

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, June 21, 2022**

Agenda Item - Comment/Disposition

Call to Order/Roll Call

Vice-Chairman Dan Christopher called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Commissioner Sauter and Commissioner Christopher were present and Commissioner Anderson participated intermittently via zoom.

Workshop Session Agenda

10:00 AM – Public Works Department Update

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Director Jeff King. There were various county employees and members of the public listening via Zoom.

Director Kelsey provided a review of consent agenda items, pay estimates, and updated the Board on construction projects and east and west end road crew activities.

Director Kelsey advised the Board about problems with the Pioneer Center’s HVAC system and options to replace the system. Mr. Hunter provided a construction update on the Satus Radio Tower site.

Director Kelsey reported on the Courthouse remodeling project and updated the Board on a solution for a storage area for the Superior Court. Brief discussions followed regarding the placement of the County Services Building dedication plaque and how and where to hang historical photographs.

The Board had a discussion regarding a complaint about county employees parking on Main Street, downtown Goldendale.

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 (IT) Manager Jeff Roe, Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley, and DEM Director King. There were various county employees and members of the public listening via Zoom.

Director Van Cleave reported that efforts to find and recruit an IT System Administrator have been challenging, noting there are strong applicants for the Help Desk positions I or II. The department would like to grow its own system administrator by starting an employee at the Help Desk position. Director Van Cleave stated that it will be necessary to revise the department’s organizational chart, which will be coming before the Board in the near future.

Director Van Cleave provided updates on email archiving software and the On-Base software that is being used in the Clerk’s Office. Director Van Cleave provided an update on an upcoming supplemental request to cover the cost of implementing the new long-distance system as previously discussed.

Director Van Cleave reported that HR is currently reviewing the pay scale for the Civil Service Secretary position, noting that the County’s pay scale is far below other counties.

Director Van Cleave provided a brief Solid Waste Department update, which was followed by discussion concerning the Solid Waste budget, Republic Service’s quarterly updates, and tonnage reports.

At 10:54 AM Vice Chair Christopher announced that the Board would be convening into a “closed session” to discuss collective bargaining proposals/negotiations, grievance, mediation, and/or arbitration proceedings all associated with collective bargaining in accordance with RCW 42.30.140(4). It was noted the session would last ten (10) minutes. At 11:04 AM Vice Chair Christopher announced the session would be extended for five (5) minutes. The Board convened back into Regular Session at 11:09 AM. No action was taken.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): To recess for lunch at 11:09 AM.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Vice-Chairman Christopher reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at 1:00 PM, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Sauter and Commissioner Christopher were present and Commissioner Anderson participated intermittently via zoom.

Business Agenda

Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): to approve the Business Agenda as presented.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

There were no meeting minutes requiring approval at this time.

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

Ivy Velarde expressed her frustrations with an illegal gun range being allowed to operate in a residential neighborhood. Ms. Velarde read into the record a letter she had written to the previous Code Compliance Officer. Ms. Velarde stated the gun range owner will again be holding night time shooting classes, which clients pay hundreds of dollars to attend according to the website. Ms. Velarde noted that the gun range is not a legally permitted business as there is no Conditional Use Permit on file.

Sheri Bousquet read into the record an email that she sent asking where it is written that the County has the authority to amend a Conditional Use Permit. Ms. Bousquet also raised concern over a reimbursement agreement with Republic Services and asked the Commissioners to pull the agreement.

Ms. Bousquet stated that Republic Services is asking for more land, and wanted to know how much land. Vice Chair Christopher responded, stating none, noting that the amendment is to increase air space, to allow the height of the landfill to take in more solid waste and extend the life of the landfill. Ms. Bousquet continued to oppose the agreement and indicated that the County should not enter into agreements with these corporations it is irresponsible and reckless.

Delmar Eldridge inquired if Commissioner Christopher would commit to a 6:30 PM meeting to hear from citizens and answer questions. Following further discussion, the meeting was set for Tuesday, July 5th at 6:00 PM.

Greg Wagner raised concerns about reimbursement agreements, commenting that they are vague and do not address all costs for County services or the cost of road improvements. Mr. Wagner also said County staff has not kept track of their time and Under Canvass and Lund hill were not billed for anything but postage and legal notices, this is a failure, why are the corporations not being billed.

Commissioner Sauter asked for clarification, are you referring to reimbursement agreements to process permits. Reimbursement agreements cover the cost to review and process permit applicants not conditions of approval for a project. You are correct about staff time, in the past no one was billed for staff time, the policy has been changed, thanks to you. Mr. Sauter noted that now billing for staff time is uniformly applied to all projects.

