

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, March 08, 2022**

Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition

Call to Order/Roll Call

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

Workshop Session Agenda

9:30 AM - Legislative update:

Attendance: Lobbyist Zak Kennedy, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Lobbyist Zak Kennedy reported on Legislative bills that have passed, noting the firearms bills that are changing the way the public can open-carry firearms.

Lobbyist Kennedy reported on climate change legislations bills that did not pass through the house due to an unreachable agreement

Lobbyist Kennedy stated some fuel tax bills were not passed, followed by a report on the Public Works Assistance Fund and the need to keep the funds in the account and for it to be utilized by counties.

Lobbyist Kennedy stated the challenges with not having an in-person legislative session and stated next year would be beneficial to be in person but preparations need to be made in case it is not an in-person session.

Commissioner Sauter stated he is hopeful as well that next year's legislative session will be in person and is worried about the smaller counties like Klickitat County.

Lobbyist Kennedy reported the legislative changes King County is in favor of, noting it is everything that smaller counties are not supporting.

Commissioner Christopher reported on legislative bills that were discussed during the Legislative Steering Committee Meeting he attended last week.

10:00 AM – Public Works Department Update

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reported on the consent agenda items; Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the Mountindale Maintenance contracted janitorial services, followed by a discussion on a window cleaning service for the Klickitat County Services Building.

A construction project update was given on the Courtney Road Safety Project, noting they are requesting to close the upper portion of starting April 4th to October 15th, followed by a discussion of how to safely close the road and the advertisement that Public Works will do.

A report was given on the east and west end crews, and the outcome report from the Department of Ecology regarding the hole in the Courthouse parking lot, noting they will start filling the hole the week of March 21st.

Director Kelsey reported crews will remove Annex 3 which will allow Annex 5 to be removed shortly after, followed by a report on the finishing projects being done on the Klickitat County Services Building.

A brief discussion was held about the open house being held tonight for the Klickitat County Services Building.

Public Works Deputy Hunter reported on the Radio Tower sites, followed by a report on Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation's rail line realignment in the Bingen area, noting stormwater impacts will need to be reassessed and discussed with the Port.

Director Kelsey reported on the proposed stock restricted area removal proposed signage, the Board was in support of installing signs and requested Public Works look into funding for the project beyond the County paying for the signs.

Commissioner Christopher inquired about the directory/map location for departments in the Klickitat County Services Building; employee parking in the area; inquired about picnic tables for the Courthouse lawn, sound panels in the Department of Emergency Management Building, clarification regarding the project was provided by Commissioner Sauter, noting it was removed from 2022, budget and was going to be approved in 2023, budget. Commissioner Christopher inquired about the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant, followed by clarification about the fund balance in the budget for the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant.

A discussion was held about the vacation on Grant Street and the design of the parking lot to be constructed in the area.

Commissioner Christopher stated he would like to not make decisions on topics discussed today but make decisions next week on the presentations this afternoon.

10:30 AM – Human Resource & Administrative Services Department Update/Report:

Attendance: Human Resource and Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Informational Technology Manager Jeff Roe, Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley in the Chambers, various county employees, and County residents participating via Zoom.

Human Resource and Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave reported on the software the Information and Technology Department is using as well as other departments that have started utilizing the software to streamline the process in departments communications with other departments.

Informational Technology Manager Jeff Roe reported on the potential of utilizing the OnBase Software for the Juvenile Department as well as Public Works, followed by a discussion of the license cost and the licenses the county currently holds.

HR and Administrative Services Director Van Cleave reported on a possible budget changes in the IT Department due to no longer charging for the long-distance county employee codes.

Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley reported on her budget meeting she held last week, a brief discussion was held about the county's asset list that Fiscal Manager Bartley requested each department updated monthly.

A report was provided on 2022, Dashboard General Purpose Dollars Smartsheet created that will be available to view the disbursed property tax, sales and use tax, landfill, and the reserves.

HR Manager KC Sheridan reported on the Long-Term Care Act and the reimbursement that will be provided to the employees who have already paid premium benefit payments, followed by a report that in 2023, the implementation will have more guidance and will provide more clarification to the Long-Term Care Program.

