#### AGENDA

# WALLA WALLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021

Pursuant to the Governor's proclamation dated March 23, 2020 the Commissioner Meeting will be held via phone and internet. Following is the website to attend and listen to the meeting and the phone number to call to take part in the meeting. Any questions please email us wwcocommissioners@co.walla-walla.wa.us

Call in 1-408-418-9388 access code: 146 784 0290

Meeting link; https://wwco.webex.com/wwco/j.php?MTID=m6ef6c0710e4eb57be4e10ce0cc827a38

The agenda will include only necessary action items until further notice.

PLEASE NOTE: All times are tentative and at the discretion of the Chairman with the exception of advertised bid openings and public hearings.

#### 10:00 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Tompkins

All matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each County Commissioner for review and are considered routine. The Consent Agenda will be approved by one motion of the Board of County Commissioners with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired on a certain item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of a Commissioner, for action later.

- a) Roll call and establish a quorum
- b) Declarations re: conflict of interest
- c) Pledge of Allegiance
- d) Public comment period (time limitations may be imposed)
- e) Introduction of new county employees (this is scheduled for the first meeting of each month)

#### f) Action Agenda Items:

1) Review submitted Employee Payroll Action Forms

## g) Consent Agenda Items:

- Resolution Minutes of County Commissioners' proceedings for December 28 and 29, 2020
- Resolution Executing Employment Agreement and Relocation Expenses Agreement with Gregory S. Lybeck
- 3) Payroll action and other forms requiring Board approval

#### h) Action Items:

1)	Resolution - Approval of revised Walla Walla Fair and Frontier Days Board of Directors
	Bylaws
2)	County vouchers/warrants/electronic payments as follows: through
•	totaling \$ (payroll draws dated December 15, 2020); through
	, totaling \$ (December payroll); through
	totaling \$, (benefits and deductions)

i) Miscellaneous business to come before the Board

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTING AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND RELOCATION EXPENSES AGREEMENT WITH GREGORY S. LYBECK

RESOLUTION NO. 21

WHEREAS, Walla Walla County undertook a search process to fill the vacant position of fairgrounds manager; and

WHEREAS, Walla Walla County offered an Employment Agreement and a Relocation Expenses Agreement to Gregory S. Lybeck relative to filling the position and Mr. Lybeck has executed same; now therefore

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by this Board of Walla Walla County Commissioners that they shall approve and sign said Employment Agreement and Relocation Expenses Agreement between Walla Walla County and Gregory S. Lybeck.

Passed this 4 <sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021 by Boother means, and by the following vote: Aye	pard members as follows:Present or Participating via Nay Abstained Absent.
Attest:	
Diane L. Harris, Clerk of the Board	Gregory A. Tompkins, Chairman, District 3
	Todd L. Kimball, Commissioner, District 2
	Jennifer R. Mayberry, Commissioner, District 1
	Constituting the Board of County Commissioners

of Walla Walla County, Washington

## **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (continued)**

- j) Review reports and correspondence; hear committee and meeting reports
- k) Review of constituent concerns/possible updates re: past concerns

## 10:15 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

## Tony Garcia

- a) Consent Agenda Items:
  - 1) Resolution Transferring equipment from the Fairgrounds to the Equipment Rental and Revolving Fund (ER&R)
- b) Department update and miscellaneous

## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WALLA WALLA COUNTY, WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSFERRING EQUIPMENT FROM THE FAIRGROUNDS TO THE EQUIPMENT RENTAL AND REVOLVIING FUND (ER&R)

RESOLUTION NO. 21

**WHEREAS**, the Fairgrounds owns several pieces of equipment they would like to transfer to the Equipment Rental and Revolving Fund (ER&R); and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners would provide \$100,000 for the initial startup of the Fairgrounds Fleet going into the ER&R program and the monthly rental rate of \$3,565.83 will be charged for usage of all vehicles and equipment to provide future replacement and all operating costs of said vehicles and equipment including gas, tires, maintenance, insurance, repairs, etc.; and

WHEREAS, the County Engineer will continue to monitor the equipment rental rates and will recommend revisions as appropriate; now therefore

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED,** by this Board of Walla Walla County Commissioners, that said vehicles and equipment as listed on "Attachment A" be transferred to the ER&R Fund effective January 1, 2021.

Passed this <u>1st</u> day of <u>January 2021</u> by other means, and by the following vote: A	Board members as follows:Present or Participating via yeNay Abstained Absent.
Attest:	
Diane L. Harris, Clerk of the Board	Gregory A. Tompkins, Chairman, District 3
	Todd L. Kimball, Commissioner, District 2
	Jennifer R. Mayberry, Commissioner, District 1
	Constituting the Board of County Commissioners

of Walla Walla County, Washington

## Attachment "A"

## Fairgrounds Equipment

YEAR	MAKE	DESCRIPTION	Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
1988	MC6438	Mastercraft Forklift 6,000 LB	S/N 1566
1989	MC4M839	Mastercraft Forklift 4,000 LB	S/N 1769
1989	350	Dodge Flatbed Diesel	1B6ME3682KS163911
1993	Z-60/34	Genie Man Lift	Z60-158
1998	5400	John Deere Tractor Loader	LV5400E641679
2001	1445	John Deere Mower 72'	TCCR758010663
2001	HPX	John Deere Gator	MOHP4GT010399
2015	MF4608L	Massy Ferguson Tractor Loader	S/N DJJ94
2016	825E	John Deere Gator	1M0825GELGM113230
	D6B	Caterpillar Crawler	44A12670
100		Club Car (Golf Cart)	PH1139-233053
	63600	Genie Scissor Lift 5x8 Platform XL-19	S/N5238

## Walla Walla County Public Works 990 Navion Lane Walla Walla, WA 99362



To: Board of County Commissioners

From: Public Works Director/County Engineer - Tony Garcia Morales, P.E.

