

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, January 14, 2020**

Topic	Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition
	Call to Order/Roll Call
Morning Workshop Session – Tuesday, January 14, 2020	Chairman Rex F. Johnston called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jim Sizemore and Rex F. Johnston.
	Workshop Session Agenda
Legislative update	<p>Prior to the legislative update County resident John Miller reported on the progress made to rename a segment of U.S. Highway 97 within Klickitat County in honor of World War II Veterans who served the citizens of Klickitat County and the Nation.</p> <p>The Board convened into a legislative update with Jim Potts and Zak Kennedy (via teleconference).</p> <p>Mr. Potts and Mr. Kennedy provided an update on gun legislation; proposed new bills regarding water; Native American Tribes, housing and the homelessness crisis. A discussion was held about the cost of medical treatment to incarcerated inmates, followed by questions from the Board about the County’s Timber Trust Lands and the revenue.</p>
Public Works/Road Department Update	<p>9:45 AM – Public Works Department Update</p> <p>Attendance: Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Public Works Deputy Finance Director Susan Gregson, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel and resident Dan Christopher.</p> <p>Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reviewed Consent agenda items; payment approvals; the Courtney Road permitting issues, the right-of-way acquisition notice and noted the Engineers are preparing a storm-water plan and report.</p> <p>The east and west end crew’s maintenance projects were discussed and Deputy Director Hunter stated they are responding to winter situations as needed.</p> <p>A discussion was held regarding the new County Services Building, followed by a request and approval to begin the advertising process to fill a Building and Grounds Maintenance Technician position.</p> <p>Commissioner Sizemore asked about any damage from the recent wet weather in the High Prairie area; Commissioner Sauter stated he attended the Snowden Community Council Meeting and extended a thank you to the Public Works Road Crew for their hard work during the recent snowstorm from the Snowden residents.</p> <p>The Board stated with the Public Works Director’s recent obligations and constraints on time the road standard discussion schedule for next week will be rescheduled.</p>

<p>Emergency Management Department Update</p>	<p>10:15 AM – Department Update/Report:</p> <p>Attendance: Emergency Management Director Jeff King, Emergency Management’s Chief of Operations Julie Buck, Accounting/Clerical Administrative Assistant Randi Heinzen, Lead Communications Officer Filiberto Ontiveros, Under Sheriff Mike Kallio, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Klickitat County Public Utility District Commissioner Doug Miller and resident Dan Christopher.</p> <p>Emergency Management Director King provided updates on the Radio System, noting the emergency repairs for the Stacker Butte Microwave Antenna are underway.</p> <p>Director King requested and received verbal to proceed with an amateur radio emergency services communication system that is a digital mobile radio system placed at 5 or more county sites.</p> <p>E911 Chief of Operations Julie Buck reported on staffing levels and call volumes for the month as well as the year, Chief of Operations Buck requested and received verbal approval to proceed with the advertising process to fill a second Casual Communications Officer position.</p> <p>Director King provided updates on upcoming training; 9-1-1 outages; the radio console update, the audio recorder refresh and the recent dispatch and radio system user group meetings.</p>
<p>Klickitat Public Utility District No. 1 Joint Meeting and Quarterly Project Update</p>	<p>11:00 AM Miscellaneous Reports:</p> <p>Attendance: Klickitat County Public Utility District No. 1 (PUD) Commissioner Doug Miller, Information Technology & Budget Director Glen Chipman, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel and resident Dan Christopher.</p> <p>Klickitat County PUD Commissioner Doug Miller reported on the Governor’s continued interest in the Renewable Portfolio Standard, I-937, which mandated that 15% of Washington's electricity come from renewable energy sources, including wind, tidal, biomass and solar</p> <p>PUD Commissioner Miller stated there is a rate hearing this afternoon regarding the renewable resource rebate for residents producing energy.</p> <p>A discussion was held about the Tribal Housing Project in Wishram and the infrastructure that exists in the area, followed by a brief review of the water and sewer connection fees.</p>
<p>Lunch Recess</p>	<p>The Board recessed for lunch at 11:27 AM.</p>
<p></p>	<p>Call to Order/Roll Call:</p>
<p>Regular Meeting for Tuesday, January 14, 2020</p>	<p>Chairman Johnston reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jim Sizemore and Rex F. Johnston.</p>