Mr. Wagner asked who will pay for improvement to Oak Ridge Road? Commissioner Sauter advised that was a condition of approval for the Under Canvass project and it is stated as such in the approval documents. All conditions must be met before final approval is granted.

Candy Magnuson asked if Republic Services will accept wind turbine blades and solar panels for disposal. Vice-Chair Christopher advised that Republic Services is a private company and she would need to contact them, adding that he does not believe that the Roosevelt Landfill is permitted to accept that type of waste.

Discussion followed about contaminated waste and where it can be disposed of. The Board advised that solid waste disposal guidelines are outlined by State and Federal Government.

Commissioner Sauter responded to Ms. Bousquet stating Republic Services is allowed to request an amendment to their Conditional Use Permit, and the Reimbursement Agreement allows the County to be reimbursed for the time and cost to process the permit application. Ms. Bousquet stated that the County should not approve the agreement, and that the Commissioners should start doing their jobs.

Following a contentious back and forth dialog, Vice Chair Christopher stated that this is why we don't have town hall meetings, people don't have the courtesy to allow someone to speak without shouting them down, when you don't like the answer. Vice Chair Christopher noted that if the scheduled July 5th meeting is not civil and calm it will be the last meeting he will agree to.

Commissioner Sauter tried to provide further clarification regarding the Reimbursement Agreement on the consent agenda and the Conditional Use Permit process. Ms. Bousquet continued to argue. Vice-Chair Christopher ended the discussion.

Ms. Levarde inquired if Lem Pratt is still the Code Compliance Officer. Vice Chair Christopher advised that the current Code Compliance Office is Jorge Sendejas.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings/Bid Openings: To consider approval of Short Plat No. SPL2019-23.

Associate Planner Denise Lee reported that Short Plat No. SPL2019-23 is a short plat creating 4 lots from Parcel No. 03-10-1400-0017/00, which is located in the White Salmon vicinity. Ms. Lee advised that an administrative review of the short plat has been completed and all conditions attached to the preliminary approval have been met. If the Board finds that it is in the public's interest to approve this short plat, a motion needs to be made to grant final approval.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Motion granting final approval to Short Plat SPL2019-23, which creates 4 lots from Parcel No. 03-10-1400-0017/00; Applicant: Kinzey's Country Place, LLC.

The Board discussed the possibility of using half of the Annex 4 building for a childcare facility for County employees and the other half for mental health. Vice Chair Christopher suggested asking Business Consultant Ms. Lowell to come back with an analysis of the building for a County employee-only childcare. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Sauter concurred.

Vice Chair Christopher stated due to the lack of available childcare and rising fuel prices the Board should have a discussion with elected officials and department heads about the possibility of some departments allowing employees to work 4 day work week schedules or working remotely if they can. Commissioner Sauter stated that he would be supportive of having the discussion.

Vice Chair Christopher asked about the status of the proposed Dallesport community park. Commissioner Sauter stated that he met with members of the community and they are putting together plans and sketching out a park outline. Mr. Christopher noted that he is ready to move forward with action on the park. Commissioner Sauter advised that they should go through the public process when all three (3) Commissioners are present. Commissioner Sauter reported that he met with citizens, and the community is putting together a plan for the park. Commissioner Sauter noted that he will speak with Mr. Hunter regarding an RCO planning grant.

Vice Chair Christopher suggested asking Mr. Hunter to provide an overview of Recreation & Conservation (RCO) grants for the Board next week following the Public Works Department update. Commissioner Sauter agreed.

Commissioner Sauter provided a brief update on plans to hold a community meeting to discuss the future of the Dallesport Waste Water Plant.

Adult Probation Department Update/Report:

Attendance: Interim Adult Probation Officer Courtney Cooke and East District Court Judge Rick Hansen. There were various county employees, and members of the public listening via Zoom.

Ms. Cooke provided an overview of cases managed by Adult Probation versus the State Department of Corrections (DOC). Officer Cooke provided a staff report, noting the Litter Crew Supervisor is working a 35 hour work week. Ms. Cooke advised that there is an Interlocal Agreement on the consent agenda that will allow DOC to refer clients to work on the County litter crew.

Ms. Cooke requested and received verbal approval to proceed with restructuring the Adult Probation Department. Discussion followed concerning the duties assigned to the Chief Probation Officer, as well as the number of staff in the Adult Probation Department.