Date: 29 December 2020

Re: Director's Report for the Week of 28 December 2020

Board Action: 4 January 2021

**Resolutions:** 

In the Matter of Transferring Vehicles from the Fairgrounds to the Equipment Rental and Revolving Fund (ER&R)

#### **ENGINEERING:**

- Wallula Ave./Gose Street Roundabout: Working on project design.
- Mill Creek Road MP 1.1 to MP 3.96: Working on right of way acquisition.
- Middle Waitsburg Road MP 6.1 to MP 7.92: Working on right of way acquisition.
- Dell Sharpe Bridge: Consultant is preparing to begin geotechnical investigation.
- Seven Mile Bridge: Consultant is working on survey.
- Arch Bridge: Consultant will begin geotechnical investigation.

#### MAINTENANCE/FLEET MANAGEMENT:

- · Crews working on routine maintenance.
- Ready to respond to inclement weather as needed.
- Garage working on routine maintenance.

#### **ADMINISTRATION:**

- Finishing up on department-wide 2021 Initial Counseling.
- Two staff members continue to assist the Community Health Department with Contact Tracing/Case Tracking.
- Continue to follow our Phase 2 COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to help us maintain a safe work environment as we navigate these uncertain times.

## a) Action Agenda Items:

- 1) Proposal 2021 01-04 DCH Approval of Memorandum of Understandings between Walla Walla County Department of Community Health and local funeral homes
- **b)** COVID-19 update and miscellaneous

a) Department update and miscellaneous

#### 11:00 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

#### **Lauren Prentice**

- a) Public Hearing (continued from December 28, 2020):
  - 1) To consider the proposal by Walla Walla County to amend Walla Walla County Code Chapter 17.28 Development Standards Signs; Chapter 17.08 Definitions; and Chapter 17.16 permitted uses to establish development standards for electronic message center signs to be located within the public reserve zoning district and within other zoning districts in limited cases
- b) Discussion and possible action/direction from the board regarding above

## Walla Walla County Community Development Department

310 W. Poplar Street, Suite 200, Walla Walla, WA 99362 / 509-524-2610 Main

To: Board of County Commissioners

From: Lauren Prentice, Director

Date Prepared: December 23, 2020 Agenda Date: December 28, 2020

RE: Public Hearing – Electronic Message Center Sign Code Amendments

Proposal by Walla Walla County to amend Walla Walla County Code (WWCC) Chapter 17.28, Development Standards – Signs; WWCC Chapter 17.16 – Permitted Uses; and WWCC Chapter 17.08, Definitions. Docket No. ZCA20-002

#### **Background and Summary of Proposed Amendments**

The proposed amendments would establish a new definition for electronic message center signs and make these signs an allowed use in the Public Reserve zoning district and a conditional (allowed) use in a few rural zoning districts for certain public/civic uses. The proposed amendments to Chapter 17.28 would also establish size and location standards for these types of signs. See Staff Report dated December 14, 2020 (Attachment B) for more background and analysis, and Attachment A to review the final recommended amendment language.

Community Development Department staff held an informational public meeting on Monday, December 14, at 4:00 PM via Cisco Webex. No members of the public attended this meeting.

A comment letter was submitted by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) regarding the proposed sign code amendments (see Attachment C). This letter explains that signs that are visible to the State Highway System must comply with certain State regulations, specifically the Scenic Vistas Act of 1971 (RCW 47.42 and WAC 468-66). Within Walla Walla County, only US-12 outside incorporated city limits is classified as a scenic highway. There is very little land in the County zoned Public Reserve adjacent to US-12 outside of the McNary area. Our current building permit review process for sign permit applications adjacent to State highways includes notification of WSDOT. If the amendments are adopted, we would also provide an opportunity for WSDOT to review electronic message center sign permit applications. It is very unlikely that the County would see a proposal for an electronic message center sign adjacent to US-12, but if we did, we would catch it through the permitting process and coordinate with WSDOT.

#### **Planning Commission Public Hearing**

On December 14, 2020 the County Planning Commission held a public hearing to receive comment on this proposal. One member of the general public, Mike Charlo, a representative of the Fair Board, spoke at the public hearing. Mr. Charlo recommended approval of the amendments in his written and verbal testimony (Attachment D) and recommended a revision to the proposed language to remove the drafted restriction on these types of signs displaying motion. The Planning Commission's recommendation reflected the change proposed by Mr. Charlo.

#### **Planning Commission Recommendation**

The Planning Commission unanimously (7-0) recommended approval of the proposed amendments with one modification which is reflected in the new version of the proposed amendments in Attachment A.

#### **Sample Motion**

"I move that the Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners concur with the findings of fact and conclusions of law in docket number ZCA20-002 and approve the recommended amendments to Title 17 and request that the Community Development Department and Prosecuting Attorney prepare an ordinance for approval."

#### **Attachments**

- A. Proposed Amendments revised December 29, 2020

  B. December 14, 2020 Planning Commission Final Docket Public Hearing Staff Report with attachments
- C. Comments from the Washington State Department of Transportation (DOT) dated December 18, 2020
- D. Comments from Mike Charlo, dated December 10, 2020
- E. Notice of Public Hearing and Certificate of Notification

#### Chapter 17.08 - Definitions.

#### Add the following definition to Chapter 17.08

"Electronic message center sign" means an electrically activated changeable copy sign having variable message and/or graphic presentation capability that can be electronically programmed by computer or handheld device from a remote location. Electronic message center signs typically use light emitting diodes (LEDs) or liquid crystal display (LCD) as a lighting source.

## Chapter 17.28 – Development Standards – Signs

#### 17.28.005 - Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to enhance the visual environment of the county by regulating the location size and appearance of signs and outdoor advertising.

#### 17.28.010 - Sign standards.

A. The light from any illuminated sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed that the light intensity or brightness will not be a nuisance to surrounding areas. Any externally illuminated sign shall be oriented away from the surrounding residences, and away from streets.

B. Signs projecting over an internal sidewalk or vehicular traffic area shall be at least eight feet above internal walkways and at least sixteen feet above any area used for vehicular traffic.

C. Signs are permitted in all zoning districts except for residential districts.

#### 17.28.020 - Temporary signs.

Signage for temporary events is allowed for a period not to exceed three days unless documentation is provided that the temporary event exceeds three days. In no case shall temporary signage be allowed for a period exceeding thirty days annually.

