

**Klickitat County  
Board of Commissioners  
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, January 26, 2021**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition</b>
	<b>Call to Order/Roll Call</b>
Morning Workshop Session – Tuesday, January 26, 2021	Chairman David M. Sauter called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob L. Anderson and Dan Christopher.
Legislative update	<p><b>9:30 AM Legislative Update:</b></p> <p>Attendance: Lobbyist Zak Kennedy, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Commissioner Christopher stated he would like to review Senate Bill (SM) 5045, Establishing State Meat and Poultry Inspection Programs and SB 5206, eliminating expedited processing of an alternative energy resource facility fueled by solar energy on certain designated lands before the energy facility site evaluation council. Clerk of the Board Lee Snell stated House Bill 1180, is concerning and outlines public testimony at public meetings, including virtual meetings, it is a change that will affect the County’s public comment period during regular meetings.</p> <p>Lobbyist Zak Kennedy stated the most important and concerning piece of information is in regards to commenting on bills; when commenting on a bill outside of signing in as an active participant during the hearing (not necessarily testifying but signing in for the hearing) likely, your position will not be recognized or even seen.</p> <p>Lobbyist Kennedy reported SB 5078 that addresses firearm safety measures meant to increase public safety is gaining some movement but is up for debate on constitutionality; high capacity magazines, companion: House Bill 1164 is also seeing some movement.</p> <p>HB 1152, the Regionalization of Health Districts and HB 1110, Concerning the composition of local boards of health are of great concern to many small Counties; a discussion followed regarding the difficulty to staff a large Board of Health, Chairman Sauter stated that in the past there has been difficulty filling a 5 person board, at this time the Board of Health is 5 members including the three (3) Commissioners.</p>
Public Works/Road Department Update	<p><b>10:00 AM – Public Works Department Update</b></p> <p>Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reported on the consent agenda, noting the Annual Striping contract being awarded.</p> <p>Director Kelsey stated Public Works Civil Engineer Seth Scarola is finalizing plans on the Courtney Road Safety Project; Public Works has negotiated right-of-way acquisitions with eight (8) out of the eleven (11) landowners. Director Kelsey stated the Forest Service has set new restrictions on their property that no chainsaws or heavy equipment will be allowed on their easement until July 1<sup>st</sup>.</p>

	<p>Director Kelsey continued with an update regarding the reconstruction of Old Mountain Road, stating Public Works Design Engineer Kevin Leis is completing the plans and estimates which are 95% complete; all the necessary right-of-way has been acquired and contract advertisement is scheduled for February.</p> <p>A brief update was given on the east and west end crews, followed by an update from Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the Radio Projects.</p> <p>Director Kelsey advised of a discussion he had with the Washington State Department of Transportation regarding Woodland Road, followed by a discussion about the new County Services Building and the construction of electric vehicle charging stations to be placed in the County parking lot.</p>
Auditor Department Update	<p><b>10:30 AM - Elected Official Report/Update</b></p> <p>Attendance: Auditor Brenda Sorensen, Chief Deputy Auditor Heather Jobe in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Auditor Brenda Sorensen reported that four (4) participating school districts will have a special election on February 9, 2021.</p> <p>Auditor Sorensen provided updates on finance, licensing, recording, and the Veteran's Service Officer, noting the remote assistance to the public remains challenging as well as very time-consuming.</p>
Solid Waste Department Update	<p><b>10:45 AM - Department Update/Comment</b></p> <p>Attendance: Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Director Irving stated she has attended the Bingen and White Salmon City Council meetings and will be scheduling quarterly updates with them, noting she has not been able to get a response from Goldendale.</p> <p>Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving reported the Solid Waste Management Plan is still in the draft stage to address minor revisions.</p> <p>Director Irving reported she has hired a resident Donald Fritts as the new Litter Crew Supervisor and he is doing the required pieces of training and will be acclimated to the program over the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>Director Irving reported on the Recycling Program, noting Gorge Ink has provided the annual Klickitat County Recycling Newsletter and schedule; it was mailed out to 12,000 households. An update followed on partnerships with local businesses and groups to promote recycling.</p> <p>Director Irving stated Republic Services' Hauling Unit is fully staffed but is still experiencing occasional issues due to COVID-19, followed by a 4<sup>th</sup> quarter budget update, noting the quarterly update with Republic Services will be this afternoon.</p>

Public Utility  
District Joint  
Meeting and  
Quarterly Project  
Update

**11:00 AM - Miscellaneous Reports:**

Attendance: Public Utility District (PUD) No. 1 General Manager Jim Smith, PUD Commissioner Randy Knowles, PUD Commissioner Doug Miller, PUD Customer Service Supervisor Brandy Myers, PUD Assistant General Manager Gwen Miller, various county employees and residents via telephone.

