

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

Topic	Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition
	Call to Order/Roll Call
Morning Workshop Session – Tuesday, March 12, 2019	Chairman David M. Sauter called the meeting to order at 9:27 AM. Commissioners present: Jim Sizemore, David M. Sauter and Rex F. Johnston.
	Workshop Session Agenda
	The Board had a brief discussion regarding solar leases which was followed by an update from Commissioner Johnston on the recent poverty simulation he attended that was held in White Salmon.
Legislative Lobbyists Jim Potts and Zak Kennedy: Legislative update	<p>9:30 AM - Legislative Update</p> <p>Attendance: Legislative Lobbyists Jim Potts and Zak Kennedy (via teleconference), Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Rebecca Sells and Centerville resident Dan Christopher.</p> <p>The Board discussed various bills before State legislators including House Bill 2119 County's Payment In Lieu of Taxes, Mr. Kennedy stated new transportation taxes are being proposed on electric cars.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter provided an update of his trip to Washington D.C. and meetings with Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler, Senator Marie Cantwell's staff and Patty Murray's staff.</p> <p>The Board discussed the Gorge Commission's comments regarding the Goldendale Pump storage project, which is not in the scenic area. Followed by a brief discussion regarding the Army Corp of Engineers tribal housing development.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter also provided an update on the airport board and proposed development on airport property.</p>
	Workshop Session Agenda
Public Works/Road Department Update	<p>10:00 AM – Public Works Department Update</p> <p>Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Assistant County Engineer Jeff Hunter, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Rebecca Sells and Centerville resident Dan Christopher.</p> <p>Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey provided a brief review of Consent Agenda items and a Construction Program project update. He stated Public Works will be scheduling an open house for residents affected by the Wahkiacus Bridge closure and crews are preparing detour roads for increased use.</p>

	<p>Director Kelsey stated the facilities crew will have the Pioneer Center set up for the public meeting this evening.</p> <p>Director Kelsey reported crews continue to plow and sand County roads. Brief discussion followed regarding scheduling a lunch provided by the Commissioners for the Road Crew and Buildings and Grounds employees for their hard work and dedication this winter.</p> <p>Director Kelsey stated the final steps have been taken to allow a mobile device connection for the Sheriff and emergency responders to access the Jail/Courthouse camera system.</p> <p>Floor plans for the new County Services Building were discussed and Director Kelsey reported on the Sheriff's Office remodel.</p> <p>Director Kelsey discussed the benefits of a Public Works Facebook page where County hours, closures and events, can be posted. The Board expressed their support.</p>
Human Resource Department update	<p>10:30 AM - Department Update/Comment</p> <p>Attendance: Human Resource (HR) Director Randi Post, HR Specialist KC Sheridan, Sheriff Bob Songer, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Rebecca Sells and Centerville resident Dan Christopher.</p> <p>HR Director Randi Post provided an update on the Employee Survey and will have the full report in the near future, she also requested and received Board direction to make a minor correction to the Chief of Operations/911 Coordinator Job Description.</p> <p>Director Post discussed a request from the White Salmon Valley Education Foundation to sponsor Career Day at Columbia High School. Annual sponsorships help expand services to students. Director Post noted she will be in attendance to promote County openings as well as the internship program. The Board expressed support and wants to provide sponsorships to both White Salmon and Goldendale, and to make sure surrounding school districts are invited to participate.</p> <p>HR Specialist KC Sheridan provided an overtime report and discussion followed regarding providing Volunteer Reserve Officers with a pension. Director Post stated she would like to form a committee, Commissioner Sizemore suggested possibly using an existing committee. The Board expressed their support noting it can be used as a recruitment tool.</p> <p>Brief discussion was held regarding approving a floating holiday for essential employees and administrative election employees who came in on days the County was closed due to inclement weather. The Board stated they wanted to be consistent with 2017.</p>

