

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, May 10, 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, Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter reported on agenda items on this afternoon's consent agenda, followed by an update on the Surface Transportation Program Grants.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Aspect Consulting Contract and what the contract includes and the job costing charges applied to the project in which the consultants and the Public Works Staff work on.

Deputy Director Hunter reported on the finishing projects being done in the Klickitat County Services Building and the demolition of Annex 1, noting they are leaving the intact bricks in the area for those interested before the final clean-up.

A report was given on the east and west end crews' projects, followed by an update on the Satus Pass Radio Tower site.

Deputy Director Hunter stated the Home and Garden Show this past weekend went well and stated there will be a Walk for Life this weekend using the Courthouse lawn.

A discussion was held regarding the Republic Services dump containers the County is using for the demolition of Annex 1, the use of their truck, and the chassis to haul the 80-yard dump trailers.

A discussion was held with Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King about the installation of the soundproofing in the Emergency Management Center; the alarm at the Centerville School last night, as well as discussion about the Satus Pass Radio Site and the installation of the batteries.

Miscellaneous Reports/Comments: Klickitat County Fair Board President Update

Attendance: Klickitat County Fair Board President Ron Ihrig, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Department of Emergency Management Director Jeff King, Fair Board Member Erika Beasley in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Klickitat County Fair Board President Ron Ihrig reported on the additions the Fair Board would like to build at the Fairgrounds, noting a sale barn area and more Recreational Vehicle (RV) Parking is needed.

KC Fair Board President Ihrig reviewed a map of the new layout for the Fairgrounds. Followed by a discussion of the installation of the utilities in the ground which will need to be blasted due to the amount of basalt rock in the area.

KC Fair Board President Ihrig requested permission to continue to work with Public Works on the designs of the new fairgrounds' layout.

Fair Board Member Erika Beasley reported on the RV parking, past years' electrical hookups, and the overflow camping area.

KC Fair Board President Ihrig reported on the rate for admission and the free admission days; Commissioner Christopher inquired if the Fair Board has reached out to any of the green energy projects for sponsorship, noting they may be interested.

A brief discussion was held about the dinner and dessert to be served at the Fair Kick-off Dinner.

11:00 AM – Board Pending:

Commissioner Sauter stated he will be meeting with the Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter regarding the discussions being held with the Public Utility District about the sale of the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant. A discussion followed regarding the rates and the growth that will potentially add new connections.

Chairman Anderson stated the Co-Chair of the Hood River /White Salmon Bridge and himself are researching going to Washington D.C. to inquire about Federal Grants as well as applying for the Federal Grants before traveling, Chairman Anderson inquired and received verbal approval from the Board to proceed with signing the Grant Proposal as written by the Grant Consultant before the end of the month.

Commissioner Christopher stated he attended the Board of Equalization meetings held last week, followed by stating he has meetings with Republic Services tomorrow regarding the availability of roll-off containers.

Commissioner Christopher stated he met with Regional Economic Diversification Summit Members regarding projects in the area.

A discussion was held about Chairman Anderson's attendance at the Canvassing Board as well as his and Commissioner Christopher's attendance at the National Corrections Officer appreciation week dinner on Thursday.

Commissioner Christopher reported he has been looking into the Mental Health Crisis in the area and wants to research what other counties are doing.

A discussion was held about rescheduling the upcoming workshop from Thursday, May 19th to Wednesday, May 18th.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): The Board recessed for lunch at 11:28 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Anderson reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM; Opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioners present: Chairman Jacob L. Anderson, David M. Sauter, and Dan Christopher.

Agenda:

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

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

There were no minutes requiring approval.

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

Vern Harpole with Community Enrichment for Klickitat/Skamania Counties that helps with the small non-profit 501c committee, Mr. Harpole extended a thank you to the Senior Services Committee, followed by stating when Economic Development Specialist Richard Foster is gone there is not a lot of Economic Development feedback

given. Mr. Harpole inquired who to stay in contact with for the 501c committee when Economic Development Coordinator Richard Foster is unavailable.

Keith Johnson Inquired about the Veterans Service Officer retiring and would like to know if the Board has already gotten someone on Board for Veteran Service Officer, William (Bill) Smith to train.

Gabrielle Gilbert stated she thought comments in regards to the lack of Comprehensive Mental Health Services in Klickitat County were negative, as well as adding daycare to the 10-year Economic Development Plan.