#### 17.28.030 - Outdoor advertising display.

Outdoor advertising displays are permitted in all zones, except residential districts.

#### 17.28.040 - Billboards.

A. Billboards are allowed in industrial, primary agriculture and agriculture residential zones.

B. Billboards along state routes are subject to permitting regulation by Washington State Department of Transportation.

C. Billboards along state scenic/historical routes, outside of the jurisdiction of the Washington State Department of Transportation will be regulated for compatibility with the scenic/historical nature of the route.

#### 17.28.050 - Sign setbacks.

A setback minimum of one foot from the leading edge of the sign to the street right-of-way line, or fifteen feet from the edge of the traveled way, whichever is greater, is required. In no

case will signs be allowed to be placed in a location or manner that violates sight distance, clear view triangle or clear zone requirements as defined in Walla Walla County Code Title 12 and/or Chapter 3.4 of the Walla Walla County Road Design Standards, as determined by the county engineer.

## 17.28.060 - Sign height.

- A. For industrial districts a maximum of eighty feet, measured from average grade to the highest point on the sign, is allowed.
- B. For commercial <u>and Public Reserve</u> districts a maximum of fifty feet, measured from average grade to the highest point on the sign, is allowed.
- C. For all other districts, a maximum of thirty-five feet, measured from the average grade to the highest point on the sign, is allowed.

#### 17.28.090 - Prohibited signs.

A. The following signs are prohibited:

- 1. Signs on any vehicle or trailer that is parked on public or private property and visible from a public right-of-way for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this chapter. This provision shall not prohibit signs that are painted on or magnetically attached to any vehicle operating in the normal course of business;
- 2. Signs that purport to be, are an imitation of, or resemble an official traffic sign or signal, could cause confusion with any official signs, or which obstruct the visibility of any traffic/street sign or signal;
- 3. Signs attached to utility, street light, and traffic control standard poles;
- Signs attached to trees or rocks;
- 5. Swinging projecting signs;
- 6. Signs, together with their supports, braces, guys and anchors that are not maintained in a neat, clean and attractive condition, free from rust, corrosion, peeling paint or other surface deterioration:
- 7. Abandoned signs;
- 8. Flashing, blinking or fluttering parts of signs, except as allowed on electronic message centers;
- 9. Signs that are unsafe or hazardous;
- 10. Signs on doors, windows, or fire escapes that restrict free ingress or egress;
- 11. Unique signs unless specifically approved by the regional planning director when deemed necessary. Approval of the sign is based on the effect of the proposed sign not contributing to a cluttered, confusing or unsafe condition, or would not be in conflict with the character of the zoning district;
- 112. Signs on public property without prior approval;
- 123. Searchlights or beacons;
- 134. Changing message centers; Electronic message center signs which display motion or flashing as part of the sign;
- 145. Any other sign not meeting the provisions of this chapter.

# Add new section to Chapter 17.08 for electronic message signs 17.28.100 – Electronic Message Center Signs

- A. Electronic message center signs shall comply with this Chapter.
- B. <u>Size. One double-faced electronic message sign is permitted per street frontage and shall be 1/2 square foot per foot of street frontage, up to a maximum of 150 square feet per face.</u>
- C. <u>Setbacks</u>. <u>Signs shall meet all setback and sight distance requirements as required in Section 17.25.050.</u>
- D. Signs located adjacent to or across the street from residential zones shall not operate between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- E. Signs shall be located on the same site as the use for which it is associated.
- F. <u>Information on the sign shall only include alphanumeric characters, punctuation, static images, graphics, logos and symbols.</u>
- G. All displays shall be static messages only. No video, scrolling, streaming, flashing, or trailing content, animations, or similar displays are permitted.
- H.F. The change from one message to another shall be no more frequent that once every 8 seconds when along major arterials and 20 seconds along all other roadways, unless otherwise specified by the Director or Hearing Examiner.
- Electronic message signs shall be equipped with a mechanism that automatically adjusts the brightness in response to ambient conditions and equipped with a means to immediately turn off the display if it malfunctions or is not complying with the regulations in this Section. Manual override function shall be accessible to emergency responders.
- J.H. When an electronic message center sign is proposed adjacent to a Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) right-of-way, the County shall request comment from the agency.

## Chapter 17.16 - Permitted Uses

#### Amend Permitted Uses Table, WWCC 17.16.014

#### **Government/General Services Land Uses**

Key	
P = Permitted use	
C = Conditional us	se permit required
AC = Administrativ	ve conditional use permit
* = Definition of th Chapter 17.08	is specific land use see

## ZCA20-002 Proposed Sign Code Amendments – Electronic Message Center Signs

PA = Primary Agriculture
EA = Exclusive Agriculture
GA = General Agriculture-20
AR = Agriculture Residential-10
RR = Rural Remote
RA = Rural Agriculture
RRMC-5 = Rural Residential Mill Creek-5
RR = Rural Residential
R-96 = Suburban Residential
R-72 = Single Family Residential
R-60 = Single Family Residential
RM = Multiple Family Residential
RD-R = Rural Development-Residential
RD-CI = Rural Development- Commercial/Industrial
RFC = Rural Farmworker Community
RAC = Rural Activity Center

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## Government/General Services Land Uses

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A-M = Industrial Agriculture Mixed	
A-H = Industrial Agriculture Heavy	
II = Heavy Industrial	
I = Light Industrial	
/BP = Industrial/Business Park	
NC = Neighborhood Commercial	
CG = General Commercial	
BC = Burbank Commercial	-
BR = Burbank Residential	
PR = Public Reserve	
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* Electronic message center sign										P

- C. Government/General Services Land Uses—Development Conditions.
- 6. Allowed only at schools and fire stations.

#### Chapter 17.08 - Definitions.

## Add the following definition to Chapter 17.08

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#### <u>Chapter 17.28 – Development Standards – Signs</u>

#### 17.28.005 - Purpose.

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#### 17.28.010 - Sign standards.

