

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

**Regular Meeting
Adams County Courthouse
Ritzville, Washington**

January 7, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.
(Wednesday)

Call to Order

Chairman Blankenship called the meeting to order.

Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Blankenship led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval/Addition of Agenda

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

Board Workshop – Department Updates

Central Services

Director Igbinoba reported the following departmental activities:

- New router installation – successfully completed the installation and configuration of the new enterprise-grade router. Full integration is now live and the department is monitoring for optimal operation.
- Duo Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) Rollout – implementation is now at 90% complete across users and systems.
- Ongoing Initiatives – Zero Trust Architecture Adoption – actively pushing forward with the Zero Trust security model. This includes enhanced verification for all access requests, segmentation of resources, and continuous monitoring. Early phases are underway, aligning with industry best practices.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Director Stolsig reported the following departmental activities:

- This past month has primarily been maintenance projects – parcel edits; adding or editing address points and precinct edits.
- Stolsig is working with the emergency management department to assist in resolving the addressing challenges in the Benge community. The public works department will also be involved in the process.
- Precinct splits – Stolsig is in the final stages of edits to the new precinct splits. He will be working with the Auditor's office to review areas that need a final decision on how to proceed.
- Stolsig will be meeting with the Assessor's office for their input on a new mapping program to display county data as a new source for residents to access county parcels and other data types.

Emergency Management

Director Duffey reported the following departmental activities:

- Submission of ESF 10, LEPC Plan to EMD – still waiting to hear back from state EMD.
- BESS Code – working with Building and Planning to get it wrapped up.
- CodeRED – she has been checking out some other members and working with other departments, looking to improve service, when they feel system is breached, it limits the use.
- Ham Radio Exercise – A ham radio exercise was scheduled in December, along with a food drill scheduled in December; the state cancelled both.
- EMD requirements for federal grant funding – emergency management should be auditing within a three-year cycle.

Building and Planning

Director Lorenz reported the following departmental activities:

- Planning Commission – continuing work on finalizing the battery energy storage system draft language. Periodic update to the Comp Plan will begin this year.
- Hearing Examiner – Bar-E Dairy Expansion Conditional Use Permit (CUP).
- Building Department – the department is looking forward to a projected moderate growth in the housing market for 2026; and hoping for a stable increase to housing permits and continual growth in commercial permits for 2026.

- Code Enforcement – No new activity in December 2025. The department is continuing to work active cases toward compliance.

Washington Association of Building Officials (WABO)

Andie Lorenz, Building and Planning Director, advised the Board that he is interested in serving on the Washington Association of Building Officials (WABO) executive board and presented an application for review. The Board provided **consensus authorization for the Chairman to sign Application for WABO Executive Board, allowing for the time commitment involved in serving WABO membership from Adams County.** Mr. Lorenz is expected to attend quarterly business meetings and participate via email and/or teleconferences.

Public Comment Policy

Proposed modifications to the public comment policy were reviewed. The matter will be placed on the January 13, 2026 consent agenda for approval.

Commissioner 2026 Budget

The Board reviewed the 2026 Budget for Fund #099. The Board has been tasked with reducing Fund #099 in the 2026 budget by \$114,267. The Board previously reviewed Fund #005. The Board provided **consensus authorization to reduce Fund #005, in the amount of \$21,608; and, Fund #099, in the amount of \$114,267, in the 2026 budget; directing the clerk to deliver the modified budgets to the auditor.**

Adjournment @ 12:11 p.m.

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

Edited and Approved:

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