

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

Topic	Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition
	Call to Order/Roll Call
Morning Workshop Session – Tuesday, February 16, 2021	Chairman David M. Sauter called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob L. Anderson and Dan Christopher.
	Workshop Session Agenda
Public Works/Road Department Update	<p>9:30 AM – Public Works Department Update</p> <p>Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reviewed the video capability in various offices in the new County Services Building, noting the changes are due to technology needs that emerged during the COVID-19 Pandemic.</p> <p>Director Kelsey reported on this afternoon’s consent agenda items, followed by an update on the Courtney Road Safety Project and the reconstruction of Old Mountain Road.</p> <p>Director Kelsey stated the east and west end crews are reacting to winter weather activities as needed, improving turn movements at Gander Road and Bickleton Highway and removing roadside brush.</p> <p>Director Kelsey reported on the new County Services Building stating the window and frame installation continues this week; the subcontractor is attempting to install the roof when the weather improves; the electrical sub-contractor continues to pull wire on the first floor and roughing in the boxes and conduit on the second floor; the furniture weekly meetings continue on Wednesday, noting they continue to work on the furniture design with the supplier.</p> <p>Director Kelsey stated the construction and installation of the new control board in the jail starts today, followed by a radio site update from Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter.</p> <p>Director Kelsey requested and received verbal approval to proceed with the advertisement process for a Maintenance Technician position, followed by an update on proposed legislative changes; County Road Administration Board Training and the proposed Oregon Trail Rally Racecourse.</p>
Emergency Management Department Update.	<p>10:30 AM - Elected Official Report/Update</p> <p>Attendance: Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Chief of Operations / 9-1-1 Coordinator Julie Buck, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>(DEM) Chief of Operations / 9-1-1 Coordinator Julie Buck reported DEM Director Jeff King is unavailable due to an emergency response at a radio site.</p>

	<p>DEM Chief of Operations Buck reported on a 9-1-1 call volume report for January 2021, followed by a staff report and the staff's remote training schedule.</p> <p>DEM Chief of Operations Buck reported on the First Responder Proclamation on this afternoon's consent agenda and stated the 9-1-1 system started 53 years ago today. The first 9-1-1 call was placed in Haleyville, Alabama to the first 9-1-1 system - which was a red rotary telephone. It was a ceremonial phone call between two Alabama politicians. This moment was huge - it signified that people with emergencies only had to dial 3 numbers instead of the possibility of calling multiple numbers until they found the right one. However, it took until 2001 to get 97% of the country covered by 9-1-1. Klickitat County itself did not have 9-1-1 service until the late 1990s.</p>
	<p>Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad reported on the Short Term rental discussion from last week's workshop regarding if the Commissioners can allow a zoning change without going through a Planning Commission's review; Director Lindblad stated if the zoning ordinance is opened up the Planning Commission and State Environmental Policy Act process will need to be followed.</p> <p>A discussion followed regarding Accessory Dwelling Units and existing structures versus new construction that can be rented as short-term rental spaces. The Board stated they would like to have an ordinance revision from the Building Department to amend the current Ordinance regarding Short Term Rentals and RVs and move forward with a public hearing.</p>
	<p>Commissioner Anderson requested the applications for Boards, Committees and Commissions be reviewed by the prosecutor and accepted soon.</p> <p>Commissioner Christopher requested the Board appoint a Solar Committee to advise the Board on the Solar Projects, followed by a discussion about the application process and approving the draft resolution requiring an application to be appointed to Boards, Committees and Commissions.</p> <p>The Board stated they would like to advertise a shortlist of open positions in the newspaper and direct citizens to the website for the full list.</p> <p>Commissioner Christopher stated why he would like to have a Solar Committee to advise the Board on the Solar Projects in the area. Chairman Sauter and Commissioner Anderson advised they would like to see the Land and Natural Resource Committee reinstated and appointments filled.</p> <p>The Board stated they have been hearing from citizens who are opposed to and in favor of the solar projects, they have read all the emails and talked to citizens in a less formal matter than during a weekly meeting.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter stated no project application has been submitted at this time to discuss and advised a citizens committee will not have the effect a public process would and would allow citizens voices to be heard.</p>