Public Utility District (PUD) No. 1 General Manager Jim Smith reported the service rates in the Klickitat County area, noting they are 15th out of 35th in the State.

General Manager Smith stated the PUD operates fifteen (15) water and wastewater systems; Chairman Sauter reported this year is the last payment on the Waste Water Treatment Plant in Dallesport, General Manager Smith noted the PUD Board of Commissioners would like to have further discussion about the water in the Dallesport area.

A discussion was held about the water rights in the Glenwood area and the recent request for water hookups in the area. General Manager Smith advised of the changes from the Department of Ecology. Commissioner Anderson requested information regarding the Getaway Project water hook-ups. General Manager Smith stated the Getaway Project used three (3) hook-ups, not ten (10) because there are no full-time residents.

The future infrastructure of the Dallesport area and the old Aluminum Plant site for future projects were discussed.

Assistant General Manager Gwen Miller reported on the partnership the PUD has with the County and the positive partnership over the past several years, followed by an update on the impact COVID-19 has had on customer's ability to pay their power bills.

PUD Customer Service Supervisor Brandy Myers reported on the Customer Assistance Program, the Senior Service Discount Program, and Operation Warm Heart, noting, Operation Warm Heart is an emergency energy assistance program funded by gifts from PUD customers.

PUD Customer Service Supervisor Myers reported on the significant financial impact the PUD has had this past year due to COVID-19 as well as the future financial impact.

Assistant General Manager Miller requested the PUD and County start a partnership to utilize any future Federal CARES Act funds to provide discounts to citizens and requested a subcommittee be formed to oversee the funds.

The Board would like to have further discussion with the County staff before committing to a subcommittee to review the future uses of Federal CARES Act Funds.

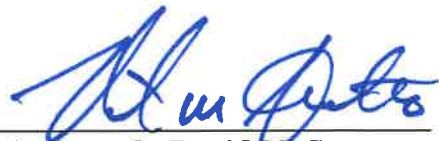
Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey presented a car charging station plan, stating building the infrastructure and applying for grants is the most feasible and cost-effective solution; noting, when the need for charging electric cars is presented the County will be ready.

Lunch Recess	The Board recessed for lunch at 12:09 AM.
	<b>Call to Order/Roll Call:</b>
Regular Meeting for Tuesday, January 26, 2021	Chairman Sauter reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM; Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob L. Anderson and Dan Christopher.
	<b>Agenda:</b>
Business Agenda	<b>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):</b> the Business Agenda as presented.
	<b>Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes</b>
Approval of Meeting Minutes	* <b>Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously):</b> the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for January 12, 2021, as presented.
	<b>Citizen Comment:</b>
Comments will be limited to seven (7) minutes per individual	<p>Greg Wagner from Goldendale, requested Commissioner Anderson explain the Conditional Use Process (CUP), Does the CUP supersede the Energy Overlay Zone (EOZ). Commissioner Anderson advised where the CUP Ordinance can be found online, followed by a brief explanation of the CUP and the EOZ. A discussion about project setbacks followed.</p> <p>Husum resident Dennis White asked how to remove land from the EOZ and would like his property to remain in a natural state.</p> <p>Goldendale resident Russ Hanson inquired about the Board of Adjustment Committee members, and will there be a Citizen Advisory Committee to advise the Board on Solar Projects. Commissioner Anderson advised he would like to request the Land and Natural Resources Committee be reconvened and tasked with advising the Board on such projects.</p> <p>Mr. Hanson inquired whether the Board has a position on the Senate Bill 5206, Commissioner Christopher stated he has personally submitted a comment; the Board has not.</p> <p>Resident Dave Barta thanked the Commissioners for their attention to the Solar Farm Projects and requested the Board look into redoing the EOZ. The EOZ mentions Solar Farms only three (3) times; Mr. Barta stated he does not believe it significantly covers the Solar Projects.</p> <p>Knight Road area resident Elaine Harvey stated she is very concerned about the wildlife in the area and the negative impact the solar panels are going to have on the land as well as the residents in the area. Ms. Harvey has great concern with the pesticides that will be used on the land and the impacts on the drinking water.</p> <p>Sheri Bousquest inquired about the State Environmental Policy Act checklist and how projects are evaluated, Ms. Bousquest requested the applications be reviewed by County employees thoroughly.</p> <p>Rocile Demmick inquired about the County's project appeal costs and process; the Board advised, Class A, Class B and Class C projects are based on a sliding scale relative to the size of the project. Ms. Demmick requested the Board revisit and lower the appeal cost.</p>