Lori Zoller stated her concerns about the lack of participation from the Boards assigned to advise the Commissioners, Ms. Zoller stated there is meaningful citizen input and there is a lack of that lately, noting the topics that come up can be very heated but are necessary. Ms. Zoller stated there need to be up-to-date ordinances and up-to-date code documents for projects moving forward.

Sheri Bousquet thanked the Planning Department for having the Planning Commissioner Meeting on Zoom last night, noting there was good education given and there was transparent information given. Ms. Bousquet stated she is in agreeance that the Critical Ordinance needs to be updated and reviewed by the Planning Commission further.

Greg Wagner inquired about the use of the Planning Commission to make a recommendation about the larger projects coming into Klickitat County, Mr. Wagner inquired if the Planning Commission could be used for the Marijuana Moratorium could it be used for the Solar Moratorium recommendation.

Tracy McKune asked if there are members of the public that would like to be a part of this afternoon's discussion and encouraged the citizen to follow the RCWs listed on the documents posted for the amendments to the Klickitat County Environmental Ordinance. Ms. McKune inquired about her name being written on the Department of Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Commissioner Sauter responded to Ms. Gilbert stating he appreciates her comments about Comprehensive Mental Health, noting they will attend the May 24th Board of Commissioner's Meeting. Commissioner Sauter stated he would like to discuss further with Ms. Zoller about the involvement of the Board's advising the Commissioners, followed by responding to Mr. Wagner that the Board of County commissioners is the last stop and they are held accountable for their decisions and does take advice from the Boards designed to advise the Commissioners.

Chairman Anderson responded to Ms. Bousquet stating he appreciated the meeting being held via Zoom also, followed by responding to Mr. Wagner advising that a moratorium can be brought forward from the Planning Commission as well as from the Board of County Commissioners. Chairman Anderson responded to Tracy McKune stating he was also part of the Department of Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Plan. Chairman Anderson stated he was unsure about the RCWs Ms. McKune requested the citizens to read.

Commissioner Christopher responded to Mr. Harpole stating he is trying to start a Goldendale Committee that will be requesting the help of Community Enrichment for Klickitat/Skamania Counties for the non-profit portion of the projects.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings/Bid Openings:

Public Hearing: To consider a supplemental budget 2022-1 and amendments for the 2022 budget for various funds in the sum of \$1,608,186, and to hear public comments in favor of and opposed.

Attendance: Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley, Public Works Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Public Works Deputy Director Finance & Administrative Services Pam Beierle, Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Superior Court Administrator Mary Jo Hansen, Human

Resource Manager KC Sheridan, seven (7) members of the public in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Chairman Anderson declared the public hearing open advising purpose the of the hearing is to accept public testimony both in favor of and opposed to the proposed 2022 Budget supplemental amendments, followed by a request for a staff review.

Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley reported there are a total of four departments requesting a supplemental budget adjustment, noting three of the requests are budget neutral; a few adjustments to the Dallesport Wastewater budget after the County received the PUD's updated budget.

Fiscal Manager Bartley stated the Indigent Defense has had an increase in expert fees and budget intervention was needed for four of the funds, noting the requests need to be appropriated from the Board.

Fiscal Manager Bartley stated the Superior Court had discussions with the Board during the budget workshop about potential supplemental requirements and the increases were not made before the budget went to a public hearing in 2021; additionally, the Public Works Department is requesting funding for projects that were not able to be completed in 2021 as well as funding for the Road fund to finish the Courtney Road Safety Project.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing to receive public testimony both in favor of and opposed to 2022, budget amendments.

Sheri Bousquet stated she feels like this is a lot of money and inquired how much more will the people need to pay to fix Courtney Road, she is unsure what is on Courtney Road and why does it need to be fixed.

Tracey McKune stated she is against the supplemental and hasn't heard anything about the fire department on Courtney Road and if there is involvement of the fire department in this road project. Ms. McKune stated she is unsure if Klickitat County is number 7 on the Wildfire Mitigation Plan. Ms. McKune inquired about the Federal Emergency Management Agency flood plain maps that have been provided by the Federal Government.

Gabrielle Gilbert stated that Courtney Road residents pay taxes and have the right to have their road improved, followed by an inquiry about daycare funding versus road funding.

Chairman Anderson closed the public hearing to further public testimony, and called for discussion among the Board.

