

Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jacob L. Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob L. Anderson, and Dan Christopher.

Workshop Session Agenda

10:00 AM – Public Works Department Update

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Building Department Director Lynn Ward in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reported on Consent Agenda Items for approval this afternoon, the construction program projects, and the Road Designs projects that the designers are working on, noting the funding authorization has been received and permission was granted from the State to award the Courtney Road Safety Project from the Washington State Department of Transportation at the end of last week.

An east and west end maintenance crew was given, stating the crews are removing roadside brush, running the mower, grading and replacing reflective guideposts on Bickleton and Hale Roads, guardrail is being repaired as well as repairing signs on Centerville Highway.

Director Kelsey reported on the construction being done on the County Parking lots surrounding the Courthouse and Klickitat County Services Building, followed by a report on the finishing touches being done on the Klickitat County Services Building and the remodeling projects in the Courthouse to move the Juvenile Department into the Courthouse.

Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the Radio Site Projects, inquiring if the Board was in support to purchase an easement from the Conservation District for the Satus Pass tower in the amount of \$10,000, the Board was in support.

Deputy Director Hunter reported on the 2022, Washington State Department of Transportation grant-funded projects that could be submitted on roads in need of upgrades throughout the County, the Board was in support of submitting the selected projects.

A discussion was held about the plaque dedication location for the new Klickitat County Service Building, followed by the Washington State Department of Transportation project list for State Route 197, 97, 14, 97, and 142 that can impact Klickitat County residents, noting The Dalles Bridge is scheduled to be open by Memorial Day Weekend,

Director Kelsey reported on the White Salmon/Hood River Bridge funding that was awarded during this Legislative season, followed by a discussion on House Bill 1918 which requires local governments to only purchase outdoor power equipment that is zero emissions.

Commissioner Christopher inquired about picnic tables for the Courthouse Lawn, followed by a Vacation of roads throughout the County and the construction and payments of turnarounds on roads that have been vacated, Director Kelsey stated the County constructs the turnarounds as a safety precaution and are used as needed by the County.

Commissioner Sauter thanked Public Works Employee Jim Gleason for the GIS Mapping Assistance that was provided during the Lyle Sandbar access research, noting she is very professional and knowledgeable and he greatly appreciated her assistance.

Commissioner Christopher inquired about the need for reconstruction on one of the bridges selected for reconstruction, inquiring if Green Energy Projects would use the Bridge and if a Road Haul Agreement could be in place to pay for repairs.

10:30 AM - Department Update/Comment: Emergency Management

Attendance: Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King, Chief of Operation Filiberto Ontiveros, Emergency Management Program Coordinator Frank Hewey in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Chief of Operation Filiberto Ontiveros reported on the performance and functionality of the public safety radio system, followed by a discussion of the battery storage and power surges at the Bickleton area radio tower site

Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King advised Astound to buy out Wave Broadband.

Chief of Operation Ontiveros provided a staff update followed by a telephone system upgrade that did not move forward and will be rescheduled, a call follows report will be provided when the upgrade is complete.

Chief of Operation Ontiveros advised that Senate Bill 5555, concerning Communications Officer State Certification and Recognition, passed through the Senate and is now in the House.

Emergency Management Program Coordinator Frank Hewey reported on the Emergency Operations Center status, advising that they are still processing quite a few requests for personal protective equipment as received.

Emergency Management Program Coordinator Hewey stated County Code 8.24 regarding the Klickitat County Outdoor Burn Ban is on hold due to workload priorities, followed by a report on upcoming training and exercises as well as the various Emergency Management Program Grants.

Emergency Management Program Coordinator Hewey reported on the volunteer programs throughout the County, thanking the numerous volunteers, followed by a brief discussion on the Bingen Point Incident Response Plan Review Exercise next week.

Commissioner Christopher inquired if Agenda Items No. 1 and 16 can be addressed separately on the afternoon Consent Agenda.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): The Board recessed for lunch at 10:57 AM.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 1:00 PM. Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Business Agenda

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

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter . Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2022. **Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter . Passed):** February 08, 2022,

Chairman Anderson abstained as he was not present during the meeting. January 25, 2022, and February 01, 2022, minutes are being held until further review.

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

Trout Lake Community Council Chair, Daina Bambe read into the record a letter written to the Commissioner's from the Trout lake Community Council regarding a petition from Trout Lake residents stating their opposition to the Board's decision to not redistrict the Commissioner's District Boundaries at this time.

