

**MINUTES OF THE PORT OF WALLA WALLA
COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, February 26, 2026**

The meeting of the Port of Walla Walla Commission was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commission President Ron Dunning at the Walla Walla Regional Airport, 45 Terminal Loop Rd, Suite 214, Walla Walla, Washington.

In attendance via conference call or in person:

Kip Kelly, Commissioner
Ron Dunning, Commissioner
Amy Schwab, Commissioner
Pat Reay, Executive Director
Jennifer Skoglund, Airport Manager
Paul Gerola, Special Projects
Joe Keown, Auditor/Treasurer
Karla Miller, Administrative Assistant
Jared Hawkins, Legal Counsel
Joy Bader
Norma Hernandez
Beth Powers
Jason Beechinor
Noah Beechinor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Kelly led all in attendance in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

DECLARATIONS REGARDING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were declared.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Schwab moved, and Commissioner Kelly seconded, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Beth Powers commented on the Port's Economic Development Planning Process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Kelly moved, and Commissioner Schwab seconded, to approve the minutes of the Port Commission meeting, held on Thursday, February 12, 2026, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

The Port Commission reviewed Port and Airport Check History Report lists as provided by Port Auditor/Treasurer Keown. Said lists were audited, authenticated, and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and reimbursement claims were certified as required by RCW 42.24.090. Commissioner Schwab

moved, and Commissioner Kelly seconded, to approve for payment the Check History Report lists summarized in the February 26, 2026, Warrant Approval Document, which is incorporated and attached to these minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Port of Walla Walla

1. **2026 Tourism Grant Funding Requests (Second Round)**
Executive Director Reay reviewed with Commissioners the Port's 2026 Tourism (\$35,000) and Community Contribution (\$60,000) budgets totaling \$95,000 for calendar year 2026, the Tourism Policy, and the Tourism Funding Request Applications. The Commission reviewed the second round of tourism applications. Commissioner Kelly moved, and Commissioner Schwab seconded, to approve the second round of tourism applications and requests and allocate said funds from the Port's 2026 Tourism and Community Contribution funds in amounts determined by the Port Commission, as identified in Exhibit 2 of the staff report. Round two of tourism grant funding will be in the amount of \$9,000. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Port of Walla Walla

1. **0.09ths Economic Development Sales Tax Fund (EDSTF) Grant Application Walla Walla County Public Works Department – Fishhook Park Road Project**
Executive Director Reay provided Commissioners with a grant request from Walla Walla County (Public Works Department) for the Fishhook Park Road Project. Executive Director Reay explained how the project would preserve jobs and avoid impacts to operations for a large local employer. Commissioner Schwab moved, and Commissioner Kelly seconded, to approve and Economic Development Sales tax Fund (EDSTF) grant for \$200,000 from the Port's EDSTF account to Walla Walla County Public Works Department – Fishhook Park Road Project – and authorize the Executive Director to submit said application to the Walla Walla County Board of Commissioners for their concurrence, contingent on the Board of County Commissioners contributing a \$100,000 grant from the County's EDSTF for the project. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Walla Walla Regional Airport

1. **Beechinor Farm Annual Recap**
Jason Beechinor, Beechinor Farms, Inc., a Port tenant, provided Commissioner with a 2025 crop yield report and a proposed 2026 farm plan. Commissioners and staff thanked Mr. Beechinor for working well

with Airport staff and being considerate of the Airport Business Park tenants.

2. **WSDOT Aviation Resolution – North GA Apron Grant Application**
Airport Manager Skoglund reviewed with Commissioners the North General Aviation Apron Reconstruction Project and the opportunity to apply for a grant with the Washington State Department of Transportation. Commissioner Schwab moved, and Commissioner Kelly seconded, to authorize the Executive Director to apply for a Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Airport Grant in the amount of \$158,625 for the North General Aviation Apron Reconstruction project, adopt Resolution No. 2026-05 and authorization to accept a WSDOT grant offer for this project. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS

A. Review Calendar of Events

Executive Director Reay reviewed the calendar of events.

