

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, January 25, 2022**

Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jacob Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob Anderson, and Dan Christopher via Zoom

Workshop Session Agenda

9:30 AM - Legislative update:

Attendance: Natural Resource/ Economic Development Director Dave McClure in the Chambers, Lobbyist Zak Kennedy, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Lobbyist Zak Kennedy reported on the State of Emergency Bill being discussed later this week, and the potential issues with Bill 5843, regarding election results. Voter Information and Clean Car Bills were reported.

Lobbyist Zak Kennedy on the veto the Governor has done on Bills that Republicans worked on with Democrats and the concern, followed by an update on 1921, regarding the Payment in Lieu of Taxes bill for Renewable Energy and Bill 1722, regarding micro trenching.

A discussion was held regarding the riparian protection and restoration bill, House Bill (HB) 1838, and the uniformity in opposition from almost every county in the state.

Natural Resource/ Economic Development Director Dave McClure inquired about the status of tax incentive bills HB 1846 and Senate Bill (SB) 5262, SB 5414. Mr. Kennedy stated that he will follow up. Director McClure requested direction from the commissioners regarding drafting comments on HB 1838 and was directed to wait to see if the bill makes it out of committee by the cutoff date.

Chairman Anderson inquired about SB 5901, a discussion was held about the large distribution centers being constructed, followed by questions and answers about the Governor's ability to declare an emergency and the time allowed to declare the emergency.

Commissioner Christopher reported on his testimony regarding SB 1871, about enacting a moratorium on the Energy Facility Siting Council processing solar project applications until further review can be done.

10:00 AM – Public Works/Road Department Update:

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Citizen Lori Zoller in the Chambers, various county employees, and County residents participating via Zoom.

Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reported on items on this afternoon's agenda, noting the bid opening for Courtney Road and the funding received from Senator King.

Director Kelsey reported on the proposal for a Klickitat County Services Building dedication, followed by the State Auditor's Exit Recommendations for the County's Equipment Rental and Replacement Policy, stating the State Auditor's report was incorrect and the Public Works Department has reviewed and updated the rates on an annual basis per the RCW requirements.

Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the proposal to construct a sidewalk in Lyle along State Route 14, noting there may be legislative appropriation options, Deputy Director Hunter advised on proceeding with the paperwork and submitting it to the State in phases, phase one would add the sidewalks and vehicle

parking; phase two would lower the speed limit, extend the sidewalks to Old Highway 8 and construct a roundabout; phase three would build a trail from the roundabout to the Lyle Sandbar. Commissioner Sauter stated he is in favor of submitting the project. The Board agreed to submit the request.

Director Kelsey stated in 2012, the County, the Port and the City of Bingen began looking at options to provide safe, uninterrupted access to the Port of Klickitat in Bingen, Public Works had prepared the estimate in 2013, since then the Washington State Department of Transportation was assigned the project and the progress has been very slow, Director Kelsey requested the Board hold a discussion with Senator Curtis King regarding moving the project forward.

Director Kelsey reported on staff levels, followed by an inquiry from Chairman Anderson about Road Haul Agreements and the funding received for road repairs, noting actual county dollars are very minimal. A discussion regarding Middle Road followed, noting that the maintenance cost, repairs, and the inspector's oversight are paid for by the project company, not the County.

Public Works Deputy Director Hunter requested a temporary employee in Bickleton be hired as a full-time employee, followed by a discussion of the roof in the Jail.

10:30 AM – Elected Official Report/Update: Auditor Brenda Sorensen

Attendance: Auditor Brenda Sorensen in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Auditor Brenda Sorensen reported on the elections taking place at this time and the voter pamphlets received to date.

Auditor Sorensen reported she is in contact with the State Auditor regarding the error they reported in Public Works, followed by an update on activities in the Recording Office and the Veterans Officer.

A brief discussion was held about the Lodging Tax Revenue and the applications received and reviewed yesterday by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

10:45 AM Department Update/Report: Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving.

