

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Whitman County Board of Commissioners Date: January 24, 2022
Observer Reporting: Mary Collins Length of Meeting: 9am until 9:35 am
Members Present: Commissioners Largent, Swannack, and Handy
Members Absent:
Others Present (e.g., media, public): 23 others including reporters, department heads and other unknown individuals.

Business pertaining to League Positions or topics of interest:

The meeting was very short. The planned presentation by the **Palouse Land Trust** was delayed. There was a brief discussion about a letter forwarded from the **Pullman Civic Trust** regarding the allocation of \$150,000 of the DOT budget to study railbanking and trail issues. The commissioners all agreed that there were questions to be answered for those supporting and opposed to rail banking and getting this information together is important.

Mark Story, the Director of public works reported that **weight restrictions have been put on gravel roads** and reminded folks that these restrictions apply to county vehicles as well as others so they can't haul gravel to needy roads until things dry out. He also reported that they have lots of road crew folks out with positive covid tests. The situation is bad enough that if we get snow in the next week of so there will not be enough drivers to clear all of the roads.

(Observer Comment. Most of the county roads are gravel roads so main routes would not be impacted by this shortage, assuming the State and Cities have enough drivers).

Process & Protocol:

The meeting was on Zoom and live but most people participated by Zoom. Everyone was very cordial.