	Commissioner Anderson discussed bill Senate Bill 5172 from Curtis King, Concerning the retroactivity of overtime claims for agricultural businesses with the supreme court decision invalidating the overtime pay exemption from 1963.
Lunch Recess	The Board recessed for lunch at 11:32 AM.
	Call to Order/Roll Call:
Regular Meeting for Tuesday, February 16, 2021	Chairman Sauter reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob L. Anderson and Dan Christopher.
	Agenda:
Business Agenda	* Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): the Business Agenda as presented.
	Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes
Approval of Meeting Minutes	* Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for January 26, 2021, as presented.
	Citizen Comment:
Comments will be limited to seven (7) minutes per individual	<p>Greg Wagner of Fish Hatcher Road stated in 2004 the Energy Overlay Zone was written for wind and feels two Commissioners are refusing to update the Energy Overlay Zone. Mr. Wagner would like to see a Citizens Impact Study, Mr. Wagner stated there is a Courthouse Entry reconstruction contract on the consent agenda this afternoon for signature and the Commissioner's approved this, he would like to see a similar approval for a moratorium on Solar Projects.</p> <p>Sheri Bousquet of Husum advised on the complications in Texas right now with the wind turbines freezing up and the rolling blackouts that are occurring. Ms. Bousquet questioned where Klickitat County gets their power or where the power generated in the county is being sent? Ms. Bousquet questioned what the future of Klickitat County is, do we want to be a solar energy County.</p> <p>Goldendale resident Elaine Harvey inquired if the Blue Bird Solar Project in Bickleton is an extension of the Lund Hill Solar Projects. Are the Solar Projects and Goldendale Pump Storage Project going to come in under wind regulations; Ms. Harvey stated she is very concerned about the fish and wildlife in the area. Ms. Harvey stated there is no ordinance regarding the solar projects that are coming to the area and requested the ordinances be in place before the projects are here.</p> <p>Rocil Demmick, Tucker Hill Road addressed a statement from the Board stating they have not solicited Solar Projects to come to Klickitat County and stated that not having Solar Project Ordinances is inviting to Solar Projects to come to the County. Ms. Demmick requested a citizens committee be formed to advise the Board on Solar Projects.</p> <p>Laborers Union 335 Political and Legislative Director Deken Letinich, Vancouver, Washington, stated the Union supports Klickitat County and would like to still provide many family-wage jobs in the County and supports the Green Energy Projects proposed</p>

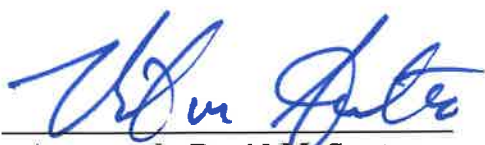
	<p>in the County.</p> <p>The Board noted for the record that all citizens are welcome to speak</p> <p>Elaine Harney stated jobs may be provided during the construction of the projects but the outline of jobs provided after construction is five (5) jobs will be post-construction.</p> <p>Resident Sheri Bousquet inquired if the County does have a specific land use ordinance that only deals with Solar Projects. Chairman Sauter advised there are many regulations and impact studies that all projects go through. Ms. Bousquet requested the County go through a rigorous study on the overall impact before allowing projects to move forward.</p>
Public Hearings/Public Meetings/Bid Openings:	
<p>Bid Opening for the Klickitat County Courthouse Entrance Improvement Project</p>	<p>Bid forwarded (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): to the Public Works Department for review and recommendation of the bid received for the Klickitat County Courthouse Entrance Improvement Project. Specific work includes, but not limited to the construction for the removal and replacement of the North, East, and South entrances, including concrete steps and landings, hand/guardrails, demolition, repairs, and alterations, and other work, all in accordance with the Contract Provisions and the Standard Specifications.</p> <p>Lee Contractors, LLC Battle Ground, WA \$382, 888.13</p>
<p>Opening for a Request for Proposals Klickitat County's Mitel Phone System</p>	<p>Bid forwarded (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): to the Information Technology Department Opening for a Request for Proposals from the Information and Technology Department to solicit proposals for Technical Support for Klickitat County's Mitel Phone System for Klickitat County's Goldendale and White Salmon Offices. The successful proposer will be invited to work with the IT Division to develop a final proposal and contract that will be presented to the Board for final review and approval.</p> <p>Tri-Tec Communications Kent, Washington \$ 11,949.38</p>
Miscellaneous Update/Comment:	
<p>Washington Gorge Action Programs Executive Director Leslie Naramore: Renew and update of programs during the pandemic.</p>	<p>Attendance: Washington Gorge Action Programs Executive Director Leslie Naramore, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Washington Gorge Action Programs Executive Director Leslie Naramore reported on programs that have been helping citizens during the Coronavirus Pandemic, stating 8,572 clients and 4,006 households have been helped by the programs that Washington Gorge Action Programs provide in 2020, noting there were 3,216 households served in 2019</p>
Unfinished Business:	
<p>Designation of a Hearing Examiner</p>	<p>Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): adopting the Resolution No. 02221 in the matter of designation of a Hearing Examiner related to the development of the subject property as proposed by Under Canvas, Inc appeals to a</p>

