

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, April 05, 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: Jacob L. Anderson and Dan Christopher.

Executive Session: Annual Performance Evaluation:

At 10:00 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. At 10:15 AM Chairman Anderson announced the executive session would be extended five (5) minutes. The Board convened back into Regular Session at 10:30 AM.

10:30 AM – Public Works Department Update

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving in the Chambers, various county employees, and county residents participating via zoom.

Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey reviewed items on the Consent Agenda for approval this afternoon; a discussion followed about the Goldendale City Council not approving the vacation of Grant street, drastically reducing the parking in the area.

A report was given on the maintenance crew projects, followed by the HVAC system repairs that were done in the Klickitat County Services Building.

Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the Satus radio tower site.

Director Kelsey stated they will be sending out a letter to political candidates advising political signs are not allowed in the County Right-of-Way.

Director Kelsey stated the annual bridge and inspection report has been published, followed by a discussion on the bridges that needs repair in the area and the Federal Funding available for bridges of a certain length, noting bridges under 20 feet do not receive Federal Funding.

11:00 AM - Solid Waste Department Update/Report:

Attendance: Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving reported the Litter Gitter program had its first event in the Husum; BZ Corners which covered approximately 8 miles of Highway 141 and collected~ 2 cubic yards (2 large truck loads or ~100 lbs of trash+ ~100 lbs from an illegal dump).

Director Irving stated the Secure your load education and awareness prep and promotion - data collection is scheduled for the beginning of May. We will be reaching out to law enforcement again regarding the need for Unsecured Load enforcement for the June 6th Event. The specific law regarding an unsecured load is RCW 46.61.655 Dropping load, other materials- Covering.

Director Irving requested the re-organization of the Solid Waste Department, noting she is currently operating without a Litter Crew Supervisor. A discussion followed about reducing the Litter Crew Supervisor Position to a part-time 30-hour-a-week position without benefits.

Director Irving stated Solid Waste will have the contract signed to do the special collection recycling program with Emerald Systems, focusing initially on plastic bags/film and bailing twine. Followed by advising the Bingen and White Salmon Community Cleanup is on April 22/23, Lyle has their Community cleanup on April 9/10 and Goldendale has a cleanup on April 30.

Director Irving reported the Solid Waste Department will be in attendance at The Home and Garden show in Goldendale on May 6-8.

Director Irving reported Landfill Manager Greg Bringle has recently given notice and Josh Shaw will be taking care of backfilling until a new manager can be hired and she will be in the office one day a week until the position has been filled.

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

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, April 05, 2022, at 1:00 PM. Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present: Jacob L. Anderson and Dan Christopher.

Agenda:

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): as presented

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

No minutes requiring approval

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

Roger Whitsitt stated next to him there is a yard full of cars and he has made a complaint to the Code Compliance Officer Lem Pratt regarding the issues. Mr. Whitsitt requested a letter be written advising the neighbor that the appearance of his yard is depreciating his home value.

Ken McKune from Goldendale remarked about the Goldendale Aluminum Plant and the Enron scandal, as well as the Puget Sound Energy Plant construction. Mr. McKune stated that PSE came to the Goldendale High School Gym and described the projects and held a question and answer forum; Mr. McKune stated he would like to see the energy farm moratorium re-instated until the citizens can be heard about their opinions about the project.

Former Commissioner Joan Frey stated she was part of the Board when the nuisance code was written, basing it on citizens' rights for both the offender as well as the neighbor. Ms. Frey, there is a way to make it cost-effective for the County and not put the County out, noting she is in support of cleaning up Klickitat County.

Husum resident Sheri Bosquet reported on her attendance at the Undercavass trial held in Superior Court, followed by the Conditional Use Permit process that is used for projects throughout the county. Ms. Bousquet requested a town hall meeting to discuss the potential of solar projects in Klickitat County.

Delmar Eldridge from Goldendale stated the neglect of the County by allowing the solar farms to be in Klickitat County; Mr. Eldridge stated the solar energy project parts are not recyclable and inquired what the decommissioning plan will be for the solar farms.

Lyle resident Tracy Wixman stated the Red Cross is a volunteer program and has an issue with the Consent Agenda item on for approval this afternoon noting that it states there will be a fee for the services provided; Ms. Wixman inquired about the Bell Design Contract on for approval as well, noting the confidential information section caused her concern.

Commissioner Christopher responded to Mr. Whitsitt reviewing the steps that can be taken by the County Code Compliance Officer on behalf of the County, followed by a discussion about the Code Compliance Code. Chairman Anderson stated Code Compliance Officer Lem Pratt has done a lot to clean up the past cases when the County was without an Officer for a year.

Commissioner Christopher stated that the County needs to update the County Comprehensive Plan and there will be more regulation on projects looking into locations in Klickitat County.

Chairman Anderson advised that the Bell Design Contract on the Consent for this afternoon is an on-call design contract and has standard contract language, as well as advising that the Red Cross Contract is in place in case there is an emergency in the future, it follows the standard contract guidelines.

A discussion followed regarding the hours of the position and whether the position will remain a benefited position.