Commissioner Sauter inquired about the transferring of funds through the supplemental process, noting the funds have been appropriated, this is the transferring of the funds. Commissioner Sauter stated the Courtney Road Safety Project has gone through the six-year transportation and the decision has been made and the project is under construction.

Commissioner Sauter inquired about the supplemental request from the Superior Court, Superior Court Administrator Mary Jo Hansen advised the funds are available through grants and this is the transferring of the funds, as well as the funds for the expert witnesses and indigent defense.

Chairman Anderson inquired about the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant transfer original line item amount. Chairman Anderson reviewed the Courtney Road Safety Project and the grants that have been given to this project due to the safety aspect of this project, noting Courtney Road is the only other road out of Snowden in case of a wildfire.

Commissioner Christopher reviewed the funds diverted from the Public Works Department for the maintenance of the roads, noting he agrees with all the supplemental budget items but the Courtney Road Safety Project.

Commissioner Sauter stated the project has started and the bill has to be paid regardless of the vote on this supplemental, followed by Commissioner Christopher advising he has voted no on every aspect of the Courtney Road Safety Project.

Chairman Anderson reported this is most likely the County's last large road project for a few years, followed by advising how these projects get funded and how the funds get appropriated.

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed my majority): Commissioner Christopher was opposed. Resolution No. 05122** in the matter of approving the supplemental budget 2022-1 and amendments for 2022, budget for various funds in the sum of \$1,608,186.

The Board thanked Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley for the transparency and the thoroughness of this supplemental budget as well as for her Fiscal duties.

Public Hearing Continued/Open to further public comment: To consider proposed amendments to the Klickitat County Environmental Ordinance.

Attendance: Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, five (5) members of the public in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing and advised the purpose is to consider proposed amendments to the Klickitat County Environmental Ordinance, followed by a request for a staff review.

Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad reported The Board conducted a hearing on the Klickitat County Environmental Ordinance amendment on April 26, 2022, and at the April 26, 2022, hearing, the Board received public testimony and directed staff to prepare alternate flowcharts to facilitate further discussion.

Planning Director Lindblad advised the proposed amendment to the environmental review procedures is intended to increase code clarity. And revisions were made throughout the document, noting the main revision is focused on clarifying the State Environmental Policy Act Administrative Appeal (SEPA) Process.

Chairman Anderson inquired about the flow chart changes, Planning Director Lindblad stated some committees are no longer active for advisement and those have been removed, as well as extended the advertisement timeline to fit out rural newspaper publishing schedule, there has been no deletion of the public process for appeals.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing to public comment.

Deb Wagner stated she does not understand the changes and requested the proposal go in front of the Planning Commissioner for a recommendation.

Greg Wagner stated he doesn't understand the proposal and doesn't know how to find the information and requested the proposal go through the Planning Commission. Mr. Wagner requested the public be informed and involved in the public hearing amendments process to the Klickitat County Environmental Ordinance.

Dave Barta stated he believes the proposal is going to affect the local State Environmental Policy Act appeal process. Mr. Barta stated he does not believe the Commissioner plans to restrict the citizens' rights, but inadvertently may be doing that in the future by passing this ordinance.

Lori Zoller stated her agreement with Dave Barta, noting the depth of a SEPA appeal is very large and inquired if the commissioners are opposed to further legal review, noting she is not in favor of taking away, more rights from the citizens.

Tracy McKune spoke about the Comprehensive Management Plan, and the declaration of an Emergency by Governor Jay Inslee during the COVID-19 Pandemic, followed by reading into the record RCW's regarding the State Environmental Policy Act.

Pat Arnold read into the record a letter written in opposition to the Klickitat County State Environmental Policy Act ordinance changes, stating the Friends of the White Salmon are against the changes as well.

Sheri Bousquet thanked the previous commenters stating the citizens have not been educated on the changes, stating her opposition to the proposed changes. Ms. Bousquet requested the Planning Commission review the changes and make a recommendation to the Board.

Elaine Harney stated she reviewed the changes to the State Environmental Policy Act Ordinance changes as well as the flow charts, Ms. Harvey stated she believes the changes are taking away the local citizens' appeal rights and impact residents.

Closed the public hearing to further public comment and opened it to Board discussion and questions of staff.

