, Miller, Muse, Panama, Parks Lane, Rainer, Ramona, Reynolds, Saddle, Sara Lane, Sielaff, Skylark Way, Spur, Sundance, Taylor, Thacker, and Yeisley

None of the roadways over which this franchise is requested are located within the limits of any incorporated city or town.

WHEREAS, Adams County Public Works formally requested Adams County’s consideration of their application; and,

WHEREAS, the Adams County Engineer reviewed the application and recommended to the Board of Adams County Commissioners that the matter be scheduled for public hearing and action; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing was scheduled for October 28, 2025, advertisement was completed, and hearing notices were appropriately posted; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, and all matters and comments related to the franchise request were duly considered.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED there is granted to **Adams County Public Works**, a franchise, for a term of twenty-five (25) years from October 28, 2025, through October 28, 2050, in accordance with “Adams County Public Works Fiber Optic Transmission and Distribution line and Facilities Franchise Agreement #2025-01” attached.

DATED this 28th day of October, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
s/Miguel A. Garza, Chairman
s/Jay R. Weise, Vice-Chairman
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Commissioner

ATTEST:
s/Patricia J. Phillips, CMC
Clerk of the Board