		Agenda:
Business Agenda		Approved (M/Sauter, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): the Business Agenda as presented, noting that there would be an Executive Session later in the afternoon to discuss the discipline of a public employee, which was requested by the Human Resources Department.
		Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes
Approval of Meeting Minutes	*	Approved (M/Sizemore, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2019, and December 24, 2019, as presented.
		Citizen Comment:
Comments will be limited to seven (7) minutes per individual		<p>The Commissioner's Clerk of the Board Lee Snell advised that the Veterans Advisory Board has discussed bringing forth a proposal to add a day for the Veterans Service Officer services in White Salmon. An update and review of various contracts and letters of support related to funding requests followed.</p> <p>The Board discussed the proposed tribal housing located in Klickitat County.</p> <p>A discussion followed regarding Thursday's workshop to discuss the nuisance abatement process and code compliance enforcement. Commissioner Sizemore indicated he was interested in knowing how other counties enforce their code compliance violations.</p> <p>Old Mountain Road area resident Lee Snell expressed concerns related to an unpermitted gun range and the property owner's disregard for public safety, his neighbors and county rules and requirements.</p> <p>Prosecutor David Quesnel advised that an infraction was issued to the property owner for the code violation, but the proper procedure was not followed and the case dismissed. The Board noted the means are available to enforce code violations and indicated they would continue the discussion during the workshop.</p>
		New Business:
Cemetery District No. 1 Commissioner appointment		Approved (M/Sauter, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): the appointment of Greg Holtman as the Cemetery District No. 1 Commissioner, filling Position No. 2, effective immediately. Mr. Holtman will be required to officially file for this position in May 2021, if it is his intent to be included on the ballot for election to complete the remainder of the unexpired term.
		Consent Agenda:
	*	Approved (M/Sizemore, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): the Consent Agenda with eleven (9) items.
	*	1) Resolution No. 00420 in the matter of revising the Auditor's Office Organizational Chart to reflect the new classifications of Chief Accountant position, Grade 74, new job description and revising the chain of command structure and the promotion of the Chief Accountant classification at Grade 74, effective December 1, 2019.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 2) Memorandum of Understanding (C00620) between the cities of Goldendale, White Salmon and Bingen, and Klickitat County to implement SHB 1046. The general agreement between the parties is to maximize funds available through the sales and use tax dedicated to housing, which is for Klickitat County to implement the tax countywide and not the three cities independently. * 3) Interlocal Funding Assistance Agreement (C00720) between Klickitat County and Washington Gorge Action Programs granting funds of \$4,500 to support the first regional Gorge Youth Prevention Summit planned for April 28, 2020. * 4) Letters and Resolution No. 00520 in the matter of appointing members to the Klickitat County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee to serve one (1) year terms, expiring May 31, 2020. * 5) Settlement Agreement (C00820) between Charles Miles and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for right-of-way along Long Road. * 6) Settlement Agreement (C00920) between Linda Nelson and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for right-of-way along Long Road. * 7) Resolution No. 00620 in the matter of waving the competitive bidding process for moving Klickitat County fiber lines in association with the Klickitat County Services Building project. * 8) Contract (C01020) for Professional Engineering Services between Klickitat County (Emergency Management) and ADCOMM to provide emergency repairs of the microwave antenna at Stacker Butte Radio Site. * 9) Resolution No. 00720 in the matter of approving the Travel Reimbursement Guidelines and Rates, effective January 1, 2020.
	Payment Approvals:
Voucher Certification and Approval	<p>* Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously):</p> <p>Accounts Payable: (#295627 – 295723) for 2019 AP Warrants \$128,219.08 and (#295724-295768) for 2020 AP Warrants \$178,700.25.</p> <p>Combined Payroll: (#203807 – 204081, County Benefit Warrants #295618 - 295626, and Electronic Transfer #878) \$998,081.33.</p> <p>For a combined total of \$1,305,000.66 for the date ending January 14, 2020.</p>
Pay Estimate Payment	<p>* Approved (M/Sauter, S/Sizemore. Passed unanimously): Pay Estimate No. 1 to All Season Heating and Air Conditioning, for the Exhibit Hall HVAC System, in the amount of \$22,274.73, which includes sales tax.</p>
	Annual Performance Evaluation
Executive Session: Annual performance evaluation of a public employee	<p>At 1:35 PM Chairman Rex F. Johnston announced that the Board would be convening into Executive Session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1) (g) to conduct an annual performance evaluation of a public employee. Chairman Johnston noted that the session would last ten (10) minutes. At 1:45 PM it was announced the Executive Session would be extended five (5) minutes.</p> <p>The Board convened back into Regular Session at 1:50 PM.</p>

