

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, May 03, 2022**

Morning Workshop Session

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/Road Department Update:

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

Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on the contract on this afternoon's Consent Agenda, followed by a Construction Program update. Deputy Director Hunter stated the contractor on Courtney Road is grubbing, installing slit fencing, and burning slash piles, followed by a report on the trespassing that is taking place on the construction site and the theft over the weekend from the contractor's tool trailer. A discussion followed about the added signage on the bottom and top of the road, stating it is closed to all through traffic. Deputy Director Hunter stated he will be looking into the potential of installing gates and will follow up with the Forest Service about continuing to advertise the closure.

Deputy Director Hunter reported on the Klickitat Path, Courthouse Parking Lots, Guardrail Projects, the 100% Federally Funded Bridge Projects being submitted and the maintenance projects being completed by the east and west end crews.

A report was provided on the finishing work being done on the Klickitat County Service Building and the HVAC unit replacement in the Courthouse and the Pioneer Center.

Deputy Director Hunter provided a brief report on the Satus Pass Radio site, followed by reporting on the upcoming Home and Garden Show at the Fairgrounds.

Deputy Director Hunter reported the County was not going to receive the Washington Dept of AG, followed by an updated proposed non-capital project plan, the Board held a discussion about removing a project from 2022, list to 2023, Clarification was provided on the Board approved sound upgrade in the Department of Emergency Management Building.

Commissioner Christopher inquired about the gravel being hauled on Garrison Road, Deputy Director Hunter provided clarification on the type of rock being hauled and why.

10:30 AM – Sheriff's Office Elected Official Report/Update:

Attendance: Sheriff Bob Songer, Under-Sheriff Tim Neher, Chief Civil Deputy Karen Elings, Chief Jail Deputy Carmen Knopes, Posse member Mike Delangis, Natural Resource/Economic Development Department Director Dave McClure, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Sheriff Bob Songer reported on the calls for service from January 1, 2022, to May 1, 2022, followed by stating there will be an Officer Memorial on May 12, 2022, honoring those Law Enforcement Officers that lost their lives in the line of duty during the years of 2021, and 2022.

Under-Sheriff Tim Neher provided a staff report, noting upcoming retirements and transfers, and a discussion followed about Officer Training. Commissioner Christopher inquired and received clarification about the de-escalation training provided.

Chief Jail Deputy Carmen Knopes reported on the Correction Staff's upcoming National Correction Officer Week from May 1st through the 7th, followed by Correction's Officer training, court case transportation, Superior Court Trial monitoring, noting the volunteer hours in the courtroom from the Klickitat County Posse.

Chief Jail Deputy Knopes reported on the difficulties being had with the Comprehensive Health Center, Chief Jail Deputy Knopes stated she has been in contact with Beacon Health who oversees the contracts and funding for Comprehensive and will be investigating the service provided. A discussion followed about the difficulties to receive a mental health evaluation for the officers in the field.

Chief Jail Deputy Knopes reported on training that has taken place in the jail, Chief Jail Deputy Knopes stated she discussed daily operations with deputies from other agencies and the instructors, noting good feedback was given, noting she was commended on keeping such a clean jail.

Chief Civil Deputy Karen Elings reported the office is preparing for a booth that will be at the Klickitat County Fair, noting they will be doing Concealed Weapons Permit renewed, as well as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design training. The training will entail encouraging citizens to increase outdoor lighting and cameras.

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** that the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners will observe May 12, 2022, as Peace Officers Memorial Day, and May 11-17, 2022, as National Police Week in Klickitat County, and publicly salutes the service of law enforcement officers in our community and in communities across the nation.

Undersheriff Tim Neher reported for every one (1) life lost in the line of duty, three Officers take their own lives, noting the large mental burden on Officers.

Sheriff Bob Songer reported on the changes in being able to do drug arrests, noting that it is out of the hands of the Officer as the laws have been changed.

Commissioner Christopher reported on Criminal Justice Grant that may cover a bulletproof vest for the Code Compliance Officer.

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

Attendance: Solid Waste Recycling Coordinator Michelle Mulrony and Landfill Compliance Officer Joe Johnson in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Landfill Compliance Officer Joe Johnson reported on the length of his employment with the County, the training certificates that he holds, and the duties completed as assigned, followed by a brief discussion about the illegal dump cleanups and dumping sites in the area.