The Board continued a previous discussion regarding the Adult Probation Department's current database software which has no available support if the system were to crash. Officer Cooke requested approval from the Board to move forward with an agreement with an interim software company until 2026, when the state will provide the software program at no cost to the County.

Chairman Anderson provided a brief update on judicial services contracts which he has been discussing with the cities.

Senior Services Department Update/Report:

Attendance: Senior Services Director Sharon Carter. There were also various County department directors, county employees, elected officials, and members of the public present in person and via zoom.

Director Carter reported that the Cities of Bingen and White Salmon are participating in an electrical vehicle ride share program through the Department of Transportation's ZAP grant. Go-Forth is the company that provides the electrical vehicles and they are interested in doing the same in Goldendale. Director Carter stated that her department is interested in the program not only on the public transit side but also on the social services side for meal delivery and volunteer drivers transporting clients to medical appointments.

The Board asked questions and Director Carter provided clarification about the details, responsibility, and benefits of the program. Director Carter advised that the County would need to provide a letter of support and a designated parking spot, Go-Forth would provide a charging station, insurance and maintenance of the vehicle. Following further discussion, the Board expressed their support of the program.

Voucher Certification and Approval

Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): Accounts Payable Warrants: (#314584-314689), in the amount of \$1,527,490.02 for the date ending June 21, 2022. There were no Pay Roll Warrants requiring approval at this time.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): Pay Estimate No. 2 to James Dean Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$927,379.20 for the Courtney Road Project, CRP 342 & CRP 353.

Consent Agenda:

***Granted (M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously):** Approval of the Consent Agenda with ten (10) items, following a brief discussion regarding No. 8.

- 1) ***Request for authorization to publish a formal "Request for Proposals,"** together with statements of qualifications, for attorneys to provide legal assistance to indigent clients before the Superior Court of Klickitat County, Washington for the period of January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024.
- 2) ***Resolution No. 06222** in the matter of awarding 2022 Historic Preservation Grant Program funding in the amount of \$4,500.
- 3) ***Klickitat County Historic Preservation Grant Agreement(s) (C11422)-(C11622)** granting funds for Historic Preservation projects.
- 4) ***Interlocal Agreement (C11722)** between the State of Washington Department of Corrections and the Klickitat County (Adult Probation Department) for the purpose of allowing the Adult Probation Department to accept referrals into the litter crew program at no cost to the County.
- 5) ***Personnel Authorization** to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Case Manager position at Grade 70, Step 1, within the Senior Services Department.
- 6) ***Resolution No. 06322** in the matter of establishing the County ban on outdoor burning within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County Zone Three (3) from July 1, 2022, through September 30, 2022.
- 7) ***Contract Bond** between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Frank Gurney, Inc., in the amount of \$29,230.00 for the replacement of damaged guardrail and posts on various County roads.
- 8) ***Agreement (C11822)** between Klickitat County (Planning Department) and Republic Services "Roosevelt Regional Landfill" for reimbursement of cost and fees in the amount of \$2,000, for the purpose of amending the Conditional Use Permit (CUP-2006-08) to increase the maximum elevation from 1820 to 2050 MSL.
- 9) ***Purchase request** from the Public Health Department for one (1) Dell Latitude 7420 Laptop in the amount of \$2,405.56, including sales tax; and the required software in the amount of \$460.90, including sales tax.
- 10) ***Purchase request** from the Public Health Department to replace two (2) outdated WIC Latitude 7420 Laptops in the amount of \$4,811.12, and required software in the amount of \$921.79, including sales tax.

Miscellaneous Reports/Comments: Goldendale City Council Member Dave Jones.

Attendance: Goldendale City Councilmen Dave Jones in the Chambers, various county employees, and residents via Zoom.

Councilman Jones provided a schedule of events and timeline for Goldendale Community Days event, which is scheduled for July 8th and 9th.

Councilmen Jones updated the Board on the time capsule that was recently dug up and described some of the items that it contained. Mr. Jones invited the County and the public to offer items to be buried in the next time capsule which will be scheduled to be dug up in 50 years.

Prosecuting Attorney Elected Official Report/Update:

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel was not available to provide an update.

There being no further business before the Board, **Approved (M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously):** to adjourned at 2:39 PM. There are not workshops scheduled for Thursday, June 23, 2022.

* Reference Document on File. The Board of Commissioners' minutes are action minutes. A digital recording is on file as part of the official record and available on file Zoom 6.21.22 BOCC Meeting. Please Note: All Commissioner meetings and workshop are open to the public to attend. Meetings are recorded, Workshops are NOT recorded.


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



7-12-22
Date