<p>Executive Session: Discuss discipline of a public employee</p>	<p>At 1:51 PM Chairman Johnston announced that the Board would be convening into Executive Session with Human Resource Specialist KC Sheridan and Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss the discipline of a public employee. Chairman Johnston noted that the session would last for five (5) minutes.</p> <p>The Board convened back to Regular Session at 1:56 PM. No action was taken.</p>
<p>Elected Official Report/Update:</p>	
<p>Prosecuting Attorney's Update: Executive Session: Discuss pending and potential litigation</p>	<p>At 2:04 PM Chairman Johnston 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 and potential litigation update. Chairman Johnston noted that the Executive Session would be for five (5) minutes.</p> <p>The Board reconvened back to Regular Session at 2:09 PM. No action was taken.</p>
<p>Board Pending:</p>	
<p>Issues as determined by the Board of Commissioners</p>	<p>* Board correspondence noted for the Record: Letters to Senator Curtis King and Representative Chris Corry; expressing support for the "Klickitat County Domestic Violence Shelter" capital budget-funding request from Washington Gorge Action Programs' Programs for Peaceful Living.</p>
<p>Adjournment (2:25 PM)</p>	<p>Approved (M/Sizemore, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 1:15 PM on Thursday, January 16, 2020.</p>
<p>Call to Order/Roll Call</p>	
<p>Regular Meeting Extension: Workshop Session for Thursday, January 16, 2020</p>	<p>Chairman Rex F. Johnston reconvened the meeting at 1:15 PM. All three (3) Commissioners were present. Attendance: Building Inspection and Code Compliance Director Lynn Ward, Code Compliance Officer Frank Hewey, Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving, Litter Crew Supervisor Lori Niva and County residents Kevin Barry, Rick Graves, Dan Christopher, Max McGuire, KC Sweeny and three (3) other members of the public.</p>
<p>Workshop Session Agenda</p>	
<p>1:15 PM</p>	<p>Follow up and review of research/discussions regarding nuisance abatement process and code compliance enforcement.</p> <p>Director Ward advised that the Code Compliance and Nuisance Enforcement/Abatement Program needs to be updated and she is seeking guidance from the Board on how to proceed. Director Ward noted that the Building Department sought feedback from other Washington counties and cities on how they manage nuisance and code enforcement.</p>

Director Ward laid out four (4) options for discussion, which included: 1) to leave the program as is, 2) revise the Code Compliance Officer's role to become the facilitator who oversees complaints as each relevant department addresses complaints and violations, 3) each department would be responsible for overseeing and managing complaints and violation specific to their departments, i.e. zoning violation – Planning, road issues – Public Works, sewer/water compliance – Public Health, and 4) the final options to eliminate the Code Compliance and Nuisance Enforcement/Abatement Program.

Discussion concerning options followed, with the Board, indicating the need to have improvements and they are not supportive of eliminating the program.

Discussion continued regarding transient/short-term rentals. Director Ward advised that the majority of the properties do not meet building or zoning codes, and property owners are willing to pay fines and continue to rent their properties.

Compliance Officer Hewy stated that 80% of property owners are not aware they are in violation and fix the issue right away, while the other 20% are blatantly defiant with no regard for state or county requirements, or their neighbors.

The Board noted there seems to be a lot more complaints then there used to be. Director Ward indicated an increase in population on the west-end of the County that accounts for the majority of complaints.

Commissioner Sizemore stated there should be legal recourse, someone should not get a pass on doing things wrong by ignoring rules. Commissioner Sauter stated individuals need to comply with the rules if they are making a profit, it is not fair if you are profiting from breaking the rules.

Mr. Graves stated that most properties that he has developed have CC&R's and when there is a violation of the rules it is a civil matter and up to the homeowners association to deal with the issue, not the county.

Mr. Barry commented that most developments do not have CC&R's and if the County is not going to enforce the rules, do not adopt them. The County Government has a responsibility to enforce. Mr. Barry stated that after 43 years in county government with six (6) counties; Klickitat County handles this matter better.

County resident KC Sweeney stated the County needs to address unpermitted Airbnb's, noting they are going to get worse. Mr. McGuire commented on a neighbor that has two (2) yurts on his property and residential zoning only allows one (1) residence per lot.

The Discussion shifted to tiny homes. Mr. Graves commented that there will be more and more and the County will need to address this and develop an ordinance.

	<p>The Board discussed the merits of developing a County business license. Mr. Barry suggested bringing back Director Complaints, which allows a director to start a compliance case if they witness a violation.</p> <p>Mr. McGuire stated, as a deterrent to not following the rules, fines for violation should be made more severe.</p> <p>Chairman Johnston asked how the County is going to put teeth or power into current requirements. Commissioners Sauter and Sizemore indicated they are not convinced the County does not have the capability now.</p> <p>A member of the public suggested the County should refine alternatives and consequences for code violations.</p> <p>Commissioner Sauter stated that he would like to discuss State business license requirements further with the Prosecutors office and volunteered to research the matter further and report to the board.</p> <p>Officer Hewey advised that the County does receive lodging taxes from Airbnb rentals. Director Ward reminded, code compliance is a bigger picture than the current discussion.</p> <p>Following further discussion, Chairman Johnston noted that the Board would schedule a future workshop to continue the discussion, following additional research.</p>
Adjournment	There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 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 1-14-20.</p>



Approved: **Rex F. Johnston**
Chairman of the Board



January 28, 2020
Date