A discussion was held about the Department of Ecology's involvement with the landfill operations, and the problems that the County addresses with the Klickitat County dumping sites.

A brief discussion was held about a request to use the Klickitat County Landfill for a waste profile that needs approval from the County for disposal at the Roosevelt Landfill.

Solid Waste Recycling Coordinator Michelle Mulrony reported on the Solid Waste Programs that the Solid Waste Department oversees; an update was provided on the City Clean-Up events that have taken place over this last month.

Solid Waste Recycling Coordinator Mulrony reported on the Litter Clean-up done by the Centerville School with Landfill Compliance Officer Johnson, noting she is working on getting other schools to become involved with clean-ups as well, followed by a report on the Secure Your Load Campaign.

Solid Waste Recycling Coordinator Mulrony stated the Solid Waste Department will attend the Klickitat County Home and Garden Show this weekend, noting there will be composting bins available for purchase as well as a cooking tutorial to encompass composting.

Solid Waste Recycling Coordinator Mulrony stated the Goldendale litter clean-up has been rescheduled to be held in June, followed by a City of Goldendale Clean-Up, noting the other cities that have hosted clean-ups have non-profit facilitators.

A discussion was held about the paint disposal and the transfer stations, as well as closing the transfer stations for lunch breaks.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:50 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Commissioner's meeting at 1:00 PM, which was followed by the pledge of allegiance. All Three Commissioners were present.

Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** with on add-on under New Business.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

There were no minutes for approval

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 requested the Commissioner sign a resolution to secure the park property in Dallesport, followed by an inquiry about the Solid Waste Republic Contract, inquiring about getting dumpsters in Klickitat County, noting Republic Services has the monopoly on the dumpsters in the area. Mr. McDermott inquired about the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Vern Harpole thanked the Commissioner and stated the Board is doing a very good job, thanking Commissioner Sauter for meeting with the Forest Service Staff about access to the Lyle Sandbar.

Central/Eastern Klickitat Conservation District Manager Loren Meagher stated he is here if the Board has questions about the Conservation Districts' request for support for a recent conservation easement request.

Commissioner Sauter responded to Mr. McDermott regarding the transfer of the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant, of possibly the Public Utility District taking over the plant now that it is scheduled to be paid off this year.

Commissioner Christopher responded to Mr. McDermott about the lack of availability of getting the drop dumpsters, noting it is a supply issue that's being addressed. Commissioner Christopher responded to the rumor

about the Commissioner's taking over the Dallesport Water District, which is a misconception, the County commissioners cannot take over a district, the County owns the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant and has looked into possibly selling it.

Ruby Irving stated there are only certain drivers that can drive the roll-off drop containers and suspects they have lost more drivers and are unable to drop the containers.

Kathy Moco inquired about the redistricting plan and inquired if the County is in Congressional District 3 or 4 now. A discussion followed about the dates on which Klickitat County will be moved into Congressional District 4.

Chairman Anderson responded to Mr. McDermott about the Dallesport Water Well on the Airport and the Consultant that is working with the Dallesport Airport, The City of The Dalles, and the County.

Commissioner Sauter reported on his meeting with Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Lands Forest Service Staff Officer Miki Fujikawa he had last week regarding the Sand Bar access, noting the United States Forest Service deed and title documents do not show that the Railroad has been relinquished from their rights of allowing a crossing.

Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:

Public Meeting: considering final approval for Boundary Line Adjustment BLA 2021-12, Applicants; Timothy & Robin Urness, and Mike & Lisa Erland.

Attendance: Assistant Planner Denice Lee, Associate Planner Lori Anderson, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Citizens Lori Zoller and Don McDermott in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Assistant Planner Denice Lee reported Boundary Line Adjustment No. BLA2021-12 is a proposal to adjust the common property line between parcels 02-13-2152-0001/00, 02-13-2152-0003/00, and 02-13-2152-0004/00 off of Dallesport Road in the Dallesport vicinity.

