

Wasco City Council

Meeting Minutes

Autust 19th, 2025

Call to Order

Mayor McCurdy called to order the Regular session of the Wasco City Council at 6:31 PM.

The following persons were present: Mayor Beth McCurdy; Council members Julie McAllister-Wynne, Robert Anglin, Ben Altman, Ken DeGrange, and Bill Minter; City employees: Ian Melzer (City Clerk), Melissa Carlson (Assistant Clerk), Jessica Wheeler (Wasco Depot and Wasco School Events Center), Curtis Hollibaugh (City Maintenance), Tyler Henricksen (City Maintenance)

Visitors: Leslie Naramore (MCCAC), Sarah Kellens (MCCAC), Meinrad Kuettel (Grass Valley), Jennifer Smith (Resident/WSEC Library), Dee Ashley (Resident)

The following individuals attended remotely: None

Flag Salute

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

- Minutes for August 5th.

Consent Agenda

- Cnc. Altman motioned to approve the July 15th, 2025 minutes.
 - Cnc. DeGrange seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.
- Cnc. McAllister-Wynne motioned to approve the August 5th, 2025 minutes.
 - Cnc. Anglin seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.
- City Bills/Invoices
 - Cnc. Minter motioned to accept and pay the August bills.

- Cnc. DeGrange seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, Minter
 - Motion passed.
- WSEC Bills/Invoices
 - See attached.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne motioned to accept the bills.
 - Cnc. Altman seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.

Visitors' Comments

Leslie Neremore and Sarah Kellens from MCCAC came to talk about resources offered through Mid-Columbia Community Action Council.

- MCCAC operates under a tripartite board structure.
- The agency aims to empower individuals and improve communities.
- Staff members often have personal experience with housing instability.
- Services include emergency shelters and transitional housing, leading to permanent placements through “rapid rehousing.”
- Eviction prevention is a priority, alongside utility assistance.
- Last year, they assisted 769 individuals with utilities and helped 280 prevent eviction.
- Ongoing partnerships with landlords aim to increase affordable housing options, with training programs to prepare clients as renters.
- Cnc. McAllister-Wynne asked about putting MCCAC information online.
- Meinrad Keuttel asked about homeowner utility assistance.
- Jessica Wheeler offered to share outreach at the WSEC.
- City Clerk Melzer asked about water assistance. It has still not been renewed.

Public Hearing >>> Resolutions >>> Ordinances

Memorial Day/Depot/WSEC Report

- See attached.
- Cnc. Anglin asked if there had been any movement on a fire inspection for the preschool. It has not happened yet.
- Cnc. McAllister-Wynne asked to confirm that the Halloween items budgeted for are all things that can be reused every year. The answer was yes; most can be used for any party or event, but items like body parts will only be used during Halloween.
- Cnc. DeGrange made a motion to approve \$2400 for the Halloween budget.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.

Mayor's, Council, and City Staff Reports

City Hall Report

- City Clerk Melzer explained that he bought a TV out of his own pocket and would like to be reimbursed.
- Cnc. DeGrange made a motion to reimburse City Clerk Melzer for the TV and mount.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.
- The kitchenette is almost finished.
- City Clerk Melzer spoke with Michelle Colby, who said water rates need to increase and Wasco needs new meters.
- CC Melzer is meeting with Lisa Masters from CIS next week. Employee Handbook needs to be updated.
 - Mayor McCurdy emphasized this point.
 - Insurance renewals are happening.
 - The value of the Depot increased.
- Mayor McCurdy asked about the fall LOC conference. CC Melzer is registered and has a hotel room booked. Assistant City Clerk Carlson may potentially go for a day or two during the week.

Maintenance Report

- See attached.
- Maint. Tech Hollibaugh reported that the water and sewer will be installed on Jason Earl's property. If Mr. Earl wants a frost free, he will have to pay for it.

Council Reports

- Tree removal and clearing vegetation for firefighting - Cnc. Ken DeGrange
 - There is no bid for the stumps.
 - Luciano's bid includes 2 trees.
 - Tarzan's \$3,500 bid includes 3 trees.
 - Email Gary with Tarzan to inform him that no decision was made, and that a stump needs to be added.
- Cnc. Minter inquired about an update regarding the electrical work in the park.
 - Hage is done, waiting for Pacific Power. Maint. Tech Henricksen to follow up with Hage.
- Cnc. McAllister-Wynne spoke with Brittany Wood, City Administrator of Moro, about updating ordinances. Moro is planning to implement new ordinances separate from the other Sherman County cities, but it is still important to remain united as a county for the sake of codes enforcement. Cnc. McAllister-Wynne suggested possibly meeting with the other cities to come to an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) regarding ordinances.

- Cnc. Anglin reported about the city burn pile meeting with Cncs McAllister-Wynne and Altman. The decision was that it's been put on hold. Again. The Sherman County transfer station on Welk Road takes yard debris for \$25.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor McCurdy
- Cnc. DeGrange made a motion to research security cameras for inside City Hall.
 - Cnc. Anglin seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.

HB 5202 Community Development Funds

- None

Old/Unfinished Business

- **Council Assignments**
 - Cnc. DeGrange motioned for Cnc. Altman to attain the title of Wasco City Council President.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs McAllister-Wynne, Anglin, DeGrange, Minter
 - Cnc. Altman abstained.
 - Motion passed.
 - Cnc. Minter is assigned to Parks & Rec.
 - Cncs DeGrange and Altman are assigned to Public Works.
 - Mayor McCurdy and Cnc. Anglin are assigned to Community Development Planning.
 - Mayor McCurdy and Cnc. Anglin are assigned to WSEC Library.
 - Cnc. Anglin is assigned to 9-1-1 North Sherman.
 - Cnc. Altman and Cnc. McAllister-Wynne are assigned to Ordinances.
 - Cnc. Altman is assigned to Streets/Sidewalks/Transportation.
 - Cncs Altman and DeGrange are assigned to Utilities.

New Business

- **Flow Meters for Wastewater Treatment Lagoon**
 - Cnc. Altman reported that flow meters are needed for the effluent and affluent. \$16-25000. Housing is needed to be protected from winter weather.
 - The outflow is broken and abandoned, and the inflow is nonexistent.
- Mayor McCurdy proposed remaining with Jaime Crawford and transferring to Bell Design Engineering as Wasco's City Planner.
 - Further investigation is needed.

Adjournment

Mayor McCurdy adjourned the meeting at 8:41 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Melissa Carlson, Asst. City Clerk

Signed_____

Signed_____