Goldendale resident Ken McKune read into the record a letter regarding the renovation of Annex 1, noting the cost to be prohibitive to reconstruct the building bringing it up to code. Mr. McKune thanked Commissioner Christopher for his involvement in the discussion process on social media and educated the public on the process of annexing public buildings. Mr. McKune inquired if the public would be able to acquire any of the bricks from the building.

Commissioner Christopher responded to Mr. McKune stated he would like to research further about the distribution of the bricks from Annex 1.

Commissioner Christopher responded to the Trout Lake Community's letter, noting he has received all of the documentation and a case has been filed in the Superior Court and while there is pending litigation he will not speak on the topic.

Commissioner Sauter stated he will not respond while pending litigation is in process.

Goldendale resident Susan Kelsey spoke to the impact of public records requests on the County, followed by advisements of the cost of public records at the different pay grades of employees who are fulfilling the requests, noting the significant cost to taxpayers for even just one request

Goldendale resident Delmar Eldridge stated his observation of how the public records requests are fulfilled and the technology required to do so.

Trout Lake resident Pat Arnold inquired about the advertising process for a Long-Range Planner and stated she is in favor of hiring someone into the position.

Chairman Anderson responded to Ms. Arnold stated the position is open at this time and efforts are being made to fill it.

Commissioner Sauter responded to Ms. Kelsey and Mr. Eldridge about the response to the public records request and stated if the request is responding to one document it is relatively easy and quick to respond, noting there are many topics in the documents that need to be redacted in the larger requests and it is very time-consuming and costly. Commissioner Sauter stated that the County is tracking the cost of employees' salaries to respond to requests and if it is over a hundred thousand dollars it does need to be reported to the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee.

Commissioner Christopher responded to Ms. Kelsey and Mr. Eldridge regarding the difficulty of a public records request do to the depth of the requests and how costly it can be, noting the small requests can be quickly responded to but the larger ones are very in-depth and take time and energy.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings/Bid Openings:

Public Hearing to consider vacation of McCuistion Alley.

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Goldendale Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Phi Beta Lambda organization Teacher Heather Gallagher, FBLA President Rachel Gallagher, FBLA Vice-President Garrett Peters, FBLA Treasurer Lexi Molnar, FBLA Secretary Addi Bomberger, Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Treasurer Greg Gallagher, Goldendale residents Kathy Moco and Susan Kelsey, in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing and asked for a staff review

Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reported McCuistion Alley is a short, 20 ft. wide, unopened section of County Right of Way; records show that it has ever been maintained or used by the county but has a utility easement of record which is bisected by the alley.

Public Works Director Kelsey stated rights for the utilities in that segment of the alley will need to be maintained and the unused area is approximately 300 ft. in length, noting the right of way being petitioned for vacation provides access to the four requestors' properties and is not used by the general public.

Public Works Director Kelsey stated since the section of right of way does not serve the general public and provides no current or future connectivity, it has no useful purpose for the county road system. The costs associated with the road vacation are approximately \$500. These costs will be reimbursed to the County by the petitioners.

Director Kelsey stated it would be in the best interest of the County to vacate this alley and turn it over to the adjacent property owners for their management and use.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing to public comment.

Trout Lake Community Council Chair, Daina Bambe inquired if any research has been done about the ingress and egress, noting there is concern within the Trout Lake Community Council that those things be researched and not given up if they will be used in the future.

Alicia Crocket property next to the property is in favor and there is no need for the easement and property owner Daniel Morrow does need the area.

Daniel Morrow, the owner of the property in question, stated the property is a hill and there is no way that the property could be used as an alley there is construction 5 feet from the line and it is not viable to use the land as it is marked right now.

Commissioner Christopher stated the fees are being paid by the property owner who is the requester and there will be no tax dollars spent.

Commissioner Sauter inquired about the access for fire trucks and was their consideration given before this easement was relinquished; Director Kelsey stated it was researched and there is ample access to the properties through surrounding roads and the alleyway as it is would be too narrow for any time of fire access.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Resolution No. 02522 the vacation of McCuistion Alley as located in the Replat of Guler-Coate Tracts in Section 22, Township 6 North, Range 10 East W.M. Recorded July 27, 1972, Volume 4 of Plats, Page 13-13A, Auditor's File Number 142883, and to allow objections against or approval for said proposed vacation of the road.

New Business:

Attendance: Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, Goldendale Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Phi Beta Lambda organization Teacher Heather Gallagher, FBLA President Rachel Gallagher, FBLA Vice-President Garrett Peters, FBLA Treasurer Lexi Molnar, FBLA Secretary Addi Bomberger, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Treasurer Greg Gallagher, Economic Development Coordinator Richard Foster in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Health Director Erinn Quinn requested and was granted verbal approval to proceed with the advertising process to fill an upcoming vacant nursing position, noting she is the Children's Health Vaccination Coordinator.