	SEPA Determination and a Conditional Use Permit, Recreation Park Permit, Binding Site Plan.
	Consent Agenda:
	<p>* Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): the Consent Agenda with seventeen (12) items.</p> <p>* 1) Purchase Authorization request from the Sheriff's Office to purchase one (1) 2021 PJ Trailers Utility Trailer UL 182 from the State bid/contract for \$3,983.00 plus applicable sales tax at 9.2% (\$363.40) for a total purchase price of \$4,346.40 from the Commissioner's Vehicle Rental and Replacement Fund. Additional costs such as the license fees will be costs borne by the Sheriff's budget. The Sheriff's Office is also authorized to purchase and install the necessary equipment for \$569.37 for the trailer, for a total cost of \$4,915.77.</p> <p>* 2) Service Order Agreement (C03221) between Klickitat County (Informational Technology Department) and Gorge.net for the purpose of providing the Klickitat County's Courthouse 1Gbps/1Gbps Fiber Direct Internet Access and 16 usable Static IP's. The monthly service will be \$634.95 for three (3) years.</p> <p>* 3) Service Order Agreement (C03321) between Klickitat County (Informational Technology Department) and Wave Business Solutions, LLC for the purpose of providing internet access to the Pioneer Center in White Salmon via a 100Mbps Fiber Connection, a private MPLS 20 Mbps network connection between the Pioneer Center and the Courthouse and two (2) dark fiber lines that run from the Court House out to Waves Mayhill point of presence and then back to the Emergency Management Center providing 10Gbps connection at a cost of \$3,573.00 per month. Effective upon final signature. Written notice of cancellation must be delivered 30 days before cancellation.</p> <p>* 4) Proclamation recognizing Klickitat County Department of Emergency Management's Communication Officer's as First Responders. On March 27, 2020, the 9-1-1 SAVES ACT, a bipartisan bill to reclassify 9-1-1 Telecommunicators to "Protective Service Occupation" stalled in the Federal Legislative process due to needed focus on COVID-19.</p> <p>* 5) Contract Profile update for the Board of County Commissioners signatures to the SECO COUNTY Basic Services Operating (BSO) E0-1-1 Contract SFY2021 E21-025; in effect until June 30, 2021.</p> <p>* 6) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill three (3) Temporary Clerical Administrative Assistant I positions, Grade 34, step 1, within the Public Works Department.</p> <p>* 7) Resolution No. 02321 in the matter of setting a public hearing to be held March 2, 2021, at 1:30 PM to discuss the final project performance review for the Washington Gorge Action Programs Funded by the Community Development Block Grant.</p> <p>* 8) Interagency Grant Agreement (C03421) between Klickitat County (Public Health Department) and Washington State Department of Commerce to target community development and housing needs, inform citizens of the availability of funds and eligible uses of the state Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and receive comments on proposed activities, particularly from lower-income persons residing in Klickitat and Skamania counties. Up to \$132,850 for eligible public services.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 9) Resolution No. 02421 in the matter of approving amendment 5, to appendix 4, as part of the Infrastructure Priority List for Klickitat County’s 10-year Economic Development Strategic Plan: Advancing Economic Prosperity in Klickitat County. * 10) Service Agreement (C03521) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Avista Corporation to provide natural gas to the new County Services Building. Effective February 2, 2021, through August 2, 2021. * 11) Small Works Contract (C03621) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Advantage Environment, Inc. for the purpose of hazardous material testing and audit for the Hick’s property and Forbes property that have been purchased recently; these structures will be taken down, however, they are required to be tested for hazardous materials before demolition. The total cost including tax is \$906.29. * 12) Final Contract Voucher Certificate and Release of Retainage in the amount of \$326,803.00 certifying all contract requirements have been met by Apply-A-Line, LLC for the Klickitat County 2020 Annual Striping Program RN 642-20.
Payment Approvals/Progress Payments/Change Orders:	
<p>Voucher Certification and Approval</p>	<p>Approved Warrants (M/, S/. Passed unanimously):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Accounts Payable: (#303895 – 303997); for a net of \$180,091.96. Combined Payroll: (#216417 –216687, County Benefit Warrants #303860 - 303867, Electronic Transfer #917) \$752,312.09. <p>For a combined total of \$932,404.05 for the date ending February 16, 2021.</p>
Department Report/Update:	
<p>Supplemental Budget Update</p>	<p>Attendance: Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Financial Manager Jenn Bartley in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave requested and received verbal confirmation of the proposed supplemental budget dateline, followed by a brief discussion with Financial Manager Jenn Bartley on the supplemental budget process.</p>
Elected Official Report/Update:	
<p>Treasurer Greg Gallagher: Financial and revenue update.</p>	<p>Treasurer Greg Gallagher in the Chambers, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Treasurer Greg Gallagher reported on the Finance Committee Meetings, followed by a continued discussion of the .09 dollars that are received from the State.</p> <p>Treasurer Gallagher reported on the electronic process that is being used between himself and the Auditor to expedite processes.</p> <p>A discussion was held regarding Senate Bill 5402, concerning property tax deferral during the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that Treasurer Gallagher is concerned for the</p>

