

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, March 29, 2022**

Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jacob L. Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:45 AM. Commissioners present: David M. Sauter, Jacob L. Anderson, and Dan Christopher.

Executive Session: Annual Performance Evaluation:

At 9:45 AM Chairman Anderson 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. It was noted the session would last fifteen (15) minutes.

The Board convened back into Regular Session at 10:00 AM.

10:00 AM – Workshop Session Agenda Public Works Department Update

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King, Emergency Management Chief of Operations Filiberto Ontiveros in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reported on the consent agenda items on this afternoon for approval, noting the awarding of the liquid asphalt bid was a good bid. A discussion was held regarding the fee waiver for the American Legion Post #116 for the use of the Fairgrounds for the Community Easter Egg Hunt. A decision was made to hold Consent Agenda item No. 7 until a review of the fee waiver process can be clarified by Prosecutor David Quesnel.

A report was given on the Klickitat Path; Courthouse Parking Lots; Guardrail Project, and the 100% Federal Funded bridge projects.

Director Kelsey reported the east and west end crews are continuing to sweep sand, and grade roads, noting the brush was removed from the ditch on Carr Road.

A discussion was held about the County road standards and projects that are over a million dollars are required to maintain or fix the roads used to complete their projects, the Board discussed adding logging projects into the road standard agreement.

Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the Satus Pass Radio Tower Site. Followed by a report from Director Kelsey on his upcoming in-depth involvement in reviewing the request for proposals and oral interviews for the Project Management Team for the Hood River/White Salmon Bridge.

Director Kelsey requested and received verbal approval to proceed with the advertising process for four (4) flaggers, one (1) carpenter helper, and one (1) Engineer Intern for traffic counts.

Deputy Director Hunter requested a meeting with Commissioner Sauter to review the upcoming PUD Workshop regarding the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant transfer, followed by a request from Chairman Anderson for Director Kelsey to attend a pre-Hood River/White Salmon Bridge meeting.

Sheriff's Office Update/Report

Attendance: Under-Sheriff Tim Neher and Chief Civil Deputy Karen Elings, in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Under-Sheriff Tim Neher advised the Sheriff's Office has a commercial officer that can monitor the logging truck weight to maintain the integrity of the County Roads by weighing and assisting in road haul compliance; the County would need to update the County Code to include logging projects.

Under-Sheriff Neher reported on the calls for service from January 1, 2022, to March 24, 2022, followed by a report on the Posse Deputies' upcoming attendance at the Goldendale Home and Garden Show.

A press release regarding a recent arrest for burglary, theft, and illegal possession of a firearm was read, noting they are continuing to investigate other theft and burglaries that are possibly related to the recent arrest. A discussion followed regarding the recent spike in mail theft in Klickitat County and the measures taken to secure citizens' mail.

A report was given on the committee established to have an animal shelter in the Goldendale area, followed by a discussion about the need for dog care in the area and the revenue it would generate. Commissioner Sauter inquired about the continuous funding after the start-up of the shelter, noting the State has not been good about providing continuous funding beyond the initial planning and establishment of the project. Chief Civil Deputy Karen Elings reported on the process taken to write the shelter grant and the 501c process.

Under-Sheriff Neher reported on legislative gun law changes for law enforcement, and the use of force during detainment when necessary.

A staff update was provided, followed by training options for deputies.

Under-Sheriff Neher reported on the Jail Correction Officer staffing level, training, Courtroom Security, inmate transportation, and a brief discussion about the mental health programs available were discussed.

Chief Civil Deputy Elings reported on the Sheriff's Department budget, noting she is looking into ways to save on fuel for the department.

Chief Civil Deputy Elings reported on the Marine Patrol Program, inquiring if the Board would be in support of Chief Civil Deputy Elings applying for a grant to purchase a second boat, a discussion followed regarding the funds in the Vehicle Rental and Replacement for the purchase and Maintenance of a second boat. The Board stated they would be in support of Chief Civil Deputy Elings applying for the grant, noting it does not lock the county into purchasing a boat and would like to sell one boat, not increase the fleet at this time.