- A. The light from any illuminated sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed that the light intensity or brightness will not be a nuisance to surrounding areas. Any externally illuminated sign shall be oriented away from the surrounding residences, and away from streets.
- B. Signs projecting over an internal sidewalk or vehicular traffic area shall be at least eight feet above internal walkways and at least sixteen feet above any area used for vehicular traffic.
- C. Signs are permitted in all zoning districts except for residential districts.

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- A. Billboards are allowed in industrial, primary agriculture and agriculture residential zones.
- B. Billboards along state routes are subject to permitting regulation by Washington State Department of Transportation.
- C. Billboards along state scenic/historical routes, outside of the jurisdiction of the Washington State Department of Transportation will be regulated for compatibility with the scenic/historical nature of the route.

#### 17.28.050 - Sign setbacks.

A setback minimum of one foot from the leading edge of the sign to the street right-of-way line, or fifteen feet from the edge of the traveled way, whichever is greater, is required. In no

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A. The following signs are prohibited:

- 1. Signs on any vehicle or trailer that is parked on public or private property and visible from a public right-of-way for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this chapter. This provision shall not prohibit signs that are painted on or magnetically attached to any vehicle operating in the normal course of business;
- 2. Signs that purport to be, are an imitation of, or resemble an official traffic sign or signal, could cause confusion with any official signs, or which obstruct the visibility of any traffic/street sign or signal;
- 3. Signs attached to utility, street light, and traffic control standard poles;
- 4. Signs attached to trees or rocks:
- 5. Swinging projecting signs;
- 6. Signs, together with their supports, braces, guys and anchors that are not maintained in a neat, clean and attractive condition, free from rust, corrosion, peeling paint or other surface deterioration;
- 7. Abandoned signs;
- 8. Flashing, blinking or fluttering parts of signs, except as allowed on electronic message centers;
- 9. Signs that are unsafe or hazardous:
- 10. Signs on doors, windows, or fire escapes that restrict free ingress or egress;
- 11. Unique signs unless specifically approved by the regional planning director when deemed necessary. Approval of the sign is based on the effect of the proposed sign not contributing to a cluttered, confusing or unsafe condition, or would not be in conflict with the character of the zoning district;
- 112. Signs on public property without prior approval;
- 123. Searchlights or beacons;
- 134. Changing message centers:
- 145. Any other sign not meeting the provisions of this chapter.

## Add new section to Chapter 17.08 for electronic message signs

#### 17.28.100 - Electronic Message Center Signs

- A. Electronic message center signs shall comply with this Chapter.
- B. <u>Size. One double-faced electronic message sign is permitted per street frontage and shall be 1/2 square foot per foot of street frontage, up to a maximum of 150 square feet per face.</u>
- C. <u>Setbacks</u>. Signs shall meet all setback and sight distance requirements as required in Section 17.25.050.
- D. Signs located adjacent to or across the street from residential zones shall not operate between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- E. Signs shall be located on the same site as the use for which it is associated.
- F. The change from one message to another shall be no more frequent that once every 8 seconds when along major arterials and 20 seconds along all other roadways, unless otherwise specified by the Director or Hearing Examiner.
- G. Electronic message signs shall be equipped with a mechanism that automatically adjusts the brightness in response to ambient conditions and equipped with a means to immediately turn off the display if it malfunctions or is not complying with the regulations in this Section. Manual override function shall be accessible to emergency responders.
- H. When an electronic message center sign is proposed adjacent to a Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) right-of-way, the County shall request comment from the agency.

## Chapter 17.16 - Permitted Uses

#### Amend Permitted Uses Table, WWCC 17.16.014

#### Government/General Services Land Uses

Key	
P = Permitted use	
C = Conditional use permit required	
AC = Administrative conditional use permit required	
* = Definition of this specific land use see Chapter 17.08	
PA = Primary Agriculture	
EA = Exclusive Agriculture	
GA = General Agriculture-20	

## ZCA20-002 Proposed Sign Code Amendments – Electronic Message Center Signs

AR = Agriculture Residential-10	
RR = Rural Remote	
RA = Rural Agriculture	
RRMC-5 = Rural Residential Mill Creek-5	
RR = Rural Residential	
R-96 = Suburban Residential	
R-72 = Single Family Residential	
R-60 = Single Family Residential	
RM = Multiple Family Residential	
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PR = Public Reserve

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- C. Government/General Services Land Uses—Development Conditions.
- 6. Allowed only at schools and fire stations.



South Central Region 2809 Rudkin Road Union Gap, WA 98903-1648 509-577-1600 / FAX: 509-577-1603 TTY: 1-800-833-6388 www.wsdot.wa.gov

December 18, 2020

Walla Walla County Community Development Department 310 W. Poplar Street, Suite 200 Walla Walla, WA 99362

Attention: Lauren Prentice, Director

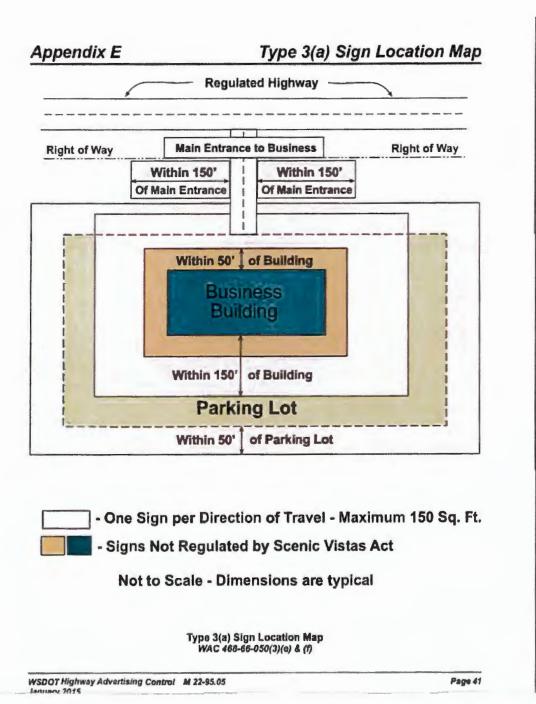
Subject: Walla Walla County 2020 Sign Code Amendments

ZCA20-002 - Amend WWCC Chapter 17.28, 17.16 & 17.08

We have reviewed the proposed Sign Code Amendments and have the following comments.