Solid Waste Director Ruby Irving reviewed the litter crew job description as well as the grant from The Department of Ecology for the position.

Chairman Anderson stated a discussion should be held regarding the funding for this position and reimbursing the County from the municipalities, followed by Commissioner Christopher stating the departments will need to work together to ensure the funding is being reimbursed from the Solid Waste Department.

The Board directed staff to start the transfer of the Litter Crew Position and vehicles to the Adult Probation Department.

Discussion concerning entering into negotiations with Klickitat County municipalities to determine a more equitable method of charging for District Court Services.

Attendance: District Court Judges Rick Hansen, Jeff Baker, Prosecutor David Quesnel, HR Manager KC Sheridan, HR & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Interim Adult Probation Director Courtney Cooke, Adult Probation Counselor Steve Crow, Chief Jail Deputy Carmen Knopes, Former Commissioner Joan Frey in the Chambers, Citizen Lori Zoller various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Prosecutor David Quesnel reported on the County Code that the Cities follow to pay for the District Court Services, noting there is currently no agreement with the Cities to pay for the Services provided.

The Board stated there are more costs that go into Court costs than what is being paid, noting the payments will be made through July and then the County will enter into negotiations with the cities at the beginning of the year.

District Court Judge Rick Hansen stated he would like to see the cities and the county work together to share the cost of the Court Systems versus creating all of their own, followed by District Court Judge Jeff Baker stated he would like to see a fair outcome, noting they work for the cities and the county, moving forward as seamlessly as possible. The Judges stated they can provide statistics as necessary.

The Board held a discussion about the court case numbers being seen in the Districts' Courts.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously):** The Consent Agenda with fourteen (14) items.

- 1) Memorandum from the Planning Department scheduling a public meeting to be held Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 1:30 PM to consider approval of Short Plat SPL 2021-19; Parcel Nos. 04-11-3000-0007/00 and 04-10-2500-0007/00 located in the Husum vicinity; Applicants Gary Gottschalk.
- 2) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill four (4) vacant temporary Flagger positions at Grade 32, Steps 1-3, within the Public Works Departments.
- 3) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant temporary Summer Labor Engineer Carpenter Apprentice position at Grade 33, Steps 1-3, within the Public Works Departments.
- 4) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant temporary Summer Labor position at Grade 33, Steps 1-3, within the Public Works Departments.
- 5) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill two (2) vacant Communication Officer positions at Union Grade, Steps 1-4, within the Department of Emergency Management/E911 Dispatch.
- 6) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Weed Control/Road Maintenance Technician position at Union Grade, Steps 1-3, within the Public Works Department.
- 7) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Legal Administrative Assistant I or II position at Grade 35-36, Steps 1-3, within the Clerk's Office.
- 8) Amendment No 1 (C04922) to the Professional Services Agreement between Anna Coughlin and Klickitat County (Public Health Department) to support the Breastfeeding Program, Perinatal Mental Health Program, Maternal Child Health Block Grant, and the Mid-Columbia Children's Council MOU to include supporting the Maternity Support and Infant Case Management program. All other aspects of the contract remain in effect.
- 9) Concurrence to award the Client Project Management Services to BerryDunn and authorize the Finance Steering Committee to move forward with negotiating an agreement.
- 10) Bond between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and All Season's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc. in the amount of \$90,072.9, including sales tax for the Pioneer Center HVAC Replacement Project.
- 11) Bond between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and All Season's Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc. in the amount of \$146,049.88, including sales tax for the Klickitat County Courthouse HVAC Replacement Project.
- 12) Facility Use Agreement (C05022) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the American Red Cross for the potential use of the Klickitat County Fairgrounds and Facilities as a service center to store supplies, park vehicles, and use as a disaster shelter if a natural disaster occurs.
- 13) Contract (C05122) Retainage Bond between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and James Dean Construction for the Courtney Roar Safety Project CRP 342 & CRP 343. Momentary Retainage has been chosen by the contractor in lieu of the County withholding 5% Monetary Retainage.
- 14) Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement (C05222) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Bell Design Company for on-call survey services including, performing on-site general surveying, setting or resetting property corners, and setting or resetting section corners and other monuments.

Payment Approvals:

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

Accounts Payable: (#312893 – 312970), \$142,168.06.

For a combined total of \$1,135,836.08 for the date ending April 04, 2022.

Unfinished Business:

Attendance: HR & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

HR & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave: Update on review of insurance provider services.

Requested and received verbal approval to move the County's Insurance from WRCIP to WCRP followed by a discussion on the savings in the premiums and the differences each carrier provides.

Board Pending:

Commissioner Christopher advised the Washington State Association of Counties and the Federal Government have Cyber inspection programs and they would be able to come into your agency and advice of you of potential issues.

Chairman Anderson advised he was in attendance at Larry Barker's retirement and was very impressed by the productivity that was able to be utilized with Google Meets as well as space, followed by an update on the Hood River/White Salmon Bridge.

Elected Official Report/Update:

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

A brief discussion was held regarding the transfer of the Litter Crew.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:18 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 online named, Board of County Commissioner's Meeting 4.05.2022.


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



4.26.2022
Date