A discussion was held about the jail population and the payment for housing city arrests versus county arrests, followed by questions and answers about the jail inmate housing contract with Bingen on this afternoon's consent agenda for approval, the Board was in support of leaving the contract on for approval and will be reviewing the contracts in the future after the upcoming election.

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** for lunch at 12:08 PM.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 1:00 PM. Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** the business agenda with an add-on at 2:40 PM. Financial Software Steering Committee report.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for March 15, 2022, as presented.

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

President and Council Chairman of the Dallesport/Murdock Community Council Don McDermott read into the record a letter regarding the request of creating a local park in the area.

Dallesport resident Teresa Cagle on the Dallesport Community Council stated she will present 327 signatures to support a Dallesport Community Park.

Dallesport resident Lynne Kadlec reported on her history in the area, followed by a report on the young family community that is in the Dallesport area and stated a park can bring the area together and there is a need for a park.

Ann Slead from Dallesport stated she is very passionate about the need for a park, noting many people in the area are willing to help, noting there is a large portion of community involvement and services are being offered to help with the creation of a park. Ms. Slead requested support from the Board for the creation of the park.

Commissioner Christopher stated it is nice to see communities come together with a passion, noting he would like to see community development dollars going towards more projects like this.

Commissioner Sauter thanked the Dallesport Community for coming in today, and is in support of the Dallesport Park, noting he has been supportive of this project and will continue to be supportive and research funding for the project.

Chairman Anderson thanked the members for coming, noting this is the way communities can come together and support a project, noting there are lots of areas that can benefit from a park down in that area. Chairman Anderson stated there are others in the area who he can suggest reaching out to for more information on running a community park.

Ann Slead reported on the reason the area was chosen for a park site, noting it is where the most residential houses are and is the safest area.

President and Council Chairman McDermott stated he has been a Community Council President for seventeen (17) years and there are a lot of projects that get requested to be built, and this project will support the whole community.

Miscellaneous Reports/Comments:

Clerk Renea Campbell requested and received verbal approval to proceed with the advertisement process to fill a Legal Administrative Assistant position.

Public Health Department Update/Report

Attendance: Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Health Director Erinn Quinn reported on February Clinical Services as well as the yearly, followed by an Environmental Health Update.

A report was provided on the COVID-19 cases to date, followed by an immunization update.

Commissioner Anderson requested Director Quinn provide a report on the amount of mental health work that the Public Health Department does for the public.

New Business:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Proclamation from the Department of Emergency Management proclaiming April 10-16, 2022, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week by the Governor of Washington, the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, and the National Emergency Number Association.

Before the motion Department of Emergency Management Director, Jeff King reported on the proclamation function, followed by Chairman Anderson reading the proclamation in its entirety.

A brief discussion was held regarding the letter in support of the Columbia Cascade Housing Corporation's Klickitat County Assisted Living Facility.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** The Consent Agenda with ten (10) items. Prior to the approval discussion was held regarding item No. 6. Clarification will be provided before the close of the meeting.

- 1) Notice of "Request for Proposals" from qualified entities to use Klickitat County Historic Preservation Funds of which \$5,000 of the accumulated amount will be made available for award in 2022. An application must be complete and submitted by Friday, May 06, 2022.
- 2) Professional Services Agreement (**C04922**) between Argentina Rangel and Klickitat County (Public Health Department) to establish the Peer Support Leaders for the Perinatal Mental Health Capacity Building Grant.
- 3) Business Associate Agreement (**C05022**) extension between the Community in Motion (formerly Human Services Council) and Klickitat County (Senior Services Department) to provide non-emergency Medicaid Transportation Services for Medicaid recipients in Klickitat County.
- 4) Agreement (**C05122**) for Incarceration of City Prisoners between The City of White Salmon and Klickitat County (Sheriff's Office) for the purpose of allowing users of the Klickitat County Jail facilities as defined in the agreement for a yearly amount of \$13,000.
- 5) Request for concurrence to award the bid to Albina Asphalt of Vancouver, Washington for 2022, Liquid Asphalt Purchase, as bid in the amount of \$773,537.50 including sales tax and delivery.
- 6) Fairgrounds Licensing Agreement between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the American Legion Post #116 for the use of the Fairgrounds, April 17, 2022, for a Community Easter Egg Hunt; the group is requesting their fees be waived with the understanding that clean-up and set-up will be done by the group for their event.
- 7) Request to publish Notice of Planned County Force Work, notice is hereby given in accordance with RCW 36.77.070, that zero (0) costs were expended in 2021.
- 8) Contract (**C05222**) and Contract Bond between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Stripe Rite, Inc. for the 2022 Annual Striping Program, RN 642-21 as bid for \$369,460.00 and authorization for the Public Works Director to execute any change orders for this project due to unforeseen conditions up to 10% of the contract (\$36,946.00), for an aggregate of \$406,406.00.
- 9) Authorization of Chair signature for the Digital Submittal Certification for the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) for 2022, Road Levy Certification.
- 10) **Resolution No. 03922** in the matter of proving funds to the City of Goldendale for an Economic Development Facility through .09 dollars; the County will provide \$250,000 to help fund the preliminary engineering phase of a proposed wastewater treatment plant improvement project.