HR Manager Sheridan reported on the County Employee Paid COVID-19 Sick Leave ends at the end of February and inquired if the Board would like to extend the leave to the end of the fiscal year. HR Manager Sheridan requested and received clarification regarding the end date of the current COVID-19 Policy.

HR Manager Sheridan provided an overtime report for 2021, noting she will be averaging the hours over the previous years and will provide them to the Board quarterly.

HR and Administrative Services Director Van Cleave reported on the updated mask mandate that will end on March 12th and provided clarification on the different impacts to each department.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): To recess for lunch at 11:39 AM.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, March 08, 2022, at 1:00 PM. Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Business Agenda

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

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for February 22, 2022, as presented.

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

Citizen Dave Barta reviewed the Klickitat County Technology Policy, stating that by the majority of the Board not making a statement against inappropriate email interactions they are condoning inappropriate actions and requested the commissioner's address inappropriate behavior.

Ron Kinsella inquired why the Commissioner's implemented the three (3) minute rule, followed by a statement about Mr. Kinsella's past volunteer positions and the importance of the Commissioner's working with the citizens.

Greg Wagner stated he submitted a request to Commissioner Christopher and received an email in return that was not appropriate and requested Chairman Anderson address the inappropriate email as well as Commissioner Christopher's actions in the past.

Lyle residents Tracy McKune inquired about 1-800 numbers for the county and inquired if the items in the auction will be available for viewing tonight during the open house as well as if some of the items can be given to the museums in Lyle and Bingen.

Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King inquired if the Board would like him to be available during Board Pending on this afternoon's agenda to discuss the sound panels for the Department of Emergency Building.

Commissioner Sauter stated after Friday we will be able to remove our masks and he is looking forward to that in response to Mr. Barta stated that lack of communication is always at the heart of any failure; responding to Mr. Kinsella stating he feels a lot more cut off to the citizens than he has in the past by the shorter speaking

times and the break down of communication and in the past was more of a conversation but recently that has changed and civil conversations aren't held when there are disagreements. Commissioner Sauter stated he does have frustrations about the lack of being available to citizens; stating that all communications should be respectful, noting that's how he was taught but there is no discipline for other elected officials other than RCW's that govern those rules.

Chairman Anderson respond to Ms. McKune stating the open house tonight will not have the viewing for the surplus auction, but the cabinets should go fairly inexpensive and hopes that they can be used in entities throughout the county, as well as there are no changes in the 1-800 numbers but the county has changed the counties long-distance calling. Chairman Anderson stated that he too believes that all communication between an elected official and citizen should be professional and can not speak for his seatmates.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings/Bid Openings: To accept public comment on a proposal to declare certain county-owned miscellaneous property as surplus.

Attendance: Associate Planner Lori Anderson in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via telephone.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing, requesting a staff review.

Clerk of the Board Lee Snell provided a brief staff overview.

Chairman Anderson open the public hearing to public comment.

Tracy McKune inquired if the items will be individually sold or will they be sold as a group, Chairman Anderson stated that a response will be provided in the Board discussion section of the Public Hearing.

Chairman Anderson opened the Public Hearing for Board discussion, inquiring from Treasurer Greg Gallagher if the items will be sold in lots or individually, Treasurer Gallagher stated some items will be sold in lots and some individually based on the compatibility of the item with other items, such as an office set or one individual waiting room chair.

Commissioner Sauter inquired about how to purchase some of the lot items versus buying the whole lot.

Treasurer Gallagher reported on the way the items are categorized, followed by a motion.

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Resolution No. 03422** declaring the listed items as surplus for disposal by the County Treasurer at an online public bid auction. The online auction will start on March 24, 2022, and end on March 30, 2022.

Miscellaneous Reports/Comments:

Attendance: Associate Planner Lori Anderson in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Associate Planner Lori Anderson reported the White Salmon Valley Pool Metropolitan Park District has requested consideration by the Board for a waiver of the Conditional Use Permit Application Fee and Environmental Review (SEPA) Fee for their proposed aquatics facility to be located in White Salmon, noting they have requested extensions in the past.

Clerk of the Board Lee Snell stated this decision would impact the Planning Department's Budget as they would be paying for all the advertising and the staff time out of the county's funds when projects are over a million dollars the fees are not waved.

Commissioner Christopher stated in the appearance of being fair the Pool District should pay their fees, followed by Commissioner Sauter stating the Pool District is a taxing district and for consistency, the Pool District should pay the fees.