Assistant Planner Denice Lee stated an administrative review of this boundary line adjustment has been completed. Signatures have been obtained from the Road, Health, and Planning Departments, including the Treasurer's Office. All conditions attached to the preliminary approval have been met.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): granting final approval for Boundary Line Adjustment BLA 2021-12, Parcel No.s 02-13-2152-0001/00, 02-13-2152-0003/00, and 02-13-2152-0004/00 in the Dallesport vicinity: Applicants; Timothy & Robin Urness, and Mike & Lisa Erland.

Public Meeting: Consideration of the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval of a proposal to rezone approximately 14.9 acres from Open Space (20-acre minimum) to Rural Center.

Attendance: Associate Planner Lori Anderson, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, Public Health Clerical Administrative Assistant Mackenzie Coleman, Citizens Don McDermott and Lori Zoller in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Associate Planner Lori Anderson stated Klickitat County coordinated the rezoning of approximately 14.9 acres from Open Space, to Rural Center if you are on public water and sewer within the area of the West Wishram Heights vicinity, noting it is north of State Route 14 within the Urban Exempt Area of the Columbia River Gorge

National Scenic Area.

Associate Planner Anderson reported the purpose of an Open Space zone is to retain or conserve, the open character of so designated land. The district is intended to provide permanent open space and to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the people by limiting development in areas where police and fire protection, protection against flooding by storm waters, danger from excessive erosion, and protection from possible health hazards created by sewage or septic tank drain fields, are not possible without excessive costs to the community.

Associate Planner Anderson advised the purpose and intent of the Rural Center zoning district are to provide for the location of small businesses and commercial services in rural areas for the convenience of county residents. The uses are intended to fit into the farm and rural patterns of development without creating land use or traffic conflicts, noting the Klickitat County Comprehensive Plan designates the property as Open Space. Rural Center is an allowed zone under this designation, thus a comprehensive plan amendment is not required.

Commissioner Sauter thanked the Planning Commissioner for their diligent work on this issue, followed by a discussion about the re-zone only being done on the north side of Highway 14, Chairman Anderson stated he would like to see the southside down and brought all into the same zoning.

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** to uphold the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval to rezone approximately 14.9 acres from Open Space (20-acre minimum) to Rural Center (5,000 SF minimum if on public water and sewer) within the area of approximate 660' of the "west Wishram Heights" vicinity that is north of State Route 14 within the Urban Exempt Area of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area (CRGNSA), Wishram, WA vicinity.

The Board recessed at 1:42 for 5 minutes.

Public Health Department Update:

Attendance: Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, Public Health Clerical Administrative Assistant Mackenzie Coleman, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Board of Health Members Sue Pennington and Paul Moyer, Citizens Lori Zoller and Don McDermott in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Health Director Erinn Quinn reported on the Clinical Services for the Sexual Reproductive Health and Woman Infant and Children Clients, noting the Office is doing quite a few vaccine clinics and continues to go into the schools to educate and vaccinate as requested.

A report was given to the Environmental Health Department, noting the Environmental Health Manager is monitoring the air quality during the controlled burns in the area.

Public Health Director reported on the fleet of vehicles for the Public Health Department, followed by a staff update.

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): recessed at 2:03 PM for the Board of Health Meeting.**

Miscellaneous Reports/Comments: Board of Health Meeting

The Board of County Commissioner's Meeting resumed at 3:01 PM

New Business: Code Compliance Department Update:

Attendance: Code Compliance Officer Lem Pratt, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley in the Chambers, various county employees, and county residents participating via zoom.

Code Compliance Officer Lem Pratt reported on the complaints in the North Lake Drive Area, followed by a discussion of the other properties in the area and the condition of the property that has been reported.

A discussion continued regarding the nature of the complaints and where the complaints are coming from, followed by a discussion of selective enforcement.

The Board agreed to move forward with the abatement.

Commissioner Christopher requested and received clarification regarding responding to citizens who have retained legal counsel.

Fiscal Manager Quarterly Update:

Attendance: Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel in the Chambers, various county employees, and county residents participating via zoom.

Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley reported on the first quarter Expenditures for the General Fund Budget.

A discussion followed about the cost to the cities for using the County's Courts.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** Consent Agenda with Seven (7) items.

