

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Adams County Courthouse Ritzville, Washington Regular Meeting

April 7, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.
(Tuesday)

Call to Order

Chairman Blankenship called the meeting to order.

Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Blankenship led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment – None

Approval/Addition of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

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

Minutes

Approve March 17 and 18, 2026 Preliminary Minutes

Payroll

Approve March 1-15, 2026 Payroll in the amount of \$549,332.07; and, Benefits in the amount of \$87,061.33 (Warrant # Series 533337-533340; Direct Deposit # Series 89279-89461; Benefit/Deduction # Series 1185046-1185054)

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	\$ 459.50
113	\$ 4,962.26
001	\$ 41,198.29
104	\$ 1,189.29
106	\$ 2,173.37
112	\$ 441.33
119	\$ 7,657.06
123	\$ 26.98
166	\$ 1,954.46
502	\$ 24,604.83
108	\$ 1,526.18
115	\$ 44,972.50
401	\$ 9,774.68
402	\$ 540.83
501	\$ 15,339.81
590	\$ 71,214.70
TOTAL	\$228,036.07

Board Updates

The Board reported performing various miscellaneous tasks during their week away from their respective offices.

Correspondence

Attorney Andrea Crumpler re: Public Defense Quarterly Report for 1st Quarter, 2026

Legal County Newspaper

The Ritzville Adams County Journal submitted a bid for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Pursuant to RCW 36.72.075 – “At its first April meeting, the county legislative authority shall let a contract to a legal newspaper qualified under this section to serve as the official county newspaper for the term of one year beginning on the first day of July following. If there be at least one legal newspaper published in the county, the contract shall be let to a legal newspaper published in the county...”.

The Board provided **consensus authorization to accept and award the bid for the Official County Newspaper for legal publication, pursuant**

to RCW 36.72.075, to *Ritzville Adams County Journal* for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at the bid price of \$10.50 per column inch if provided in a digital text document; a 10% surcharge on any .pdf or other format that require typesetting; a \$5.00 affidavit fee; a \$5.00 searchable online posting fee; and, a minimum charge of \$25.00 for all insertions.

Board Discussion/Decision Items

Human Resources

Manager Campbell reviewed current vacant positions in the county.

Public Works

Interim Director Yaeger and Assistant Director Reynolds provided the weekly updates on:

Maintenance – spraying is dependent on weather; the Othello crew will be patching Cunningham Road tomorrow. Lind and Ritzville crews are working on Klein Road. Additionally, spot blading is being conducted on necessary gravel roads during periods of moisture.

Solid waste – the crew is baling cardboard and setting up water fire suppression for the upcoming dry months. There was a fire in a truck hauling waste on the way to Washtucna, damaging the tarp covering the load.

Engineering – the Gottlieb-Hille Bridge project bid opening is scheduled for next week. Projects such as the Herman Road Safety project, the High-Volume Corridor project and the Sackman Road bridge project are moving forward. Rodeo Lake levels are being monitored.

O&M – Camtek is working on the elevator telephone system. The department is waiting on estimates for air conditioning for the server room in Central Services.

Staffing – interviews are taking place for several open public works positions.

Gottlieb Hille Bridge #197-1 Project (CRP-202)

Engineer Yaeger filed, pursuant to RCW 36.77.010, the Contract Plans and Provisions for construction of Gottlieb Hille Bridge #197-1 Project (CRP-202).

High-Volume Corridors Intersection Project (CRP-204)

Commissioner Garza moved, Weise seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign Local Agency Agreement, Supplement No. 1, between Washington State Department of Transportation and Adams County; and, Updated Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus, between Washington State Department of Transportation and Adams County, to authorize*

construction funding for the High-Volume Corridors Intersection Project (CRP-204). Motion carried unanimously.

Adams County Law and Justice Jail Facility Improvement Project
Commissioner Garza moved, Weise seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant Funding Application Documents for the purpose of requesting grant funding for the Adams County Law and Justice Jail Facility Improvement Project.* **Motion carried unanimously.**

State Auditor Exit Conference

The exit conference for the 2024 Accountability Audit was conducted by state auditing staff Cindy Fitzporter, Audit Lead; and Brad White, Program Manager.

The accountability audit for January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 produced no findings.

Brad White reviewed additional work related to the audit (citizen hotline referrals), noting all concerns were found to be unsubstantiated.

At the entrance conference, the cost for the audit was estimated to be \$28,000.00, however an additional \$2,000.00 in audit costs to the county were added to address citizen hotline concerns.

The audit report will be finalized and will be published on the SAO website.

The next audit is scheduled to be conducted in Fall of 2026 and will cover financial statements and federal programs with an estimated cost of \$28,500.00, plus travel expenses.

Other Business – None

Permanent Minutes Signed

March 3 and 4, 2026

March 10 and 11, 2026

Executive Session

At 11:31 a.m. Chairman Blankenship announced the Board would recess into Executive Session for fifteen (15) minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – “To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel

representing the agency litigation or potential litigation...". No action is anticipated. Prosecutor Flyckt and Interim Director Yaeger were present.

At 11:46 a.m. the Board reconvened from Executive Session. No action was taken.

Recess @ 11:52 a.m.
Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.

Executive Session

At 1:00 p.m. Chairman Blankenship announced the Board would recess into Executive Session for sixty (60) minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – "To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation...". No action is anticipated. Prosecutor Flyckt; Sheriff Wagner; and Undersheriff Coronado were present. Attorney Jerry Culumber and Dan Sharp, Washington Counties Risk Pool, attended the session virtually and left session at 1:40 p.m.

At 2:00 p.m. the Board reconvened from Executive Session. No action was taken.

Adjournment @ 2:00 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