	<p>Director Post suggested adding a Full Time Public Records Officer position within the Human Resource Department for the purpose of managing public record requests.</p>
<p>Executive Session: To discuss the discipline of a public employee</p>	<p>At 11:14 AM Chairman Sauter announced that the Board would be convening into Executive Session with HR Director Post, HR Analyst Sheridan, Prosecutor Quesnel and Deputy Prosecutor Sells in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss the discipline of a public employee. Chairman Sauter noted that the Executive Session would be for five (5) minutes.</p> <p>The Board convened back to Regular Session at 11:19 AM. No action was taken.</p>
<p>Executive Session: To discuss potential litigation</p>	<p>At 11:19 AM Chairman Sauter announced that the Board would be convening into Executive Session with HR Director Post, HR Analyst Sheridan, Prosecutor Quesnel and Deputy Prosecutor Sells in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation. Chairman Sauter noted that the Executive Session would be for five (5) minutes.</p> <p>The Board convened back to Regular Session at 2:24 PM. No action was taken.</p>
	<p>Chairman Sauter reported that he has been asked to help set up a meeting between Klickitat County's State Legislators and school districts to discuss school funding issues.</p> <p>Following a brief discussion, Chairman Sauter suggested March 23rd as a possible meeting date.</p>
<p>Lunch Recess</p>	<p>The Board recessed for lunch at 11:43 AM.</p>
	<p>Call to Order/Roll Call:</p>
<p>Regular Meeting for Tuesday, March 12, 2019</p>	<p>Chairman David M. Sauter reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Commissioners present: Jim Sizemore, Rex F. Johnston and David Sauter.</p>
	<p>Agenda:</p>
<p>Business Agenda</p>	<p>Approved (M/Sizemore, S/Johnston. Passed unanimously): the Business Agenda with one add on under New Business.</p>
	<p>Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes</p>
<p>Approval of Meeting Minutes</p>	<p>* Approved (M/Johnston, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for February 19, 2019 as presented.</p>
	<p>Citizen Comment:</p>
<p>Comments will be limited to Seven (7) minutes per individual</p>	<p>Centerville resident Dan Christopher asked how the Supreme Court's Janus Decision is being implemented at the County. HR Director Post provided clarification regarding the Janus Decision, advising that union dues are not deducted from employee's paychecks unless they have a union card on file.</p>

	<p>Woodland Road resident Mike Goodpaster asked if the Board had an official position on I-1639. Chairman Sauter advised that the Board has not finished discussing the matter and there is another public meeting scheduled this evening in White Salmon to receive citizen comments.</p> <p>Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving provided an update on the Department of Ecology Litter Grant and the proposed Litter Supervisor position.</p> <p>Treasurer Greg Gallagher provided a brief overview of two (2) bills being considered by legislators that would eliminate late fees and penalties on delinquent taxes, advising that this would eliminate approximately \$500,000 in added revenue the County receives each year, and remove the incentive for tax payers to pay on time.</p>
<p>Request for Proposals: for the Solid Waste Management Plan Update</p>	<p>Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:</p> <p>* Proposals Forwarded (M/Sizemore, S/Johnston. Passed unanimously): to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for review and recommendation of two (2) proposals received for the Solid Waste Management Plan Update Project. Estimated project budget \$30,000 to \$50,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rick Hlavka/Green Solutions Orting, WA • Krista Allen/HDR Engineering Bellevue, WA
<p>Public Meeting: To consider approval of a 2-Lot Short Plat, SPL2018-24: Applicants: Charles Shuster & Catherine Bourgault</p>	<p>* Granted (M/Sizemore, S/Johnston. Passed unanimously): Approval of Short Plat No. SPL2018-24 to subdivide approximately 20,303 square foot into two (2) lots, and grant final approval; Applicants: Charles Shuster & Catherine Bourgault.</p> <p>Senior Planner Amanda Smeller reported that Short Plat No. SPL2018-24 is a proposal to subdivide an approximately 20,303 square foot lot into two (2) lots and noted that the proposal is located on Lot 1, Block 3 Omeg Heights Addition in Lyle.</p> <p>Ms. Smeller advised that an administrative review of the short plat has been completed and signatures have been obtained from the Road, Health and Planning Departments, and the Treasurer's Office attesting that all conditions attached to the preliminary approval have been met.</p>
	<p>Department Update</p>
<p>Solar Energy Project planning</p>	<p>Attendance: Assessor Crista Schroder, Treasurer Greg Gallagher, Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, Senior Planner Amanda Smeller and Centerville resident Dan Christopher.</p> <p>Assessor Crista Schroder reported that solar energy projects are considered personnel property and the value is determined by the engineering cost, freight and cost to make the facility operational.</p>