Miscellaneous Update/Comment:

Attendance: Goldendale Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Phi Beta Lambda organization Teacher Heather Gallagher, FBLA President Rachel Gallagher, FBLA Vice-President Garrett Peters, FBLA Treasurer Lexi Molnar, FBLA Secretary Addi Bomberger, Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Treasurer Greg Gallagher, Economic Development Coordinator Richard Foster in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Request for the Commissioner's support to proclaim February 13th -19th, 2022 as Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta week in Klickitat County.

Before the motion, FBLA President Racheal Gallagher read the Proclamation into the record.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): Resolution No. 02622 proclaiming February 13th -19th, 2022 as Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta week in Klickitat County.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter . Passed unanimously):** The Consent Agenda items 2 through 15.

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed):** Consent Agenda items No. 1 and 16. Commissioner Christopher was opposed.

- 1) **Resolution No. 02722** in the matter of following up on the Board's discussion and action during the January 25, 2022, meeting reappointing Sue Pennington to serve on the Klickitat County Board of Health. The appointment shall be to an unexpired term expiring July 1, 2022, when new state requirements become effective.
- 2) Interlocal Agreement (**C01422**) between Klickitat County (Clerk's Office) and Pend Oreille County for the purpose of allowing users of OnBase document management system through the provider hired by Pend Oreille County to maximize the OnBase Software.
- 3) Independent Contractor Agreement (**C01522**) between Alder Creek Pioneer Association and Klickitat County (Natural Resource/Economic Development Department) for the purpose of promoting tourism in Klickitat County.
- 4) Independent Contractor Agreement (**C01622**) between Glenwood Rodeo Association and Klickitat County (Natural Resource/Economic Development Department) for the purpose of promoting tourism in Klickitat County.
- 5) Independent Contractor Agreement (**C01722**) between Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce and Klickitat County (Natural Resource/Economic Development Department) for the purpose of promoting tourism in Klickitat County.
- 6) Independent Contractor Agreement (**C01822**) between Greater Goldendale Area Chamber of Commerce and Klickitat County (Natural Resource/Economic Development Department) for the purpose of promoting tourism in Klickitat County.

- 7) Economic Development Support Services Agreement (**C01922**) between Greater Goldendale Area Chamber of Commerce and Klickitat County (Natural Resource/Economic Development Department) for the purpose of providing support to Klickitat County and Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority.
- 8) Economic Development Support Services Agreement (**C02022**) between Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce and Klickitat County (Natural Resource/Economic Development Department) for the purpose of providing support to Klickitat County and Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority.
- 9) Consolidated Contract (**C02122**) between State of Washington Department of Health and Klickitat County (Public Health Department) for the purpose of providing funding for various programs, an increase of \$1,618,618.00; the effective date of this amendment is the date of execution.
- 10) Authorization to purchase from the Sheriff's Office for three (3) new 2022, RAM 1500 trucks at the cost of \$137,316.00 plus tax in the amount of \$13,868.92 for a total price of \$151,184.92. The necessary equipment installation is an additional \$130,113.55 for a total cost of \$281,298.47.
- 11) Notice to Vendors advertising the purchase and scheduling of a bid opening to be held Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 1:30 PM in the Commissioner's Chambers for the purchase of Liquid Asphalt for the 2022 paving season.
- 12) Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement (**C02222**) between Baer Testing and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the 2022 & 2023 On-Call Materials Testing and Inspecting Services for on-site/laboratory asphalt testing, laboratory concrete testing, and on-site/laboratory soils/surfacing testing.
- 13) 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 Rock Creek, Old 8 Bridge Project.
- 14) Local Programs State Funding Agreement (**C02322**) 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 Rock Creek, Old 8 Bridge Project.
- 15) Easement Agreement (**C02422**) between the Public Utility District and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the purpose of mutual considerations granting a perpetual Public Utility Easement.
- 16) Concurrence to Award Bid – Courtney Road Project, CRP 342 & 343 to James Dean Construction, Inc. in the bid amount of \$6,498,910.59.

Voucher Certification and Payment Approvals:

Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Accounts Payable: (#311854 - 311968), \$240,358.22.

Payroll Warrants: (#227469 – 227731), Combined Payroll, (#311798 – 311805), Electronic Transfer (#953), in the amount of \$770,733.14.

