

**COLUMBIA RIVER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MEETING MINUTES  
EAST WENATCHEE, WA  
05/14/20**

**Members Present** – Commissioners Kevin Overbay, Marc Straub

**Members Participating by Phone/GoTo Meeting** – Commissioners Cindy Carter, Chris Branch, Terry Thompson, Rob Coffman

**Staff Present** – Bruce Buckles, Tammy Harvey, Erin Nelson, Debbie Peterson, Ken Sterner, Josh Hamilton, Diane Tribble

**Guests** – Tom Cash, Union Representative; Christine Johnson - Union Employee Representative

**Meeting** – Kevin Overbay called the Columbia River Council of Governments (COG) meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

**Public Comment** – None

**Minutes** – Terry Thompson moved to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2020 meeting. Marc Straub seconded, and the motion carried.

**Budget & Expenditures** – Expenditures were reviewed for March 2020. Checks 68253-68376, DD16912-DD17032, PRT3-20, DRS5-2020, DRS6-2020, Voided Check #68265, #69299. Chris Branch made a motion to approve the expenditures for checks. Marc Straub seconded, and the motion carried.

**Storage Lease Agreement with Douglas Co.** – Ken Sterner reviewed the Storage Lease Agreement with Douglas County. Commissioner Straub (Douglas Co) recused himself. Chris Branch moved to approve the lease agreement. Terry Thompson seconded, and the motion carried.

**Executive Director's Report** – Bruce Buckles gave a report on how our agency has been assisting people with many different needs during COVID-19. The Shelter Field Guide (FEMA, Red Cross) was provided in case we ever need shelters in times of emergencies. He shared about the COVID-19 manual that Tammy Harvey put together. Discussed major concerns about rural healthcare; a handout was shared about many rural hospitals on the brink of collapse. Bruce urged Commissioners to use resources to maintain viable hospitals and healthcare so healthcare continues for the elders and disabled. AACCW's Case Managers/Nurses have kept 1800 people at home each month to avoid the hospital surge. The issue of mental health resources being strained and the concerns of depression for those who have been isolated was discussed. Food security is one of the greatest threats we have. We need to take a regional approach looking at food security in the long run. The video created for Essential Workers for High Risk Populations was viewed.

**Executive Session** – None

Marc Straub made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:07 p.m. Chris Branch seconded, and the motion carried.

**Next Meeting** - The next meeting will be on June 11, 2020 at 1:30pm.