Commissioner Christopher inquired how many State Environmental Policy Act appeals has the department seen in the last five (5) years. Planning Director Lindblad stated there has not been an appeal other than the Shoreline Master Plan Update, which is on hold at this time.

Planning Director Lindblad responded to Commissioner Christopher and Anderson's inquiry regarding non-project action, State Environmental Policy Act is one process, the project will take citizen comment. Questions and answers were provided regarding the appeal process, timelines, and fees.

Commissioner Sauter inquired if the Planning Commission can even hear such an ordinance proposal change, Planning Director Lindblad stated this action falls under the legislative authority decision and the Planning Commission does not have the authority to hear such an ordinance change.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing to any new comment, hearing none, opened the public hearing to further board discussion.

Commissioner Christopher stated he is frustrated by the lack of support for the proposed changes from the public and the lack of knowledge from the public on the subject.

Commissioner Sauter stated he is conflicted, as past practice shows that the appeal process can be good and can be used appropriately but has been used as a weapon as has not stayed before a local authority.

Chairman Anderson stated the appeal process can be used as a weapon and when in a judicial setting you use all of your weapons. Chairman Anderson stated the Board is trying to do what the citizens have asked to update ordinances or codes and have been met with opposition, as unfortunate as it is and as much as the Board is trying to keep the appeal processes in front of a local authority.

The Board held a discussion regarding the importance of updating the County Codes to better serve and provide clarification to the citizens.

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** continuation of the public hearing to the proposed amendments to the Environmental Ordinance O121084, as amended, and Title 20 of the Klickitat County Code, relating to environmental reviews to May 17, 2022, at a time to be determined, closed to further public comment for deliberation and decision by the Board.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Consent Agenda with eleven (11) items.

- 1) Agreement (**C09122**) No. SEASMP-2123-K1CoPD-00008 between The State of Washington Department of Ecology and Klickitat County (Planning Department) for the purpose of providing \$44,000 in grant funding to keep the Shoreline Master Program up to date. The project is to help Planning Department's efforts to avoid growth and development in hazardous areas with potential for channel migration, including the White Salmon, Klickitat, and Little Klickitat Rivers.
- 2) **Resolution No. 05222** in the matter of transferring (1) 2018 Ford F-150 Pickup Truck License #C1443C with VIN #1FTFW1EG1JFC30858, one (1) 2012 Ford WSD Econoline License #A2255C with VIN #1FBNE3BS3CDA78619, and one (1) 2013 Olympic Utility Trailer License #A2883C with VIN #1C9UF1216DT997418 from the Klickitat County Solid Waste Department to the Klickitat County Adult Probation Department.
- 3) Memorandums from the Planning Department scheduling a public meeting to be held Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 1:30 PM, to • Consideration for approval of a Boundary Line Adjustment, BLA2022-01, parcel numbers 02-13-2856-0104/00 and 02-13-2856-0105/00 in Section 28, T2N, R13E, W.M. in the Dallesport vicinity. Applicants: Mary Lee Allaway, Ernesto Rodriguez & Maria Herrera.
And
Consideration for approval of a Short Plat, SPL 2022-01; parcel number 03-12-0500- 0002/00 in Sections 5, T3N, R12E, W.M. in the Snowden vicinity. Applicant: Gabriel & Mitzi Moore.
And
Consideration for approval of SUB2021-01, a subdivision alteration; parcel number 04-16-2853-0005/00 in Sections 28, T4N, R16E, W.M. in the Goldendale vicinity. Applicant: Michael Herin.
And
Consideration for approval of a Short Plat, SPL 2021-12; parcel number 05-15-1113-1701/00 in Section 11, T5N, R11E, W.M. in the Goldendale vicinity. Applicant: Donald Larsen
- 4) **Resolution No. 05322** in the matter of an increase in the assigned pay grades by one (1) pay grade for the following positions: Assistant Planner; IT Help Desk I & II; IT System Administrator; Election Administrator; Plans Examiner I & II; Civil Engineer. The Building Department Director has requested that the Building Inspector I & II positions also be increased one (1) pay grade to maintain parity with the Plans Examiner I & II positions based on the fact that both positions are equally responsible and vital to ensuring public safety. Effective May 16, 2022.
- 5) Non-Capital Project List Amendment #1 adds three projects: the Superior Courtroom Design, Repair the Jail Roof, and Sound Proof the Dispatchers Communications Room. In addition, two (2) projects have been delayed; the repair of the southside of the Klickitat County Grandstands and the replacement of the Livestock Barn Doors.
- 6) Interlocal Agreement (**C09222**) between the City of Bingen and Klickitat County Public Works for the purpose of the City of Bingen trading appropriations from the Surface Transportation Program. Funds will be distributed to the City of Bingen based on population and mileage. The City of Bingen agrees to trade to Klickitat County on a dollar for dollar basis their distributed amount. \$24, 427.16 is budgeted for payment to the City of Bingen in 2022.
- 7) Interlocal Agreement (**C09322**) between the City of Goldendale and Klickitat County Public Works for the purpose of the City of Goldendale trading appropriations from the Surface Transportation Program. Funds will be distributed to the City of Goldendale based on population and mileage. The City of Goldendale agrees to trade to Klickitat County on a dollar for dollar basis their distributed amount. \$159,206.81 is budgeted for payment to the City of Goldendale in 2022.