Attendance: Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving, Recycling Program Coordinator Michelle Mulrony in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving reported on the Litter Crew Program stating there were 19 Illegal Dumps sites, 57.6 Miles of roads were cleaned, 4,295 pounds, 25 pounds of illegal dump waste were collected in District 1; 1,180 pounds of illegal dump waste, 1,625 pounds of litter and 30 pounds of recycling in District 2; 600 pounds of illegal dump waste, 825 pounds of litter and 10 pounds of recycling in District 3.

Recycling Program Coordinator Michelle Mulrony reported on the promotion of the Litter Gitter Team program to get community and school involvement in hosting their litter pickup events by providing kits with the tools needed, followed by stating they are preparing for spring events.

Solid Waste Director Irving reported on legislation that is of concern, noting she is opposed to Senate Bill 5857, which is Dedicating funding from Model Toxics Control Act, followed by additional bills regarding plastic bags that will most likely pass through.

Solid Waste Director Irving stated she had an Operations meeting with Republic yesterday to discuss their recovery plan, a discussion followed about the Republic Garbage pick-up schedule and the hours of the Transfer Stations, noting they are limited due to the volume of trash they are receiving and the lack of drivers to remove full bins.

Solid Waste Director Irving advised they have been forwarding complaints to Republic Services and they are working on a solution for communication as well as a suggestion that was made for Republic Service to conduct a public survey for residents to resolve some frustrations on Klickitat County residents.

A quarter-four payment report was provided.

A discussion was held about the White Salmon Valley Pool funding, Commissioner Sauter advised the County provided funding for the Goldendale and White Salmon Pools, and the City of White Salmon used the funding for the water system improvements.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): The Board recessed for lunch at 11:14 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Anderson reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM; Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob Anderson, and Dan Christopher via Zoom.

Agenda:

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): The Business Agenda as presented.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** the two (2) amendments to December 07, 2021, on page 2 reflecting the addition on the wording "Two (2) add-ons under new business", and on-page five (5) reflecting the addition of Resolution No. 12421-1, the resolution was listed without a number before correction.

Citizen Comment: Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per individual

Sheri Bousquet presented a karaoke machine to the Commissioner's for the use of the microphone, followed by a request to provide closed captioning and for the Board to use the microphone. Ms. Bousquet inquired about more information about the public records request.

Vern Harpole representing the Lyle Community, thanked Clerk of the Board Lee Snell for sending the resolution, followed by an update on the status of the title of the Lyle Sand Point, and inquired about who in the County to contact for further information about records regarding the ownership of the land.

Steve Glass inquired about the sound system and requested the Commissioner's and speakers lower their masks when speaking.

White Salmon resident Lisa Evans reviewed her comments from last week regarding the test scores being required on the local schools, clarifying they were not meant to be an attack on the County but to bring awareness to the situation. Possibly something can be done locally to improve the learning situation in the schools.

Elaine Harvey reported on solar projects in the area and stated the best management practices are not established and there are no checks and balances, Ms. Harvey stated concerns with the projects that could be brought into Klickitat County.

Greg Wagner reviewed the guidelines for the Lund Hill Solar Projects, followed by statements about the Payment in Lieu of Taxes for the Solar projects, and the Road Haul Agreement payments.

Tracy Wixman thanked the Commissioner for entertaining the idea of adding sidewalks to Lyle and inquired about the First Responders Bill in Legislation right now.

Board Comment Period: Commissioner Christopher responded to Mr. Glass and stated he is agreeance to lowering the masks when the speaker is speaking but cannot require the speaker to do so; advised that he testified In favor of SB 1871, enacting a moratorium on the state Energy Facility Siting Council processing solar project applications until a study can be done.and stated he did not take the comments Ms. Evans made last week as an attack on the Board.