Payment Approvals:

***Approved Warrants (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Accounts Payable: (#312745 - 312859), Direct Deposit (958) \$148,066.57.

Payroll Warrants: (#228521 – 228794), Combined Payroll, (#312735 – 312743), Electronic Transfer (#957), in the amount of \$1,025,553.87.

For a combined total of \$1,173,620.44, for the date ending March 28, 2022.

Treasurer's Elected Official Report/Update:

Attendance: Treasurer Greg Gallagher, Auditor Brenda Sorensen, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Treasurer Greg Gallagher reported on the Finance Committee Meeting, noting an item for discussion is the Electronic Signature Policy that was in effect during the County's State of Emergency.

A discussion was held about the sales tax increase implementation at the beginning of next month, and the allocation and budget of the Real Estate Excise Tax.

Treasurer Gallagher reported Auditor Brenda Sorensen is researching if the name change fee can be waived for indigent clients, followed by a report on the current online auction happening right now for the surplus auction.

Auditor Brenda Sorensen requested and received verbal approval to move forward with awarding and writing a contract with BerryDunn, Auditor Sorensen stated the importance of beginning contract negotiation for the purchase and implementation of the new County's Financial Software.

Commissioner Sauter reported on the process in which the financial vendor was selected, followed by unanimous support from the Board to proceed with negotiations.

Board Pending:

Commissioner Christopher stated he met with a developer regarding plans for the old Aluminum Plant Area

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel Elected Official Report/Update:

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

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel reported on a criminal trial that is taking place right now in the East District Court, noting he will be requesting approval to fill a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney position next week. Commissioner Sauter inquired if there is anything the Board can do to support the Prosecutor's Office.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel stated there is a shortage of Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys and the remote location is difficult for some employees, a conversation followed about the difficulty and what it could take to retain employees.

Natural Resource/Economic Development Department Director Dave McClure brought letters to be signed and sent to the family of the late Dick Beightol, stating that Mr. Beightol served over a decade on the Klickitat County Water Conservancy Board and made significant contributions to the success of the board over the course of three consecutive six-year appointments as well as serving over a decade on the Water Resource Inventory Area 31 Planning Committee.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel stated the Judges and himself are making a request to have the Litter Work Crew returned to the criminal justice departments.

Commissioner Sauter advised of an inquiry about looking at the hosting fee, as well as the Tribal Housing Authority information.

A discussion was held about agreements with the cities for court costs, noting a conversation will be held next week including the judges.

A discussion followed on laws and statutes that govern the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel reported on the use of the judicial system the County provides by the Cities and by the County.

At 3:30 PM Chairman Johnston announced that the Board would be convening into Executive Session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation with Prosecutor David Quesnel. It was noted the session would last ten (10) minutes. At 3:40 PM it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended ten (10) minutes.

The Board convened back into Regular Session at 3:50 PM. No action was taken.

*Noted Correspondance for the record: A letter addressed to U.S. Senator Patty Murray and U.S. Senator Mari Cantwell regarding an endorsement of support to use the USDA Rural Development Community Facility Grant dollars for the Columbia Cascade Housing Corporation's Klickitat County Assisted Living Facility.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 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 online named, Board of Commissioner's Meeting 3.29.2022.


Approved: **Jacob Anderson**
Chairman of the Board



4.26.2022
Date