There are state criteria for signs that may be visible to the state highway system. They will need to comply with the state Scenic Vistas Act of 1971 (RCW 47.42 and WAC 468-66).

On-premises advertising signs have some size limitations under WAC 468-66-050(3). Signs along Scenic Routes (listed on page 3) located within 50 feet of a building have no size limitation under the WAC, while signs more than 50 feet from the building up to a maximum of 150 feet away (or 50 feet from a parking or storage area) are limited to 150 square feet in size. For section 17.28.060, WSDOT does regulate the height of the sign face in relation the overall square footage, but not the overall height of the sign. See the diagram on the next page to illustrate the on-premises sign rules. On-premises signs along Primary Highways (listed on page 3) within incorporated cities and towns or zoned commercial/industrial parcels are not regulated in regards to size per WAC 468-66-050(3)(h).



The regulated highways in Walla Walla County are listed by Type (Interstate, Primary and Scenic) below.

#### Interstate Highways:

• none

#### Primary Highways:

- SR 124
- SR 125 south of the junction with SR 125 Spur
- US 12 within incorporated city limits
- US 730
- US 730 Spur

## Scenic Highways:

• US 12 outside incorporated city limits

Please contact Trevor McCain of the WSDOT Headquarters Traffic Office for any questions on WSDOT sign requirements. He can be reached at (360) 705-7282 or <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/journal.org/">OutdoorAdvertisingControl@wsdot.wa.gov</a>.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed sign code amendments. If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact John Gruber at (509) 577-1636.

Sincerely,

Paul Gonseth, P.E. Planning Engineer

Paul Donse D

PG:jg

cc: Kara Shute, WSDOT Area 3 Maintenance Superintendent Larry Batterton, WSDOT Area 4 Maintenance Superintendent Trevor McCain, WSDOT Headquarters Traffic Operations

#### **Lauren Prentice**

From:

Lauren Prentice

Sent:

Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:53 PM

To:

mcharlo@charter.net

Subject:

RE: Reader board project

Mike -

Thank you for following up. I will make sure that this suggestion/option gets in front of the Planning Commission.

#### Lauren

----Original Message----

From: mcharlo@charter.net <mcharlo@charter.net> Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:50 PM

To: Lauren Prentice < lprentice@co.walla-walla.wa.us>

Subject: Reader board project

Hi Lauren, in looking at other reader boards since our discussion, I think that the ability to have displays with motion is quite important to have. Along with the American flag waving, we might want a cowboy on a bucking horse, or other Fair related ads. Pepsi Cola might want an ad with their logo moving across the screen. I just saw one with snowflakes falling.

I hope that you can include the option of displays with motion in the new code.

Thanks,

Mike

Sent from my iPhone

## Walla Walla County Community Development Department

310 W. Poplar Street, Suite 200, Walla Walla, WA 99362 / 509-524-2610 Main

To:

Walla Walla County Planning Commission

From:

Lauren Prentice, Director Don Sims, Associate Planner

Meeting Date:

December 14, 2020

RE:

**Public Hearing Agenda Item No. 2** – Proposal by Walla Walla County to amend WWCC Chapter 17.28, Development Standards – Signs; WWCC Chapter

17.16 - Permitted Uses; and WWCC Chapter 17.08, Definitions.

Docket No. ZCA20-002

#### **Background**

Some changes have been made to the proposed language since the Planning Commission reviewed the draft amendments in October. The changes were made after reviewing the proposed amendments with legal staff.

The proposed amendment would primarily affect land in the Public Reserve land use designation from the Comprehensive Plan. Lands currently under this zoning designation include the Fairgrounds, schools, fire stations, a cemetery, and area around McNary Wildlife Refuge in Burbank. As drafted, the amendments would also enable this type of signage to be used by similar rural uses.

#### **Attachments**

- A. Development Regulations Amendment Process Walla Walla County Code Section 14.15.070 Final docket review and recommendation
- B. Proposed amendments dated December 4, 2020

#### Staff Recommendation

If the Planning Commission finds that the proposed amendments are consistent with the criteria in WWCC 14.15.070(D)(3), staff would recommend that the Planning Commission forward a recommendation for approval to the Board of County Commissioners.

A short list of options for Planning Commission consideration has been compiled by staff.

#### Option 1. Approval as presented

Recommend approval of the proposed amendments as shown in Attachment B.

#### Option 2. Denial

Recommend that the proposed amendments not be adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

#### Option 3, Approval with modifications

Recommend approval of the proposed amendments with modifications.

#### Sample Motions

The following sample motions correspond to the options listed above. Option 3 is incomplete; the Planning Commission would need to identify recommended modifications.

#### Option 1, Approval as presented

"I move that the Planning Commission concur with the findings of fact and conclusions of law for Option 1 in the December 14, 2020 Staff Report for proposal ZCA20-002 and recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that the amendments be approved as presented."

#### Option 2, Denial

"I move that the Planning Commission concur with the findings of fact and conclusions of law for Option 2 in the December 14, 2020 Staff Report for application ZCA20-002 and recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that proposed amendments are not adopted."

#### Option 3, Approval with modifications

"I move that the Planning Commission concur with the findings of fact and conclusions of law for Option 3 in the December 14, 2020 Staff Report for proposal ZCA20-002 and recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that the amendments be approved with the following changes: [LIST CHANGES]."

#### Analysis and Summary of the Proposal

The proposal includes two amendments To Walla Walla County Code, to Chapter 17.08 and Chapter 17.25. It will add a definition for 'Electronic Changing Message Center Sign' to Chapter 17.08 and amend Chapter 17.25 to increase height limits for signs in the Public Reserve zoning district and add a section with standards for these types of signs. The revised draft also amendments WWCC 17.16.014 to identify where these signs would be permitted.

#### Development Regulations Review Criteria for Preliminary Docket

Below is WWCC Sections 14.15.060C and 14.15.060D(3) which lists the criteria the Community Development Department and Planning Commission shall base their recommendations.