<b>Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:</b>	
<p>Public Meeting: To consider an Amendment request to Mountain View Estates Subdivision Preliminary Approval (SUB2018-01); Parcel No.s 02-13-3375-0015/00 and 02-13-3360-1001/00 in the Dallesport vicinity. Applicant: Greg Wallace.</p>	<p><b>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Resolution No. 01421</b> in the matter of determining the proposed amendment to the Mountain View Estates Subdivision Preliminary Approval (SUB2018-01); Parcel No.s 02-13-3375-0015/00 and 02-13-3360-1001/00 in the Dallesport vicinity is not substantial in nature. Applicant: Greg Wallace (Darrin Eckman, representative).</p> <p>Attendance: Assistant Planner Denice Lee, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Assistant Planner Denice Lee stated this is a request for an amendment to the Preliminary Approval of the Mountain View Estates Subdivision; the amendment consists primarily of converting the proposed Public roads and paths to private ownership. The 60-foot access and utility easement and paved 24-foot road width will remain the same. The lot configuration is also revised; although the total number of lots twenty-six (26) will remain the same, Assistant Planner Lee stated an updated Stormwater Plan will be submitted as part of this amendment.</p> <p>Project Manager, Darrin Eckman advised of the reasons for the changes; the changes in the road, the changes in the lot sizes and configuration, noting all the roadways will still be accessible to the fire department and all utilities will be in the right-of-way and accessible. The stormwater management plan will be updated and resubmitted if deemed not substantial.</p> <p>Sheri Bousquest from Husum stated she would like to have the Washington State Department of Transportation included on any projects involving State Routes. The Board advised this project and roads do not involve any State Highways.</p> <p>WJ Morris inquired if the project is still at twenty-six (26) lots with a proposal of 27 lots. Assistant Planner Lee stated the request number of lots is twenty-six (26) with no application for any additional lots, followed by clarification on the roadway right-of-way. The road will be constructed to a 24-foot width with 60 foot including the right-of-way.</p> <p>A motion followed.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous Reports/Comments:</b>	
<p>Don Tibbets, Republic Services Director of Operations for the North West Area Quarterly Update</p>	<p>Attendance: Republic Services Director of Operations Don Tibbets, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Republic Services Director of Operations Don Tibbets reported on the volume intake at the Roosevelt Landfill by major customers, noting the decline of British Columbia's volume.</p> <p>Director of Operations Tibbets reported on railroad contracts and trash service contracts currently being carried out, followed by a brief discussion of Republic's capability to provide service to more counties, a report of and the 4th quarter budget review followed.</p> <p>Director of Operations Tibbets provided a brief staff update.</p>