B. Executive Director and Staff Report

Executive Director Reay and staff reported on various matters of Port business.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

The Commissioners reported on meetings they recently attended and other Port-related matters.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:28 a.m., Commissioner Dunning announced the convening of an executive session that would last until approximately 11:15 a.m. He announced that the executive session would cover the following topics: (A) RCW 42.30.110 (1) (b), to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price; and (B) RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i), to discuss with legal counsel matters relating to potential litigation involving the Port.

At 11:20 a.m., Commissioner Dunning reconvened the regular Commission meeting. No action was taken following the executive session.

NEXT MEETING & LOCATION


Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
Port of Walla Walla Administrative Office
45 Terminal Loop Road, Suite 214
Walla Walla, WA 99362

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kelly moved, and Commissioner Schwab seconded, to adjourn the Port Commission meeting at 11:20 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED:

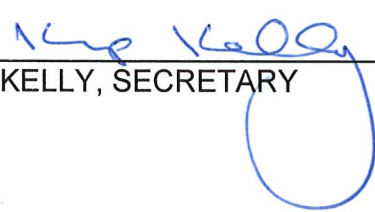
PORT OF WALLA WALLA COMMISSIONERS



RONALD W. DUNNING, PRESIDENT



AMY SCHWAB, VICE PRESIDENT



KIP KELLY, SECRETARY

Warrant Approval Document

February 26, 2026

We the undersigned Commissioners of the Port of Walla Walla, of Walla Walla County Washington, do hereby certify that the merchandise or services hereinafter specified have been received.

Port of Walla Walla - General Fund

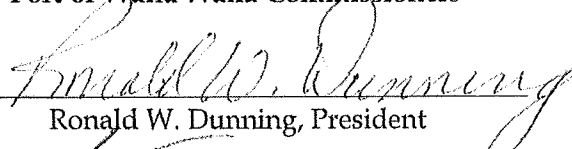
Approved for payment are check numbers 21909 through 21945 and direct deposit numbers PR02132026.1 through PR02132026.4, and ACH/EFT numbers CHECK215 through CHECK2227, in the amount of \$132,220.04 to be paid from the Port of Walla Walla General Fund on the above stated date.

Walla Walla Regional Airport - General Fund

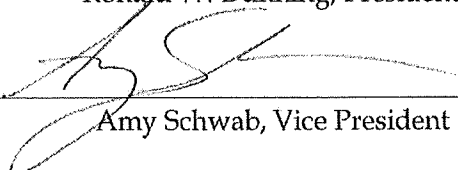
Approved for payment are check numbers 26283 through 26297, and direct deposit numbers PR02232026.1 through PR02232026.17 and ACH/EFT numbers CHECK217 and CHECK225 in the amount of \$202,478.13 to be paid from the Walla Walla Regional Airport General Fund on the above stated date.

Approved By:

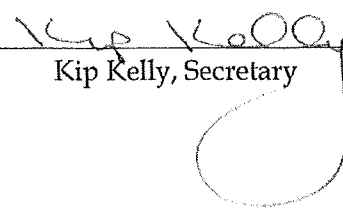
Port of Walla Walla Commissioners



Ronald W. Dunning, President



Amy Schwab, Vice President



Kip Kelly, Secretary

**PORT OF WALLA WALLA
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PORT OF WALLA WALLA COMMISSION TO THE
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AVIATION
GUARANTEEING GRANT MATCH FUNDS AVAILABILITY**

WHEREAS, the Port of Walla Walla has received grant funding from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the North General Aviation Apron Reconstruction Project;

WHEREAS, the expected total project cost is \$7,571,880;

WHEREAS, the FAA has agreed to pay \$6,027,733 (79.6% share) of the project cost;