	<p>Assessor Schroder noted that the cost to construct is \$1 to \$2.5 million dollars per megawatt and 1 megawatt requires five (5) acres. Assessor Schroder advised that solar panels will change the use of the underlying property and it will no longer qualify for the Open Space Farm & Ag Program.</p> <p>Assessor Schroder stated that she has prepared a letter advising property owners with property in the Open Space Farm & Ag Program that properties leased for solar energy projects will be removed from the program.</p> <p>Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad advised from a planning point of view, if a proposed project is in the Energy Overlay Zone, Planning can issue the Environmental Impact Statement and the permit.</p> <p>Discussion followed regarding decommissioning plans for solar and wind projects. Treasurer Greg Gallagher stated that having a decommissioning plan is one of the conditions required for these types of projects, noting that wind project decommissioning plans are based on the cost of the scrap metal and there needs to be a different form of collateral for solar projects.</p> <p>Commissioner Sizemore commented that if the land is removed from the Open Space Farm & Ag Program he would like to see that the water right is saved within Klickitat County.</p> <p>Director Lindblad reported that the public hearing to consider the Husum Ranch Subdivision is scheduled for April 9th in White Salmon and that the Dallesport 60 lot housing development is out for SEPA review. Director Lindblad noted that the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to consider the housing development proposal in April.</p>
	<p>Consent Agenda:</p>
	<p>Approved (M/Johnston, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): the Consent Agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 1) Interlocal Funding Assistance Agreement (C03719) between Klickitat County and White Salmon Valley Pool Metropolitan Park District for the purpose of providing funding not to exceed \$50,000 to be used for cash flow and initial operating expenses pending receipt of tax revenues from the voter approved levy to begin April 2020, effective March 12, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019. * 2) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a full time, Union Mechanic position at Grade U1, Step 1, within the Public Works Department. * 3) Resolution No. 03119 in the matter of declaring Hart InterCivic Voting system equipment inventory as surplus and no longer needed by the County to be disposed of at the discretion of the County Auditor. * 4) Proclamation proclaiming the week of April 14 through 20, 2019 to be National Public Safety Telecommunicators week in Klickitat County, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our County and its citizens safe.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 5) Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement (C03819) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Cascade Right-of-Way Services, Inc. for On-Call Real Estate Services, effective March 1, 2019 and terminating December 31, 2020. * 6) Notice to contractors and scheduling a bid opening to be held April 2, 2019 at 1:30 PM for Klickitat County 2017 Safety Program Project, CRP 349. * 7) Maintenance Contract (C03919) between Klickitat County (Sheriff's Offices) and Crossmatch for the purpose of extending limited warranties or first year maintenance plans and provides purchaser with post-warranty remedies. * 8) Request from the Building Department for authorization for a temporary credit card limit increase from \$2,000 to \$3,000 to allow staff attendance at a training event. * 9) Schedule a public meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 1:30 PM to consider approval of Short Plat SPL 2018-16: Applicant: Cherry Trautwein & Mary Brenneman.
	<p>New Business:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Approved (M/Johnston, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): An Amendment to Klickitat County's submission to the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District's 2019 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy list of public works and technical assistance projects by adding the Goldendale Pump Storage Hydro Project.
<p>Meeting of the Klickitat County Public Corporation</p>	<p>At 2:11 PM Chairman Sauter recessed the Board of County Commissioners meeting to conduct a Klickitat County Public Corporation Meeting.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter reconvened the Board of County Commissioners meeting at 2:17 PM.</p>
	<p>Payment Approvals:</p>
<p>Voucher Certification and Approval</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Approved Warrants (M/Johnston, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): Accounts Payable: (#288069 - 288167; Accounts Payable #288168; Cancelled Warrants # 288074) for a net of \$223,842.15. <p>Combined Payroll: (#196770 -197045, County Benefit Warrants #288169-288178, Electronic Transfer #848) \$678,368.08.</p> <p>For a combined total of \$902,210.23 for the date ending March 11, 2019.</p>
	<p>Elected Official Report/Update:</p>
<p>Prosecuting Attorney's Update</p> <p>Executive Session: Discuss pending and potential litigation</p>	<p>Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel noted he had no items of a general nature for discussion in open session.</p> <p>At 2:25 PM Chairman Sauter announced that the Board would be convening into Executive Session with Prosecutor Quesnel in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for a pending litigation update. Chairman Sauter noted that the Executive Session would be for five (5) minutes. At 2:30 PM Chairman Sauter announced the Executive Session would be extended five (5) minutes.</p> <p>The Board convened back to Regular Session at 2:35 PM. No action was taken.</p>