For a combined total of \$1,011,091.36, for the date ending February 14, 2022.

Board Pending: Issues as determined by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Christopher inquired about County employees using the Google Chat feature on their County devices, noting it is a useful feature but expressed concern about the usage being more informal than in an email and are subject to public records requests.

Commissioner Sauter stated he is in support of discouraging employees about using the chat feature.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): Requesting that the Information Technology Department turn the google chat feature off on County Emails.

Commissioner Sauter reported on the Lyle Sandbar status, noting the appreciation he expressed earlier during the Public Works Department update for GIS Mapping Specialist Kim Gleason, noting he will update the Board as more information comes to light about access in the area.

Chairman Anderson reported on potential funds from Transportation Packages from Legislators for the White Salmon/Hood River Bridge, noting everything is very positive and Washington has designated a large amount of funds to the project.

Elected Official – Treasurer Greg Gallagher: Office update and Finance Committee Report.

Attendance: Treasurer Gallagher in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Treasurer Gallagher reported there was no Finance Meeting this last Friday and has nothing further to report.

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel Report/Update:

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

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel advised he has no update at this time.

Adjournment (2:01 PM) Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 AM on Thursday, February 17, 2022.

Thursday, February 17, 2022 - Regular Meeting Extension: Workshop Extension.

Vice Chairman Christopher called the workshop to order at 9:01 AM. Christopher and Sauter were present in the room and Anderson was present virtually.

Republic Services: General update and discussion regarding host fees.

Attendance: Republic Service’s Municipal Relationship Manager Steve Gilmore and Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving.

Mr. Gilmore reported on issues affecting the collection of solid waste, such as a shortage of CDL drivers and Canadian COVID mandates. He indicated that once restrictions are eliminated he expects a high volume impact to the waste stream. Mr. Gilmore provided an overview of municipal and private landfills, Intermodals, and major rail lines throughout Washington, and areas of Oregon and Canada. The Board discussed options that would allow Republic Services to be more competitive in the solid waste market. Following the discussion, the Board expressed interest in moving forward with further discussion.

Mr. Gilmore provided a brief update on Republic’s plan to build a new building and infrastructure to accommodate additional staff. A discussion followed concerning proposed legislation that would impact landfill gas facilities, and climate change issues that will affect landfills, waste collection and disposal of waste in the future. After Mr. Gilmore left the workshop, the Board continued the discussion about host fees.

Board follow-up and pending issues discussion:

Attendance: Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel and Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel provided a brief overview of District Court caseloads and other court related services the County provides to the cities of Goldendale, Bingen and White Salmon. Mr. Quesnel noted that there is no provision for the County to provide these services to the cities and the County has been subsidizing them for years. Following further discussion, Mr. Quesnel provided possible options for the Board to consider.

Prosecutor Quesnel advised that due to potential risks, the County should have a contract in place with the cities to provide probation services, and he urged the Board to involve the judges in discussions. The Board agreed that Chairman Anderson would reach out to the cities and judges for discussion before scheduling another workshop.

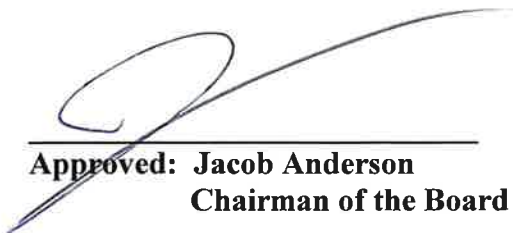
The Board continued a previous discussion about the google chat feature. Further discussion followed about records management and the lack of having a county wide searchable data base, and building permit and planning land use fees. Prosecutor Quesnel noted that fees should be collected for costs on all projects, which will require some changes and tracking of staff time.

Prosecutor Quesnel advised that there will be more conditional use permit applications and SEPA appeals in the future. Discussion followed concerning streamlining and updating planning ordinances. Planning Director Lindblad noted that certain sections in the SEPA and Zoning Codes should be clarified, not changing standards, only clarifying to provide better understanding. Director Lindblad advised that updating the planning ordinances as discussed can come before the Board of Commissioners, which requires a public process and hearing. The Board directed the Planning Director to work with the Prosecutor's Office to move forward with the process.

Director Lindblad requested and received direction regarding a request from a citizen to be allowed to sit in during a pre-submission meeting. The Board agreed pre-submission meetings are not public meetings and suggested that she consult with the applicant.

(M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): The workshop was adjourned at 12:00 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 2.15.2022 Board of County Commissioners Meeting.


Approved: Jacob Anderson
Chairman of the Board



3.01.2022
Date