- Criteria: The amendment is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and Staff Discussion: The application will allow for a bigger sign to be placed at the Fairgrounds. The proposal is consistent with and supported by the Comprehensive Plan, which describes Public Reserve designation as, "...lands that are devoted to uses such as recreation areas; federal and state habitat areas; government use areas; cemeteries; public and private rights-of-way; institutions such as schools; public services such as fire and police stations." The Comprehensive Plan doesn't include any specific goals or policies which prohibit the use of this type of signage.
- <u>Criteria: The amendment is consistent with other development regulations, unless accompanied by amendments to such other development regulations; and Staff Discussion:</u> The proposed changes in sign code is consistent with the purpose statement in the County Code for the Public Reserve zoning district (WWCC 17.12.040). In rural areas, these amendments would enable schools and fire stations to be able to do the same if the conditional use permit criteria are met.

O. Public Reserve District. This district is intended for open space uses such as parks, playgrounds, federal and state wildlife habitats, and greenbelts; public facilities such

as schools, fire stations, and recreation centers; low intensity public cultural facilities; and limited low intensity general service uses such as utilities, cemeteries and mausoleums.

The proposed changes in zoning will allow the Fairgrounds and other public/civic uses to better advertise upcoming activities or events or provide public information.

<u>Criteria:</u> The amendment is appropriate for consideration at this time.
 <u>Staff Discussion:</u> The application was initiated by the Board of County Commissioners as a result of a project that the Walla Walla County Fairgrounds has proposed and is funded.

#### Recommended Findings of Fact

In making a recommendation regarding application placement on the Final Docket, the Planning Commission should be prepared to make findings of fact which would be included in the Planning Commission Resolution.

- 1. On October 7, 2020, the Planning Commission held a public workshop to review and discuss the proposal.
- 2. On December 2, 2020, a Notice of Informational Public Meeting and Public Hearing was posted on the Community Development Department website.
- 3. On December 2, 2020, a Notice of Informational Public Meeting and Public Hearing was published in the Walla Walla Union Bulletin.
- 4. On December 14, 2020 an Informational Public Meeting was held by Community Development Department staff.
- 5. On December 14, 2020 a public hearing was held by the Planning Commission.

#### Recommended Conclusion of Law

Staff has drafted some sample Conclusions of Law for the Planning Commission to consider. The Planning Commission's conclusions are expected to differ depending on the final recommendation. The Planning Commissions conclusions will be incorporated into the final Planning Commission resolution that would be signed by the Chairman after the recommendation is made.

#### Option 1, Approval as presented

 The proposed amendments have been reviewed pursuant to Walla Walla County Code Sections 14.15.070(D)(3) and the Planning Commission concludes that the proposed amendments are consistent with the Walla Walla County Comprehensive Plan; meet a definable public need; and are in the long-term interest of the county.

#### Option 2, Denial

1. The proposed amendments have been reviewed pursuant to Walla Walla County Code Sections 14.15.070(D)(3) and the Planning Commission concludes that the proposed amendments DO NOT meet all three of the criteria.

#### Option 3, Approval with modifications

 The proposed amendments have been reviewed pursuant to Walla Walla County Code Sections 14.15.070(D)(3) and the Planning Commission concludes that with modifications, the proposed amendments would be consistent with the Walla Walla County Comprehensive Plan; meet a definable public need; and are in the long-term interest of the county.

Staff Report: Revisions to Sign Code (ZCA20-002) Page 3 of 3

#### ATTACHMENT A

## **Development Regulations Amendment Process**

14.15.070 - Final docket—Review and recommendation.

- A. Required Information. The community development department shall compile a preliminary docket of proposed amendments. The preliminary docket shall include at least the following information for each proposed amendment:
  - 1. Docket number; and
  - 2. Name and address of the person or agency proposing the amendment; and
  - 3. Summary of the proposed amendment; and
  - 4. Date of application; and
  - 5. Address or section, township and range of the location of the amendment, if applicable.
- B. Available for Public Review. The community development department shall keep the preliminary docket available for public review during normal business hours.
- C. Community Development Department Review. After compiling the preliminary docket, the director shall review the suggested amendments and prepare a staff report to the planning commission recommending which proposed amendments should be placed on the final docket. The staff report shall address the following criteria:
  - 1. The amendment is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and
  - 2. The amendment is consistent with other development regulations, unless accompanied by amendments to such other development regulations; and
  - 3. The amendment is appropriate for consideration at this time.
- D. Planning Commission Review. All proposed amendments shall be reviewed and assessed by the planning commission, which shall make a recommendation to the board of county commissioners after considering the staff report prepared by the director.
  - 1. Workshop Meeting. The planning commission may first review the recommendations of the director in a workshop meeting(s)
  - 2. Public Hearing. The planning commission shall conduct a public hearing on the proposed amendments on the preliminary docket as set forth in Sections 14.09.065 and 14.09.070 of this title.
  - 3. Recommendations. Following the hearing, the planning commission shall make a recommendation to the board of county commissioners on each proposed amendment as to whether or not the amendment should be placed on the final docket. The planning commission's recommendation shall be based upon the following criteria:
    - a. The amendment is consistent with the comprehensive plan; and
    - b. The amendment is consistent with other development regulations, unless accompanied by amendments to such other development regulations; and
    - c. The amendment is appropriate for consideration at this time.
- E. Board of County Commissioner's Decision—Adoption of Final Docket.
  - Review and Decision Process. The board of county commissioners shall review and
    consider the planning commission's report and recommended final docket at a regularly
    scheduled commissioner's meeting. The board of county commissioners may adopt the
    planning commission's recommended final docket without a public hearing; however, in
    the event that a majority of the board of county commissioners decides to add or subtract
    proposed amendments, it shall first conduct a public hearing as set forth in Sections
    14.09.065 and 14.09.070 of this title.
  - Effect of Final Adopted Docket. The decision of the board of county commissioners to adopt the final docket does not constitute a decision or recommendation that the substance of any recommended amendment should be adopted. No additional amendments shall be considered after adoption of the final docket for that year except for exceptions as set forth in Section 14.15.030

### Chapter 17.08 - Definitions.

#### Add the following definition to Chapter 17.08

"Electronic message center sign" means an electrically activated changeable copy sign having variable message and/or graphic presentation capability that can be electronically programmed by computer or handheld device from a remote location. Electronic message center signs typically use light emitting diodes (LEDs) or liquid crystal display (LCD) as a lighting source.