	<p>Junior Taxing Districts that will potentially not receive their needed funding</p> <p>Commissioner Christopher inquired about whether the COVID-19 CARES Act Grant Funds would be considered gifting and would like to inquire further about the electric charging stations out front of the new County Services Building.</p> <p>Commissioner Christopher stated he would like to request a Prosecutor's Opinion regarding the State Environmental Policy Act Appeal Fees inquiring if they are exorbitant and unconstitutional prohibiting a constituent to comment on projects as due process, followed by a discussion regarding the .09 dollars and when the funds will sunset if there is not a legislative change. Natural Resource/Economic Development Director Dave McClure reported 1998 was the beginning of the fund designations, advising the dollars used to be called .08 and has since developed into .09 dollars and it will end in 2023.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter advised 25% of the .09 dollars fund the Economic Development Department.</p>
<p>Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel</p>	<p>Attendance: Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, various county employees and residents via telephone.</p> <p>Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel advised that a recent Prosecutor's Opinion Request regarding Appeal Fees needs to be requested by the Legislative Authority as a whole, the Chairman or the Chairman can designate a member.</p> <p>Prosecutor Quesnel reported pending litigation at the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport has had a positive outcome.</p>
<p>Issues as determined by the Board of Commissioners</p>	<p>Board Pending:</p> <p>Assessor Crista Schroder requested and received direction to discuss pending litigation on next week's agenda.</p> <p>The Board held a discussion regarding the Nuisance Abatement Process and the department that will employ the Nuisance Abatement Employee.</p> <p>A discussion was held regarding the appointments on the Commissions, Boards and Committees.</p> <p>A discussion was held about the Klickitat-Skamania Development Disability Advisory Board; on December 8, 2020, a resolution was passed allowing the Board to appoint a Commissioner to represent Klickitat County on this Board, designate the Public Health Director, a Public Health Department employee, or no one. The Board stated they would like to open it up to the public and add this position to the list for citizens to apply for.</p> <p>A brief comment was made stating, Commissioner Anderson will be the Yakama Nation Liaison and a follow-up letter will follow next week.</p>

	<p>A discussion was held about the vacation of the O'Brien Road in Centerville, the Board noted no action can take place at this time, a formal request and public process will need to be held.</p> <p>Commissioner Anderson stated that during citizen comment a lot of statements were made about projects and these projects have gone through extensive Environmental Impact Studies and Final Environmental Impact Statements studies. Commissioner Anderson noted that the Board has the same concerns as a lot of the citizens have.</p> <p>The Board discussed green energy projects in Klickitat County; Prosecutor Quesnel advised that the County cannot receive royalties from power companies who have projects in the County.</p> <p>A discussion was held about the Board's effort to testify on Legislative Bills and not feeling like their voices are being heard with the current process of participating remotely.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter advised that the Glenwood Fire District has requested the County help with their first payment of \$6,000 from the Community Development Dollars administered through the Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority until they can rerun their levy, followed by a discussion of County funds. Commissioner Christopher inquired whether the Board would support a levy for the Community Radio Tower Maintenance. Commissioner Anderson and Chairman Sauter stated that can be a budget discussion.</p> <p>Chairman Sauter stated Columbia County Commissioner, Marty Hall called and requested support from the Board to express opposition to removing the Lower Snake River Dams. The Board agreed they do not want to see the dams removed and directed staff to draft a letter for submission to Congressmen and Congresswomen for the Congressional Districts of Oregon and Washington.</p>
Adjournment	<p>Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 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 on file BOCC-Meeting 2-16-21.</p>


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



03.02.2021
 Date