

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, July 6, 2021**

Topic	Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition
	Call to Order/Roll Call
Morning Workshop Session – Tuesday, July 6, 2021	Chairman David M. Sauter called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob L. Anderson, and Dan Christopher.
	Workshop Session Agenda
Public Works/Road Department Update	<p>9:00 AM – Public Works Department Update</p> <p>Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via zoom.</p> <p>Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reported on items on the Consent Agenda for approval this afternoon; the annual striping contract; Old Mountain Road reconstruction, noting that if the Department of Natural Resources moves the forest areas into level 4 the road work will have to shut down, it is currently at level 3; Director Kelsey proceed with an update on the Roosevelt Drainage Repair Project and the Grant Funded Edge Line Project.</p> <p>Director Kelsey stated Design Engineer Seth Scarola in finalizing plans, details specifications, and the estimate for the Courtney Road Safety Project.</p> <p>An update was given on the east and west end crew’s projects, followed by an update on the Klickitat County Services Building and the new Courthouse Entry remodels.</p> <p>Director Kelsey reported they are working on the County Fairgrounds in preparation for the County Fair as well as installing the new Public Address (PA) System.</p> <p>Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the Radio System Project.</p> <p>Director Kelsey reported there will be a contract for shredding/recycling bins on the Consent Agenda in the coming weeks, the bins will be in the Courthouse Basement and are available for departments to use.</p> <p>Commissioner Anderson inquired about dust mitigation in the Husum area, Commissioner Christopher inquired about the recent theft increase of catalytic converters and the use of cameras in the area the County vehicles are kept; a discussion of installing water bottle filling stations in the Courthouse and the possibility of constructing a breakroom in the Courthouse once some of the offices have moved to the new building. Director Kelsey stated a new water line can be run into the Courthouse to supply the water bottle filling stations, the Board was in support.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter inquired about the power connection on Courtney Road and the possibility of running underground cables, followed by a brief discussion regarding the Public Utility District and the Gorge Scenic Area Application that will need to be sponsored.</p>

	<p>Chairman Sauter inquired about a citizen who needs assistance with an error in the County records recording septic on their property, a follow-up will be done with the Prosecuting Attorney and the Risk Manager.</p> <p>Commissioner Anderson inquired if there is a tractor the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport can use to mow the airport, Director Kelsey advised there is a rental rate for the County equipment and will follow up with more information.</p>
<p>Emergency Management Department Update</p>	<p>9:30 AM - Department Update/Report</p> <p>Attendance: Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Director Jeff King, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via zoom.</p> <p>Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Director Jeff King reported on the performance and functionality of the Public Safety Radio System; the maintenance; radio site lease agreements; the Klickitat Public Radio Project site upgrades, a staff update which was followed by a verbal request and approval to proceed with the advertisement process for a full-time Communications Officer Position.</p> <p>DEM Director King stated the summer intern started July 1st and is working specifically in 9-1-1.</p> <p>DEM Director King reported on staff training; department operations; the Mass Casualty Incident Plan Update Project; the Klickitat County Fire District Use Agreement Renewals; the COVID-19 Emergency Operation Center (EOC), noting he planning on demobilizing the remaining EOC staff and returning to an EOC level 1 monitoring status and recommends rescinding the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration(s) for the County and the three (3) cities.</p> <p>DEM Director King reported on the wildfires in the area, followed by stating the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System application to add Klickitat County is on hold due to staffing. Training and exercises are on hold until a new Emergency Management Program Coordinator is hired and onboard.</p> <p>DEM Director King reported on the Emergency Management Program Grants, followed by a discussion to ban fireworks in the future in Klickitat County.</p>
	<p>The Board of Commissioners will be touring the Emergency Management Department facility at 199 Industrial Way, Goldendale, WA. Note: the Emergency Management Center is not open to visitors at this time due to the vulnerability of staffing levels and any potential COVID-19 exposure or actual illness, which would compromise their ability to provide for public safety.</p>
<p>Lunch Recess</p>	<p>The Board recessed for lunch at 10:23 AM.</p>