## Chapter 17.28 - Development Standards - Signs

#### 17.28.005 - Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to enhance the visual environment of the county by regulating the location size and appearance of signs and outdoor advertising.

#### 17.28.010 - Sign standards.

- A. The light from any illuminated sign shall be so shaded, shielded or directed that the light intensity or brightness will not be a nuisance to surrounding areas. Any externally illuminated sign shall be oriented away from the surrounding residences, and away from streets.
- B. Signs projecting over an internal sidewalk or vehicular traffic area shall be at least eight feet above internal walkways and at least sixteen feet above any area used for vehicular traffic.
- C. Signs are permitted in all zoning districts except for residential districts.

#### 17.28.020 - Temporary signs.

Signage for temporary events is allowed for a period not to exceed three days unless documentation is provided that the temporary event exceeds three days. In no case shall temporary signage be allowed for a period exceeding thirty days annually.

#### 17.28.030 - Outdoor advertising display.

Outdoor advertising displays are permitted in all zones, except residential districts.

#### 17.28.040 - Billboards.

- A. Billboards are allowed in industrial, primary agriculture and agriculture residential zones.
- B. Billboards along state routes are subject to permitting regulation by Washington State Department of Transportation.
- C. Billboards along state scenic/historical routes, outside of the jurisdiction of the Washington State Department of Transportation will be regulated for compatibility with the scenic/historical nature of the route.

#### 17.28.050 - Sign setbacks.

A setback minimum of one foot from the leading edge of the sign to the street right-of-way line, or fifteen feet from the edge of the traveled way, whichever is greater, is required. In no

case will signs be allowed to be placed in a location or manner that violates sight distance, clear view triangle or clear zone requirements as defined in Walla Walla County Code Title 12 and/or Chapter 3.4 of the Walla Walla County Road Design Standards, as determined by the county engineer.

#### 17.28.060 - Sign height.

- A. For industrial districts a maximum of eighty feet, measured from average grade to the highest point on the sign, is allowed.
- B. For commercial <u>and Public Reserve</u> districts a maximum of fifty feet, measured from average grade to the highest point on the sign, is allowed.
- C. For all other districts, a maximum of thirty-five feet, measured from the average grade to the highest point on the sign, is allowed.

#### 17.28.090 - Prohibited signs.

- A. The following signs are prohibited:
- 1. Signs on any vehicle or trailer that is parked on public or private property and visible from a public right-of-way for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this chapter. This provision shall not prohibit signs that are painted on or magnetically attached to any vehicle operating in the normal course of business;
- 2. Signs that purport to be, are an imitation of, or resemble an official traffic sign or signal, could cause confusion with any official signs, or which obstruct the visibility of any traffic/street sign or signal;
- 3. Signs attached to utility, street light, and traffic control standard poles;
- 4. Signs attached to trees or rocks;
- 5. Swinging projecting signs;
- 6. Signs, together with their supports, braces, guys and anchors that are not maintained in a neat, clean and attractive condition, free from rust, corrosion, peeling paint or other surface deterioration:
- 7. Abandoned signs;
- 8. Flashing, blinking or fluttering parts of signs;
- Signs that are unsafe or hazardous;
- 10. Signs on doors, windows, or fire escapes that restrict free ingress or egress;
- 11. Unique signs unless specifically approved by the regional planning director when deemed necessary. Approval of the sign is based on the effect of the proposed sign not contributing to a cluttered, confusing or unsafe condition, or would not be in conflict with the character of the zoning district;
- 112. Signs on public property without prior approval;
- 123. Searchlights or beacons;
- 134. Changing message centers; Electronic message center signs which display motion or flashing as part of the sign;
- 145. Any other sign not meeting the provisions of this chapter.

# Add new section to Chapter 17.08 for electronic message signs 17.28.100 – Electronic Message Center Signs

- A. Electronic message center signs shall comply with this Chapter.
- B. <u>Size. One double-faced electronic message sign is permitted per street frontage and shall be 1/2 square foot per foot of street frontage, up to a maximum of 150 square feet per face.</u>
- C. <u>Setbacks</u>. <u>Signs shall meet all setback and sight distance requirements as required in Section 17.25.050.</u>
- D. Signs located adjacent to or across the street from residential zones shall not operate between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- E. Signs shall be located on the same site as the use for which it is associated.
- F. <u>Information on the sign shall only include alphanumeric characters, punctuation, static images, graphics, logos and symbols.</u>
- G. All displays shall be static messages only. No video, scrolling, streaming, flashing, or trailing content, animations, or similar displays are permitted.
- H. The change from one message to another shall be no more frequent that once every 8 seconds when along major arterials and 20 seconds along all other roadways, unless otherwise specified by the Director or Hearing Examiner.
- Electronic message signs shall be equipped with a mechanism that automatically adjusts the brightness in response to ambient conditions and equipped with a means to immediately turn off the display if it malfunctions or is not complying with the regulations in this Section. Manual override function shall be accessible to emergency responders.
- J. When an electronic message center sign is proposed adjacent to a Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) right-of-way, the County shall request comment from the agency.