- 8) Interlocal Agreement (**C09422**) between the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Public Works for the purpose of the City of White Salmon trading appropriations from the Surface Transportation Program. Funds will be distributed to the City of White Salmon based on population and mileage. The City of White Salmon agrees to trade to Klickitat County on a dollar for dollar basis their distributed amount. \$84,642.18 is budgeted for payment to the City of Goldendale in 2022.
- 9) Final Acceptance and Release of Contract Bond for the West Darland Drive Overlay CRP 361, certifying all contract requirements have been met by Central Washington Asphalt all in accordance with the contract plans, contract provision, and the Standard Specifications.
- 10) Agreement (**C09522**) for Reimbursable Services between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Centerville School District No. 215. The agreement is effective upon final signature and shall remain in force for no longer than five years following the date of the agreement, or to terminate on May 10, 2027, whichever comes sooner.
- 11) Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement (**C09622**) with Aspect Consulting between Aspect Consulting and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) This Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement for on-call Geotechnical Engineering services includes but is not limited to Performing on-site geotechnical field explorations, including but not limited to; soils analysis, coring, and slope stability reviews, providing peer review of development proposals, performing non-destructive roadway subgrade/pavement analysis on existing paved and gravel roads and providing general geotechnical engineering consultation. Executed upon signature and ending February 28, 2023.

Voucher Certification and Approval

Approved Warrants (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): Accounts Payable Warrants: (#313616-313715), in the amount of \$250,065.27.

Payroll Warrants: (#229310 – 229564), Combined Payroll, (#313716 – 313725), Electronic Transfer (#962), in the amount of \$722,750.95.

For a combined total of \$972,816.22 for the date ending May 09, 2022.

Chairman Anderson advised he is in support of having the topics that were to be discussed in next Wednesday's workshop moved onto the regular scheduled Tuesday, May 17th Board of County Commissioner's Meeting.

Elected Official – Prosecutor's Report/Update:

Attendance: Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Human Resource Manager KC Sheridan, two (2) Citizens, in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel reported on the proposed pay scale for the Deputy Prosecuting, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney I, II, and III, stating that the pay scale is a percentage of the Prosecuting Attorney's salary, which is set by the State and the Superior Court Judges salary.

Commissioner Christopher inquired and received clarification regarding the Cost of Living Adjustment increases that these employees would receive.

A discussion was held regarding the different attorney's expertise and pay scales.

Human Resources/Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave reported on the sensibleness of the pay scale and the great need to be competitive for retaining and hiring attorneys.

Chairman Anderson inquired about the potential increase to the Indigent Defense Attorney's contract, Prosecuting Attorney Quesnel advised he is not involved in that position and cannot speak to that.


A discussion was held regarding the level of education required for positions in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office as well as in some other elected officials' offices.

At 4:15 PM Chairman Anderson 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 Quesnel. It was noted the session would last five (5) minutes. At 4:20 PM it was announced the executive session would be extended by three (3) minutes. At 4:23 PM it was announced the executive session would be extended by three (3) minutes. At 4:25 PM it was announced the executive session would be extended two (2) minutes No action was taken.

The Board convened back into Regular Session at 4:27 PM. No action was taken.

(M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM, and there are no workshops scheduled for Thursday, May 12, 2022.

* 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 labeled Board of County Commissioner's Meeting 5.10.2022.


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



6.07.2022
Date