	Call to Order/Roll Call:
Regular Meeting for Tuesday, July 6, 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.
	Agenda:
Business Agenda	Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): the Business Agenda with one (1) add-on under New Business.
	Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes
Approval of Meeting Minutes	* There were no meeting minutes for approval.
	Citizen Comment:
Comments will be limited to seven (7) minutes per individual	<p>C.E.A.S.E member Greg Wagner inquired about rescinding the moratorium on the Industrial/Commercial Solar Projects that require a Conditional Use Permit Process and was the moratorium rescinded due to the lithium-ion batteries being found unarmful, what were the findings of facts used to rescind the moratorium. Mr. Wagner inquired about the natural gas line that is heating the Klickitat County Service Building as well as inquired into why the steps are going to be heated around the County Buildings. Mr. Wagner stated the County is not being proactive, they are only reactive.</p> <p>Goldendale resident Kathy Moco thanked the Commissioners for installing the heated steps in the entrances and a heated walking path for the citizens, noting it is very proactive of the Commissioners to make the area safe. A brief discussion followed regarding the age of the steps, noting the funding for the improvements was provided from a grant.</p> <p>Resident Sheri Bousquet stated she is concerned about the division of Klickitat County based on Sheriff Songer's June 17th press release, Ms. Bousquet stated everyone agrees to following the Constitution itself. The Board referred Ms. Bousquet to the June 22nd Commissioner's Meeting video to review the footage of the Board's conversation regarding the Sheriff's press release.</p> <p>Resident Lynn Mason stated she is deeply concerned and is afraid of Sheriff Songer and this is beyond acceptable.</p> <p>Goldendale resident Ruby Irving inquired about the possibility of a speed bump placed on a blind corner at the bottom of a hill on Pine Forest and Cedar Valley Road.</p> <p>White Salmon resident Becky Miles requested confirmation the taxpayers of Klickitat County paid for the Sheriff's Office to attend the Chris Ann Hall training and was the training mandatory. Ms. Miles stated she called the Criminal Justice Training Center regarding the training. The Board advised the request was presented as continued education, the training was signed by the Board and they have no oversight on other elected official's offices.</p> <p>Klickitat County resident Susan Kelsey stated she received an email regarding Sheriff Bob Songer's press release and has also viewed the June 22nd Commissioner Meeting</p>

	<p>video in regards to the Board’s responses; Ms. Kelsey stated she is concerned with the comment to remove the jail from under Sheriff Bob Songer’s Office as well as the Posse. Ms. Kelsey inquired if continued conversations will be held in an open discussion. The Board advised they do not have a planned discussion regarding the oversight of the jail as of now.</p>
	<p>Unfinished Business:</p>
<p>Building Inspection and Code Compliance Director Lynn Ward: Proposed resolution to continue the suspension of abatement of nuisance complaints cases through December 31, 2021, to restructure the program.</p>	<p>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Resolution No. 07421 in the matter of suspension of the abatement of nuisance complaint cases through December 31, 2021, to restructure the program.</p> <p>Attendance: Building Inspection and Code Compliance Director Lynn Ward, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving, Chief Deputy Auditor Heather Jobe, Economic Development/Natural Resources Director Dave McClure, Susan Kelsey, Kathy Moco in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via zoom.</p> <p>Building Inspection and Code Compliance Director Lynn Ward inquired about what type of verbiage the resolution needs to rescind or extend the suspension of the abatement of nuisance complaint cases.</p> <p>The Board stated the current suspension resolution and will move forward with the resolution as proposed and restructure the program by December 31, 2021.</p>
<p>Request from the Natural Resource/Economic Development Director Dave McClure to allow him to carry over 100 vacation hours beyond the June 30, 2021, date; extending the deadline to December 31, 2021.</p>	<p>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Sauter. Passed two (2) to one (1), Commissioner Christopher objected): approval for the Natural Resources and Economic Development Director Dave McClure to extend the deadline to use the 100 hours of carried vacation time from June 30 to December 31, 2021.</p> <p>Attendance: Natural Resource/Economic Development Director Dave McClure, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving, Chief Deputy Auditor Heather Jobe in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via zoom.</p> <p>Prior to the motion, Natural Resources and Economic Development Director Dave McClure reviewed the hours of vacation that were carried over from 2020 into 2021 stating he has worked 172 hours of overtime in the first six (6) months of this year, and 169 of the hours were responding to Public Records Requests.</p> <p>Director McClure noted he has lost two employees and has been training the new Natural Resource Coordinator employee.</p> <p>The Board held a discussion regarding other employees who were granted vacation carryover hours and the equality between them, Commissioner Anderson stated other employees can be given the same grace, Chairman Sauter stated this is a year for grace and understands the extenuating circumstances, noting he would like to see all the employees use their vacation hours.</p>

<p>2022, Budget Discussion</p>	<p>Attendance: Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Auditor Brenda Sorensen, Chief Deputy Auditor Heather Jobe, Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving in the Chambers, Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley, various county employees, and residents via zoom.</p> <p>Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave stated the Auditor's Office has sent out the Budget requests and the 2022 budget discussion will begin this Thursday.</p> <p>Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley reported on expenditures and revenues in the General Fund.</p> <p>The Board inquired what sales tax increases are available as well as repurposing discretionary spending from added programs in Klickitat County that other counties do not fund.</p> <p>The Board requested a plan that covers many years into the future, noting a lot of breaks have been given as well as paying for quite a few extra programs.</p> <p>A request was asked to see the timber sales revenue and an overview of the impact of the sales tax is raised.</p>
<p>Miscellaneous Reports/Comments:</p>	
<p>Discussion regarding uncovered trash loads.</p>	<p>Attendance: Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via zoom.</p> <p>Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving reported on the amount of litter around the Dallesport transfer Station, noting the County has done the due diligence of cleaning roads in the area and removing the litter caused by the uncovered loads traveling to the transfer station. Director Irving stated a citizen has requested compensation for the death of a calf due to a plastic bag.</p> <p>Director Irving reported on a cargo net event that was hosted in Klickitat County this past month to promote the "Secure Your Load" campaign. Director Irving stated she will provide the data from before and after the event.</p> <p>Director Irving stated the County has a \$5 fee for unsecured loads and Republic has not imposed the fee, a brief discussion followed regarding the Republic's contract with Klickitat County.</p> <p>Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel advised this is not a County issue, followed by a discussion of the need for a wind fence at the Dallesport Transfer Station site.</p> <p>The Board advised Director Irving to provide the information to the Prosecuting Attorney and advise the citizen to file a claim with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.</p>