Chairman Anderson stated the importance of having the fee schedule in place and is in support of the Pool District paying the fees, Commissioner Christopher agreed with the statement.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** The Consent Agenda with six (6) items.

- 1) Agreement (**C03322**) No. SWMWRRED-2022-KICoSW-00001 between the Department of Ecology and Klickitat County (Solid Waste Department) for the purpose of providing \$80,000 to reduce the amount of recycling contamination by 30 tons, offer 6 environmental education workshops, 4 environmental hands-on kits, and host an environmental conference to teach about living a more sustainable life and reducing waste. Effective January 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.
- 2) Memorandum from the Planning Department scheduling a public meeting to be held Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 1:30 PM, to consider approval of Short Plat, SPL 2020-18. Parcel number 06-10-2257-0015/00, in the Trout Lake vicinity. Applicant: James and Chris Nielsen.
- 3) Agreement (**C03422**) No. MLE 123-146 between the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and Klickitat County (Sheriff's Office) for the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission Subrecipient Marine Patrol Federal Financial Assistance Grant Program. The Sheriff's Office has been approved to receive \$8,521.83 in a matching grant. Effective October 1, 2021, through September 20, 2022.
- 4) Final Contract Voucher Certificate and Release of Retainage in the amount of \$20,069.65 certifying all contract requirements have been met by Stripe Rite Inc, Inc for the Klickitat County 2021 Annual Striping Program RN 642-21.
- 5) Small Works Contract (**C03522**) between Mountindale Maintenance and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the 2022-2024 Contracted Janitorial Services for Klickitat County, in the amount of \$9,780.50 per month including sales tax.
- 6) Request for concurrence to award the bid to Stripe Rite Inc. of Kennewick, Washington for the 2022 Annual Striping Program, RN 642-22 as bid in the amount of \$369,460.00.

Voucher Certification and Approval

Approved Warrants (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): Accounts Payable Warrants: (#312310-312386), in the amount of \$161,992.17 for the date ending March 07, 2022.

Board Pending:

Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King inquired about the soundproofing in the Department of Emergency Management Department Offices, followed by an update from Commissioner Christopher on the budget and funding for the project.

DEM Director King stated the department received more Real Estate Excise Tax in 2021 and has the budget to fund the sound panel project.

Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley reported on the Real Estate Excise Tax funds available, noting if there are changes to the Capital Improvement Plan there will need to be a public hearing to adopt the change.

A discussion was held about the timing as well as the availability of funds.

Commissioner Christopher reported on his attendance at the Goldendale City Council Meeting yesterday evening, noting there was a comment to save the bricks from Annex 5.

Commissioner Sauter reported on the Dallesport Waste Water Plant and his recent meetings with Public Utility District General Manager Jim Smith.

HR and Administrative Services Director Van Cleave reported on the fleet management as well as the sound panels in the Department of Emergency Management.

New Business:

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): at 2:00 PM to adjourn the regular Board of County Commissioner's Meeting to hold the annual Public Corporation Meeting.

2:06 PM the Board of County Commissioner's Meeting reconvened.

New Business:

Attendance: Central/Eastern Klickitat Conservation District Manager Loren Meagher, Natural Resource/Economic Development Director Dave McClure, Natural Resources Project Coordinator Whitney Reynier, Citizen Dave Barta in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via telephone.

Central/Eastern Klickitat Conservation District Manager Loren Meagher reported on the software used for stream monitoring data management, noting the current software is outdated and unsupported, followed by an update on the streams that are being monitored and the important data that is collected and who the data is shared with.


The Board inquired about the partnership the county has with the Central/Eastern Klickitat Conservation District and the amount of funding the Conservation District is requesting.

Natural Resource/Economic Development Director David McClure reported on the funding available through his office from 2022, budget, followed by a report on the data management that is being done by the conservation district.

The Board stated they would like to continue the partnership and would support up to 1/3 of the project.

There being no further business before the Board, **Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** to adjourned at 2:19 PM.

* Reference Document on File. Please Note: The Board of Commissioners' minutes are action minutes. A recording is on file as part of the official record and available on file 3.08.2022 Board of Commissioner's Meeting.



Approved: Jacob Anderson
Chairman of the Board



3.22.2022
Date