#### Chapter 17.16 - Permitted Uses

#### Amend Permitted Uses Table, WWCC 17.16.014

#### Government/General Services Land Uses

Key	
P = Permitted use	
C = Conditional use permit required	
AC = Administrative conditional use perm required	nit
* = Definition of this specific land use see Chapter 17.08	<b>;</b>
PA = Primary Agriculture	—,·· , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

## ZCA20-002 Proposed Sign Code Amendments – Electronic Message Center Signs

EA = Exclusive Agriculture	
GA = General Agriculture-20	
AR = Agriculture Residential-10	
RR = Rural Remote	
RA = Rural Agriculture	
RRMC-5 = Rural Residential Mill Cr	eek-5
RR = Rural Residential	
R-96 = Suburban Residential	
R-72 = Single Family Residential	
R-60 = Single Family Residential	
RM = Multiple Family Residential	
RD-R = Rural Development-Resider	ntial
RD-Cl = Rural Development- Commercial/Industrial	
RFC = Rural Farmworker Communit	h.
	Ly
RAC = Rural Activity Center	

	Zor	ne																	
	Resource				Rural						Urban Residential				Misc.				
	PA - 40	EA - 12 0	GA - 20	AR - 10	RR - 40	RR - 20	RA - 10	RA - 5	RRM C- 5	RR - 2	RR - 5	R - 9 6	R - 7 2	R - 6 0	R M	RD - R	RD - CI	RF C	RA C
Specific I	Use																		
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#### Government/General Services Land Uses

Key	
P = Permitted use	
C = Conditional use permit required	
AC = Administrative conditional use permit required	
* = Definition of this specific land use see Chapter 17.08	
IA-M = Industrial Agriculture Mixed	
IA-H = Industrial Agriculture Heavy	
HI = Heavy Industrial	
LI = Light Industrial	
I/BP = Industrial/Business Park	
NC = Neighborhood Commercial	
CG = General Commercial	
BC = Burbank Commercial	
BR = Burbank Residential	
PR = Public Reserve	

	Zone										
	Industrial and Commercial									c.	
	IA-M	IA-H	HI	LI	I/BP	NC	CG	ВС	BR	PR	
SPECIFIC USE										Ī	
* Electronic message center sign	and the second									P	

- C. Government/General Services Land Uses—Development Conditions.
- 6. Allowed only at schools and fire stations.

## Walla Walla County Community Development Department

310 W. Poplar Street, Suite 200, Walla Walla, WA 99362 / 509-524-2610 Main\_

#### Certificate of Notification

File Number: ZCA20-002

Site Address: Unincorporated County

Type of Notice: Notice of Public Hearing BOCC - 12/28/2020

#### Proof of Publishing

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the content of the above form of notice was

Published in the official gazette (Union Bulletin) on: 12/18/2020

Published in a paper(s) of general circulation (Tri-City Herald) on: 12/17/2020

Published in a paper(s) of general circulation (Waitsburg Times) on: 12/17/2020

Published on the CDD website on the following date: 12/15/2020

Lauren Prentice Printed Name

Signature

12/23/2020

Date



## NOTICE OF WALLA WALLA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC) PUBLIC HEARING (VIRTUAL)

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners will hold a virtual public hearing at 11:00 AM (or as close thereto as possible) on Monday, December 28, 2020, via Cisco WebEx to receive public testimony and consider the following amendment proposal.

ZCA20-002 – Electronic Changing Message Center Sign Code Amendments. Amend Walla Walla County Code (WWCC) Chapter 17-28, Development Standards - Signs, and WWCC Chapter 17.08, Definitions. The proposed code amendments would add a definition for 'Electronic Changing Message Center Sign' to Chapter 17.08 and amend Chapter 17.25 to increase height limits for signs in some zones and add a section with standards for these types of signs to be allowed in some zoning districts, primarily for public uses.

The Planning Commission, following a public hearing on December 14, recommended approval of the proposed amendments. The process for review and recommendation of the final docket is described in Walla Walla County Code (WWCC) Section 14.15.070 which outlines the criteria for consideration.

Remote public participation and testimony will be allowed via Cisco Webex and telephone. Limited participation and testimony at a remote location is available for those who are unable to testify by Cisco Webex or telephone by contacting the Clerk of the Board at 509-524-2505 in advance of the hearing.

Written comments regarding the above applications may be submitted prior to and at the hearing on December 28, 2020 for BOCC consideration. This is the final opportunity to comment; written comments cannot be accepted after the public hearing is closed on December 28.

Written testimony, which will be made part of the record, may be sent by regular mail to:
Walla Walla County Commissioners
P.O. Box 1506
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Public Comments sent by email to the Community Development Department will be provided to the BOCC: send email to <a href="mailto:commdev@co.walla-walla.wa.us">commdev@co.walla-walla.wa.us</a>.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION**

Monday December 28, 2020, at 11:00 AM (or as close thereto as possible)

Location: Due to the Governor's COVID-19 this hearing will be held virtually.

Cisco Webex Meeting Link:

https://wwco.webex.com/wwco/j.php?MTID=m6ef6c0710e4eb57be4e10ce0cc827a38

Call in 1-408-418-9388 | Access code: 146784 0290

A staff report will be available approximately one week prior to the hearing.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** For more information regarding this meeting, please contact Lauren Prentice, Director, at 509-524-2620 or <a href="mailto:commdev@co.walla-walla.wa.us">commdev@co.walla-walla.wa.us</a>.

Walla Walla County complies with ADA; reasonable accommodation provided with 3-days notice.

#### 11:15 HUMAN RESOURCES/RISK MANAGER

## **Shelly Peters**

a) Department update and miscellaneous

b) Active Agenda Items:
1) Possible discussion/decision re: any pending claims against the County

c) Action Agenda Items:
2) New job description approval form – Planning Technician for the Community Development Department

## 11:30 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

a) Miscellaneous or unfinished business to come before the Board

## 12:00 RECESS

## 1:30 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Jim Nagle/Jesse Nolte

- a) Miscellaneous business for the Board
- **b)** Possible executive session re: litigation or potential litigation (pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(i))

#### 1:45 HUMAN RESOURCES/RISK MANAGER

#### **Shelly Peters**

#### a) Active Agenda Items:

- 1) Possible discussion/decision re: any pending claims against the County
- b) Possible executive session re: qualifications of an applicant for employment and/or review performance of a public employee (pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(g)), collective bargaining negotiations (pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)(b)),and/or litigation or pending litigation (pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(i))

## -ADJOURN-

Walla Walla County is ADA compliant. Please contact TTY: (800) 833-6384 or 7-1-1 or the Commissioners' Office at 509/524-2505 three (3) days in advance if you need any language, hearing, or physical accommodation.

Please note that the agenda is tentative only. The Board may add, delete, or postpone items and may take action on an item not on the agenda.