WHEREAS, the Port of Walla Walla is prepared to pay a local match amount of \$158,625 (2.5% share) of the FAA grant costs from Port of Walla Walla funds, and already has allocated funds in the amount of \$158,625 in its 2026 budget to begin the project and fulfill the local match contribution requirement;

WHEREAS, the Port of Walla Walla has insufficient funds within its 2026 budget to pay all of the costs of the project not paid by the FAA; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Walla Walla desires that the Washington State Department of Transportation ("WSDOT"), through the airport grant program, contribute \$158,625 (2.5% share) towards the total FAA grant cost.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Port Commission of the Port of Walla Walla:

1. Authorizes Port of Walla Walla staff to submit the appropriate application for WSDOT aviation grant funds in the amount of \$158,625; and
2. Declares that the Port Commission supports the application of WSDOT aviation grant funds for the purposes stated above.

Adopted this 26th day of February, 2026.

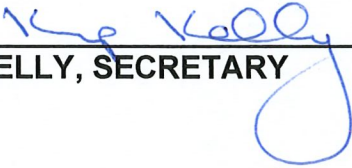
PORT OF WALLA WALLA COMMISSIONERS



RONALD W. DUNNING, PRESIDENT



AMY SCHWAB, VICE PRESIDENT



KIP KELLY, SECRETARY

**PORT OF WALLA WALLA
2026 TOURISM & COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS BUDGET = \$95,000**

2026 TOURISM BUDGET - \$35,000					Allocation 1	Allocation 2	Allocation 3	Allocation 4
2026 Tourism Organization/Event					Tourism Grants Approved	Tourism Grants Approved	Tourism Grants Approved	Tourism Grants Approved
Port Commission Approval Date					2/12/2026	2/24/2026		
#	Organization	Event	Request	Funded	\$ 35,000	\$ 23,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000
1	Outside Walla Walla	Outside Walla Walla Promotional Publication	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000			
2	Walla Walla Guitar Festival	Walla Walla Guitar Festival	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000			
3	Walla Walla Quilt Festival	Annual Quilt Show	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000			
4	Blood of Gods	Annual Merrymaking and Wine VIP Speaking Session	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000			
5	Liberty Christian Schools	5k Color Run	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000			
6	Team Walla Walla	WWCC College Rodeo and Kid's Rodeo	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000			
7	Washington Wine Guild	Walla Walla TequilaFest	\$2,000				\$2,000	
8	Frog Hollow Farm LLC	Spring Plant Sale	\$2,000				\$2,000	
9	Adam West Day	Adam West Day	\$1,000				\$1,000	
10	Kirkman House Museum	Kirkman House Museum's 2026 Exhibits and Ev	\$2,000				\$2,000	
11	Walla Walla County Fairgrounds	Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days	\$2,000				\$2,000	
12								
13								
14								
15								
16								
17								
18								
19								
20								
21								
22								
23								
Total			\$21,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$9,000	\$0	\$0
2026 Budget			\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
Remaining Budget					\$23,000	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$14,000

Note: Funding must be consistent with Port Tourism Policy (Green Highlighted Requests will be considered in Community Contributions)

Note:

2026 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS - \$60,000

2026 Community Contribution Organization/Event					Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved
Port Commission Approval Date					2/12/2026			
#	Organization	Event	Request	Funded	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
1	Walla Walla Downtown Association	Various (Community Contributions)	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2	Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce	Various (Community Contributions)	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
3	Walla Walla Wine Alliance	Various (Community Contributions)	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
4	Gesa Power House Theatre	Various (Community Contributions)	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
5	Fort Walla Walla Museum	Fort Walla Walla Days	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
6	Community Council	Annual Luncheon	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
7	Waitsburg Commercial Club	Various (Community Contributions)	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
8	Little Theatre	Various (Community Contributions)	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
9			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total			\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
2026 Budget			\$60,000					
Remaining Budget			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000

Note: Port funding is limited to its statutory authority - Must be used for economic development purposes

Total Combined Budget for Community Contributions \$95,000