	<p><b>Consent Agenda:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):</b> The Consent Agenda with six (6) items.</li> <li>* 1) <b>Resolution No. 01521</b> in the matter of extending the availability of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act Emergency Paid Sick Leave hours in response to COVID-19. Effective January 1, 2021, and expiring on June 30, 2021.</li> <li>* 2) Settlement Agreement (<b>C01521</b>) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Kenneth Smith for right-of-way for the reconstruction of Old Mountain Road.</li> <li>* 3) Request for concurrence to award the bid to Stripe Rite Inc. of Kennewick, Washington for the 2021 Annual Striping Program, RN 642-21 as bid in the amount of \$380,037.00.</li> <li>* 4) Authorization of Chair signature for the Digital Submittal Certification for the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) for 2021 Road Levy Certification.</li> <li>* 5) <b>Resolution No. 01621</b> in the matter of adding an additional Temporary Casual Public Health Nurse and Temporary Casual Clerical Administrative Assistant III positions to assist in the COVID-19 response efforts; in addition to extending the timeframe for the current Casual Public Health Nurse and Casual Clerical Administrative Assistant I positions. Effective January 1, 2021, through June 30, 2021.</li> <li>* 6) Master Service Agreement (<b>C01621</b>) between Klickitat County (Adult Probation Department) and Language Line Services Inc. for the purpose of allowing the Adult Probation Department to communicate with clients that have a language barrier, this alternative will avoid paying higher costs to certified interpreters. The cost per minute is \$0.98. Effective upon signature date.</li> </ul>
<p>Voucher Certification and Approval</p>	<p><b>Payment Approvals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <b>Approved Warrants (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):</b></li> </ul> <p>Accounts Payable: (#303599 – 303617); for a net of \$52,361.69.</p> <p>Combined Payroll: (#216147 –216416, County Benefit Warrants #303618 - 303625, Electronic Transfer #915) \$1,061,381.43.</p> <p>For a combined total of \$1,113,743.12 for the date ending January 25, 2021.</p>
<p>Treasurer Greg Gallagher: Financial and revenues update</p>	<p><b>Elected Official Report/Update:</b></p> <p>Attendance: Treasurer Greg Gallagher, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Treasurer Greg Gallagher reported on the Finance Committee Meeting last week, noting the time change and membership change.</p> <p>Treasurer Gallagher advised the County has received the fourth quarter landfill payment, followed by a discussion about the General Fund.</p> <p>A discussion was held regarding the Bond payments schedule for the Pioneer Center and the new County Services Building, followed by a brief discussion about the last Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant payment.</p>

	<p>Treasurer Gallagher advised House Bill 1332 - Concerning property tax deferral during the COVID-19 pandemic could cause potential financial impacts to a fire or cemetery district when they are not receiving payments.</p>
	<p><b>Board Pending:</b></p>
<p>Issues as determined by the Board of Commissioners</p> <p>Executive Session:          Discussion of a public employee</p>	<p>Associate Planner Lori Anderson requested guidance on whether the Board would like to appoint a hearings examiner or if the Board would hear a State Environmental Policy Act appeal received for a project in the Husum area. The Board stated they will hear the appeal.</p> <p>A brief discussion was held regarding the Department of Natural Resources; royalty on oil and gas and can the County get any back from projects.</p> <p>Commissioner Anderson requested if the Board should take a position on Senate Bill 5206, followed by an overview of a conversation he had with Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad. Commissioner Anderson stated he supports the bill, followed by a motion; <b>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):</b> to support Senate Bill 5206; Eliminating expedited processing of an alternative energy resource facility fueled by solar energy on certain designated lands before the energy facility site evaluation council.</p> <p>At 2:53 PM, Chairman David M. Sauter announced that the Board would be convening into Executive Session with Human Resource and Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan and Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss the performance of a public employee. Chairman Sauter noted that the session would last twenty (20) minutes. At 3:13 PM it was announced the Executive Session would be extended ten (10) minutes. At 3:23 PM it was announced the Executive Session would be extended five (5) minutes. At 3:28 PM it was announced the Executive Session would be extended five (5) minutes.</p> <p>The Board convened back into Regular Session at 3:33 PM. No action was taken.</p> <p>* Correspondence noted for the record - letter to the Kitsap County Commissioner's Office requesting the Commissioner's support Republic Services in their low price bid to manage and operate their transfer station and join Klickitat County in creating a partnership that represents environmental conservation, innovative energy consumption, and the creation of green industry jobs.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p><b>Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously):</b> There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:36 PM. There are no workshops scheduled.</p>
	<p>* Reference Document on File.</p> <p>Please Note: The Board of Commissioners' minutes are action minutes. A digital recording is on file as part of the official record and available on file BOCC-Meeting 1-26-21.</p>



**Approved: David M. Sauter**  
**Chairman of the Board**



**2.16.2021**

**Date**