	<p>Consent Agenda:</p> <p>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): the Consent Agenda with six (6) items.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 1) Klickitat County Historic Preservation Grant Agreement(s) granting funds for Historic Preservation Alder Creek Pioneer Association (Carousel Museum) (C13821), Twin Bridges Historical Museum (C13921), and Mountain View Cemetery of Goldendale (C14021). * 2) Request from the Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for submission of the 2020 Title VI Non-Discrimination Annual Accomplishment and Update Report which was established under the Klickitat County Title VI Program Implementation Plan Agreement (C02006). * 3) Personnel Authorization to advertise for a Casual Emergency Management Program Coordinator position at Grade 38, Steps 1-3 (\$20.81-\$22.07 per hour) depending on qualifications within the Department of Emergency Management. * 4) Amendment No. 6 (C14121) to Task Order 19 issued under Aspect Consulting Contract C05309 between Aspect Consulting and Klickitat County (Natural Resources Department) to extend the completion date from June 30, 2021, to December 31, 2021. * 5) Amendment No. 3 (C14221) to Water Resources Columbia River Basin Water Management Agreement WROCR-VER1-KICNRD-001 between The Washington State Department of Ecology and Klickitat County (Natural Resource Department) requesting an extension of time, the addition of \$120,000.00 budget, and updates to the scope of work and deliverable schedule. With this amendment, Task 2, 3, and 4 deliverable due dates have been updated. All other terms and conditions of the original contract and any subsequent amendments remain in full force and effect. * 6) Memorandum from the Planning Department scheduling a public meeting to be held Tuesday, July 13, 2021, at 1:30 PM, to consider approval of Boundary Line Adjustment BLA 2021-04, Parcel No.'s 05-17-2956-0003/00 and 05-17-2965-0003/00 within the Goldendale vicinity. Applicants: Michael and Nicole Ross.
<p>Voucher Certification and Approval</p>	<p>Payment Approvals:</p> <p>* Approved Warrants (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously):</p> <p>Accounts Payable: (#306805 – 306852), \$79,891.20.</p> <p>For the date ending July 6, 2021.</p> <p>There were no Payroll warrants requiring approval.</p>
	<p>New Business:</p> <p>Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): Agreement between Avidex Industries, LLC and Klickitat County (Human Resource/Administrative Services Department) to install and maintain the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room Audio and Visual system; at the cost of \$80,500.00. This agreement is executed upon signature</p>

<p>Issues as determined by the Board of Commissioners</p>	<p>Board Pending:</p> <p>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Ordinance No. O070621 an ordinance of Klickitat County, Washington relating to Land Use and Zoning; lifting the moratorium on Commercial/Industrial Solar Projects subject to a Conditional Use Permit Process.</p> <p>Prior to the motion, the Board held a discussion regarding the wording in section 1.6, Commissioner Christopher stated he does not believe the County has adequate ordinances or regulations and can't get behind signing the ordinance unless the language is modified.</p> <p>Commissioner Christopher stated the Goldendale Fire Department is requesting \$225,000 from the County and \$225,000 from the City for a new ladder truck, a discussion followed regarding the specifics of the Klickitat County Building height that was outlined in the permitting process and the need for a new ladder truck in not being caused by the new Klickitat County Service Building height.</p> <p>The Board held a discussion regarding the Regional Economic Development Summit project, followed by Natural Resource /Economic Development Director Dave McClure advising of the various funding sources to fund the different projects and the use of the Community Development Funds versus the .09 funds.</p> <p>Commissioner Anderson reported on his recent radio interview and stated he is going to continue working with the Yakama Nation regarding the Tract D area in Glenwood.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter reported he will be visiting the Wishram housing development project and will meet with the school and the fire district. Chairman Sauter advised there will be 21 out of the 42 houses in the development are permitted and under construction.</p>
<p>Prosecuting Attorney's Update</p>	<p>Elected Official Report/Update:</p> <p>Attendance: Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, various county employees, and residents via zoom.</p> <p>Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel requested and received verbal approval to proceed with the advertising process of a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney I, steps 1 through 5.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.</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 online labeled Board of County Commissioner's Meeting 7.06.2021.</p>



Approved: Jacob L. Anderson
Vice - Chairman of the Board



August 3, 2021
Date