- 1) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Accountant or Senior Accountant I position at Grade 39 or 60, Steps 1-3, Depending on qualifications within the Treasurer's Office.
- 2) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Code Compliance Officer position at Grade 40, Steps 1-3, Depending on qualifications within the Board of County Commissioner's Office.
- 3) Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Litter Crew Supervisor position at Grade 35, Steps 1-3, Depending on qualifications within the Adult Probation Department.
- 4) Contract (**C08822**) between Convergent Technologies and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the purpose of allowing Convergent Technologies to perform Lenel Software Support; the software is used for the card lock system at the Courthouse. The contract is effective from March 1, 2022, through February 29, 2024.
- 5) **Resolution No. 05022** in the matter of revising the Treasurer's Office Organizational Chart to reflect reinstating the Accountant position, grade 39. Effective May 3, 2022.
- 6) Renewal of the Communications site sublease agreement (**C08922**) between Klickitat County (Emergency Management Department) and Washington State Department of Natural Resources to lease space at the Juniper Point Communications site. The term of this agreement is June 1, 2021, and ending May 31, 2023.
- 7) Amendments No. 1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement (**C09022**) for Implementation of the Water Resource Inventory Area's (WRIA) 30 and 31 Watershed Management Plans between Klickitat County (Natural Resource/Economic Development Department) and Eastern/Central Klickitat Conservation Districts.

Voucher Certification and Approval

***Approved Warrants (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Accounts Payable: (#313477 - 313570) \$148,838.51 and Direct Deposit (#961) \$11,993.46.

For a combined total of \$160,831.97, for the date ending May 05, 2022.

Board Pending:

A discussion continued about the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport and the water rights that are currently in dispute, Chairman Anderson inquired if the Board would like to make a motion to allow the Natural Resource/Economic Development Director Dave McClure to expend the funds to amend the current Aspect Contract to include being a consultant to provide documents to the Federal Aviation Administration in regards to the value of the water well located at the airport.

A discussion was held about the legal representation of The City of The Dalles and Klickitat County in the investigation of the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport water rights.

Commissioner Sauter provided background information on the reason for the water rights transfer, and the need for access to the well, followed by a discussion of the joint ownership of the airport.

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel provided clarification on hiring an attorney.

Commissioner Christopher stated he will attend the Board of Equalization hearings tomorrow as well as attending the Corrections Officer lunch/dinner on Friday.

Elected Official – Prosecutor’s Report/Update:

Attendance: Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave in the Chambers, various county employees, and county residents participating via zoom.

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel reported he will be returning next week with numbers to request separating the Deputy Prosecuting Attorney’s pay scale from the rest of the County, followed by reporting on the difficulty of hiring attorneys in the rural areas.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel advised most elected officials’ salaries are tied to the Prosecuting Attorney’s salary, noting Klickitat County is one of the few County’s that does not do that, it removes all the politics out of it; the Prosecuting Attorney’s salary is set from a percentage of the Superior Court Judge.

Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave advised there is a small group of employee positions that are very hard to fill, their level of education is much higher than any other employees hired into the County.

The Board expressed support for Prosecuting Attorney's pay scale restructure proposal.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel reported on the Superior Court Judge’s ruling on the redistricting as well as the proposed ordinance change, followed by an update on the upcoming district court trials.

Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel stated his support for the Safe Space, followed by the difficulties with reaching the Comprehensive Mental Health Department and the lack of services they are providing to Klickitat County.

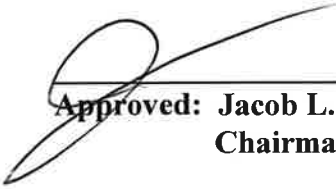
The Board discussed an email response to a citizens concern with construction on a local road.

A discussion was held about an email received regarding the solar projects and the Ordinance proposal change, followed by Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel stating the proposal is streamlining the appeal process.

Board Correspondence noted for the record: Addressed to the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program Recreation and Conservation Office regarding Klickitat County's strong support for the Davenport Agricultural Conservation Easement RCO Grant #22-1541A through the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program – Farmland Preservation Program administered by the Washington State Recreation Program Recreation and Conservation Office

(M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:43 PM, and there are no workshops scheduled.

* 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 05.03.2022 Board of County Commissioner's Meeting.


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



6.07.2022
Date