Commissioner Sauter inquired if there is a way to continue the closed captioning and we will continue if the system allows and apologized for the sound system, noting the mechanics to fix it are not here and delayed due to the shipping delays all States are experiencing. Commissioner Sauter advised he did not take Ms. Evans comments as an attack on the Board and was not surprised to see the low scores with the amount of school the children have missed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, followed by advisements on the Road Haul Agreement with the Lund Hill Solar projects, noting they are all updated and being followed as written.

Chairman Anderson agreed with the statements made followed by a recommendation from Commissioner Christopher to not use the microphone due to the inability to verify the software or compatibility with our professional sound system.

Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings - Bid Opening for the Courtney Road Project, CRP 342 & 343

• James Dean Construction	White Salmon, WA	A \$6,498,909.52 B \$1.07
• Granite Construction	Vancouver, WA	A \$7,149,998.93 B \$1.07
• Crestline Construction	The Dalles, OR	A \$9,100,873.20 B \$1.07

***Bids Forwarded (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** to the Public Works Department for review and recommendation of three (3) bids received for the Courtney Road Project, CRP 342 & 343 which are improvements of 4.32 miles by clearing and grubbing, improvements to horizontal and vertical alignments, installing drainage and stormwater facilities, crushed surfacing, HMA, fencing, permanent signing, and other work, all in accordance with the Contract Plans, Contract Provisions, and the Standard Specifications. Engineer's Estimate: \$6,377,000.00.

Department Update/Report: Public Health Director Erinn Quinn

Attendance: Public Health Clerical Administrative Assistant Mackenzie Coleman, Resident Steve Glass in the Chambers, Public Health Director Erinn Quinn various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Health Director Erinn Quinn reported on the clinical services November through December 2021, a Woman Infant and Children client report was given, an immunization outreach dose report was provided; the Family Planning services; Perinatal Mental Health and the Naloxone Program.

An Environmental Health update was provided about the water lab and food safety, followed by a report about the continuation in working with Skamania County for Environmental Health purposes.

Director Quinn advised of an upcoming opening for a nurse position and requested the Board reinstate expired Board of Health Member Sue Pennington.

A discussion was held about the use of the Naloxone shot and the availability of the medicine at both the White Salmon and Goldendale offices by request.

Commissioner Christopher thanked Director Quinn for the specification in her report, noting the west and east side are listed and it's appreciated.

Commissioner Sauter thanked Director Quinn and supported the reappointment of previous Board of Health Member Sue Pennington, noting the importance of not leaving the position vacant until the legislation process is finished and adopted.

Commissioner Christopher stated his opposition to the appointment of Ms. Pennington as an interim member until July 1, 2022, noting the new legislation expresses the need for diversity on the Board of Health.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Anderson): to appoint Sue Pennington as an interim Board of Health Member until July 1, 2022, noting Commissioner Christopher is opposed.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher): to recess the County Commissioner’s Meeting at 2:00 PM for the Board of Health Meeting, and resumed at 3:00 PM

Consent Agenda:

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): The Consent Agenda with ten (10) items.