<p>Adjournment (2:36 PM)</p>	<p>Approved (M/Johnston, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 6:00 PM this evening, for a Public Meeting for County residents to continue to comment on I-1639 to be held at the Pioneer Center in White Salmon. No workshops scheduled.</p>
<p>Regular Meeting Extension: for Tuesday, March 12, 2019</p>	<p>Call to Order/Roll Call</p> <p>Chairman Sauter reconvened the meeting at 6:00 PM. Commissioners present: Jim Sizemore Rex F. Johnston and David M. Sauter. Sheriff Bob Songer was also present.</p> <p>Attendance: There were approximately two hundred and forty-one (241) County residents present to provided comments.</p> <p>* The following is a synopsis of comments received. A sign-in sheet is on file as part of the official record. There were also numerous emails received on both sides of the issue.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter opened the meeting and laid out ground rules, advising that this is an extension of a citizen comment period to comment on I-1639. Chairman Sauter asked that everyone be respectful and asked those commenting to speak to the Commissioners with no applause or comments from the audience. Chairman Sauter stated that the Board wants to hear what is being said and he began calling on participants who had signed up to speak.</p> <p>Several men and women commented on the importance of being able to access their weapons to defend themselves and protect their families while living in remote rural locations, where law enforcement response could take 30 to 45 minutes.</p> <p>There were comments regarding following the rules and concerns about the Sheriff deciding which laws to follow and which not to, and potential liability to the County.</p> <p>A Trout Lake resident stated that the real issue is the role of the Sheriff, not I-1639 and that it is the role of the Commissioners to defuse and de-escalate the situation.</p> <p>A White Salmon resident commented that it is our responsibility to follow the laws that are voted in, we don't get to choose which laws to follow, and law enforcement needs to enforce the law and the Courts will determine whether I-1639 is a bad law.</p> <p>There were numerous comments in support of Sheriff Songer and concerns expressed about losing the right to bear arms and over I-1639's violation of HIPPA laws.</p> <p>One commenter urged the Commissioners to request that the Sheriff stop making statements and pointed out the rule of law and reminded that the Constitution has a process for challenging laws.</p> <p>A resident from Centerville commented on how our rights are slowly being infringed upon and a Goldendale resident read portions of the Constitution that voided I-1639.</p>

	<p>One individual stated that the law should be upheld and he encouraged the Commissioners to follow the law and to encourage the Sheriff to do the same.</p> <p>A statement from the Klickitat County Democrats to the Commissioners was presented, calling on the Commissioners to acknowledge I-1639 as properly enacted, to acknowledge the power of the Supreme Court to determine the validity and Constitutionality of statues, including I-1639, and calling on all elected officials to perform their duties as defined by the legislature. The statement also called on the Commissioners to take every step necessary to de-escalate the debate and support the rule of law of the County.</p> <p>A White Salmon resident pointed out that this is not a gun issue, it is a rule of law matter and noted that you are not liable if someone steals your weapon unless you don't report it stolen.</p> <p>Another White Salmon resident stated that the Sheriff does not show professionalism by speaking on what some consider right wing racist news programs.</p> <p>There were several comments asking for the Commissioners to support the Sheriff.</p> <p>A White Salmon teacher encouraged attendees to mentor children and to take a free mental health class to be able to spot someone that may be in a mental health crisis.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter asked if there was anyone who had not commented who would like to, hearing no response he stated that he understands concerns expressed on both sides. Chairman Sauter commended the attendees for their conduct, advising that the Board will continue to discuss the matter.</p>
Adjournment	There being no further comments the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.
	<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 3-12-19.</p>



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



4.02.2019

Date