- 1) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a Clerical Administrative Assistant I, II, or III position at Grade 34 to 36, Steps 1-3, (\$17.13 to \$20.40 per hour), depending on qualifications, within the Assessor.
- 2) Memorandum from Planning Scheduling a Public Meeting Tuesday, February 1st, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. for the consideration for an additional 6-month 2nd extension to complete all conditions of approval for Short Plat SPL2019-23. Applicant: Kinzey’s Country Place, LLC (Doug Kinzey).
- 3) Amendment No. 1 to (C20021) (**C01122**) between Mindi Brandt and Klickitat County (Public Health Department) for the purpose of changing the contract name of Mindi Brandt to Mindi Guzman.
- 4) Professional Services Agreement (**C01222**) between Oregon Health and Science University and Klickitat County (Public Health Department) for the purpose of supporting the Perinatal Mental Health Program as requested to meet the deliverables of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families contract. Project initiation was on July 1, 2021, and will end on June 30, 2022.
- 5) An alternative work schedule for the Landfill Compliance Officer (Joe Johnson) within the Solid Waste Department for a flexible work schedule; four-10-hour days per week, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM; and for the Solid Waste Director (Ruby Irving), Monday through Thursday, 6:00 AM to 4:30 PM.
- 6) Resolutions in the matter of improving; **No. 00722** Rock Creek, **No. 00822** Old 8 Bridge, CRP 363; **No. 00922** Finn Ridge Road, CRP 364; **No. 01022** Snowden Road, CRP 365; **No. 01122** Glenwood Main St. Bridge, CRP 366; **No. 01222** Adams Loop Drainage, CRP 367; **No. 01322** White Plastic Edge Line, CRP 368; **No. 01422** Data Collection, CRP 369; **No. 01522** Slope Flattening and or Guardrail, CRP 370; **No. 01622** Curve Warning Signs and Guideposts, CRP 371.
- 7) Authorization of Chair signature for the Digital Submittal Certification for the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) for 2022 Road Levy Certification.
- 8) Request to publish Notice of Planned County Force Work, notice is hereby given in accordance with RCW 36.77.070, that the County intends to use County Force labor on Old Mountain Road and the Klickitat Multi Use Trail; the projects and estimated costs are included on the adopted 2022, Annual Road Plan in the amount of \$210,000.
- 9) Washington State Department of Transportation Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the Washington State Department of Transportation for the purpose of obligating Federal Funds for the Courtney Road Project in the amount of \$1,500,000 – Courtney Road Project, CRP 342 & 343.
- 10) Local Programs State Funding Agreement (**C01322**) between the Washington State Department of Transportation and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the purpose of providing funds to be used during the construction phase of the Courtney Road Project, in the amount of \$1,500,000.

Payment Approvals:

Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Pay Estimate No. 4 to Interstate Concrete & Asphalt, Co. dba. in the amount of \$297,264.28, for the Roosevelt Grade Road Overlay Project.

Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):

Accounts Payable Warrants for 2021, (#311387-311476), in the amount of \$610,725.93, for the date ending January 24, 2021.

There were no Payroll warrants requiring approval.

Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):

Accounts Payable Warrants for 2022, (#311486-311534), in the amount of \$66,080.17, Direct Deposit, (#952) \$3,143.63, for a total of \$69, 223.80.

Accounts Payable for 2022, Payroll Warrants: (#226680 – 226942), Combined Payroll, (#311477 – 311485), Electronic Transfer (#951), in the amount of \$1,102,363.77.

For a combined total of \$1,171,587.57, for the date ending January 25, 2022.

Board Pending - Issues as determined by the Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Christopher inquired about the parking in the front of the Klickitat County Services Building noting there is not very much handicap parking, a discussion will follow at a later time.

A discussion was held about employees returning to work after having time off from a COVID-19 diagnosis.

Commissioner Sauter reported on meetings held with the Yakama Tribe Fisheries Department regarding access to the Lyle Sandbar, as well as the research being conducted by Mr. Harpole as to records regarding the legal ownership and previous sale of the Lyle Sandbar.

Commissioner Sauter stated the Committee working on the Lyle Sand Bar access would like to come and present to the Board in the near future, followed by a discussion of the rivers in the area dredging the mouth of the rivers.

Elected Official – Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel

Attendance: in the Chambers, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

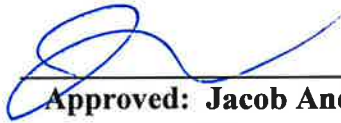
Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel reported on recent trial verdicts, followed by the upcoming trial schedule and the Blake Decision impact.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel briefly reported on legislation changes and a staff update.

Clarification was provided regarding the advisement of the Commissioner's to not unmask while speaking in a public forum.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 PM.

* Reference Document on File 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 Board of County Commissioners Meeting 1-25-2022.


Approved: **Jacob Anderson**

Chairman of the Board



2.22.2022
Date