

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, July 5, 2022**

Morning Workshop Session

Chairman Jacob Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. All three Commissioners were present.

Workshop Session Agenda

9:30 AM – Public Works/Road Department Update:

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey and Deputy Director Jeff Hunter. There were also various County elected officials, department directors, employees, and members of the public present in person and via zoom.

Director Kelsey provided a review of a large number of consent agenda items. Deputy Director Hunter reported on construction projects underway and in the design phase. Director Kelsey reported on road maintenance tasks assigned to the road crews and an update on facilities maintenance and repair projects. Mr. Hunter provided an update on the road access work for the Satus Pass Radio site.

Director Kelsey reported that a Trout Lake resident found a wooden play structure on Facebook for free and contacted Public Works to see if the County is interested in putting at the Trout Lake Park. Public Works crews will be setting it up at the park.

Commissioner Sauter requested and received an update on solutions to address the high levels of orthophosphate in the waste water treatment process at the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Facility.

Chairman Anderson requested and received an update from Mr. Hunter as to when the Title 12 Road Standards Committee would start meeting again to complete their review of the road standards.

10:00 AM - Emergency Management Department Update/Report:

Attendance: Emergency Management Director Jeff King, (via zoom). There were also various elected officials, employees, and members of the public in attendance via zoom.

Director King provided an update on the public safety radio system, which included updates on performance, maintenance and repairs. Director King reviewed radio site lease agreements and provided a brief update on the Satus Pass site.

Director King provided a 911 dispatch update, noting that staffing remains critical, but Communications Officers are in good spirits despite the number of extra shifts having to be covered. Director King reported that the Communications Room ceiling soundproofing has been completed and has made a significant impact on the echo and external sound.

Director King reported that 13 out of a total of 15 fire district user agreement renewals have been received. Brief updates on PPE requests, the Cascadia regional tabletop exercise, grant applications, the county burn ban and recent wildfires followed. Director King provided an update on the set up and testing progress for the Star Link Internet installed in the Mobile Command vehicle. Director King reported that dispatch assisted the City of Goldendale in locating and chasing a black bear out of town.

10:30 AM - Board discussion with Public Works, Planning and Emergency Management Departments concerning coordinating Klickitat County Risk (FEMA) MAP outreach efforts.

Attendance: Director Kelsey, Deputy Director Hunter, Director King (via zoom), Program Coordinator Frank Hewey and Director Lindblad. There were also various County elected officials, department directors, employees, and members of the public present in person and via zoom.

Planning Director Lindblad advised that multiple County departments have been participating in meetings with FEMA and the Department of Ecology coordinating FEMA map outreach efforts and they would like further direction from the Board on how to get the mapping updates out to communities.

Director Kelsey presented the FEMA Risk Map webpage from the Department of Ecology's website from his laptop. Director Kelsey was able to compare older maps to the updated versions. The Board reviewed locations within the County that were the most susceptible to flooding. Director Kelsey advised that there is no mapping data available for Tract D. Director Kelsey also shared Skamania County's FEMA Risk Map story board that was prepared for the County by FEMA, noting that he would like to ask FEMA to prepare one for Klickitat County.

Following further discussion, the Board indicated that they would like to add a FEMA story board to the County's website, and to have a draft letter prepared for Board signature to get the mapping updates out to community councils and communities.

Motion (M/Sauter , S/Christopher); passed. To recess for lunch at 10:36 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, July 5, 2022, at 1:00 PM, which began with the Pledge of Allegiance. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Agenda:

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

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for May 24, 2022, May 31, 2022, and June 28, 2022.

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

Sandra Duncan commented on challenges she has had due to a neighbor placing an illegal locked gate across an easement that she should have access through. Ms. Duncan indicated that she has had health and stress issues because of this situation and has found no one that can help, noting that she has been told that this is a civil matter.

Ruby Irving apologized to the Board for comments that she made the week before. Ms. Irving stated that the Board does not work well together.

Del Eldred asked what was the reasoning behind the County double taxing citizens, property owners are paying property taxes and paying fees to process planning permit applications and developers aren't paying their share.

Kathy Moco complimented the Board for the appearance of the new building, Courthouse, lawns and parking lots, adding that everything looks really nice for Community Days.

Commissioner Christopher provided details about a meeting he was asked to have with Del Eldred.

Sheri Bouquet thanked Commissioner Christopher for scheduling a meeting with citizens. Ms. Bouquet asked if Commissioner Christopher was representing the Board. Commissioner Christopher clarified that he will only be speaking for himself. The meeting is at 6:00 PM and is open to citizens.

Ms. Bouquet asked the Board to list the top three (3) benefits that energy projects will provide to the County.

Greg Wagner stated that he has asked Commissioner Sauter three (3) times if the County has used the \$300,000 in mitigation funds received from the Lund Hill Solar project and has not received an answer. Mr. Wagner also asked Commissioner Christopher when property owners will start being taxed for the income they receive for energy project leases and will Under Canvass be required to complete all of the conditions placed on the Conditional Use Permit before the Planning Director issues the permit which was not done for the Lund Hill Solar project.

Commissioner Sauter responded to Mr. Wagner's comments, advising that the \$300,000 in mitigation funds has been placed in a special account and no determinations have been made on how to use the funds. On the conditions of approval, conditions for approval do not have to be completed before receiving a permit, a project must complete all conditions before being granted final approval.

Commissioner Sauter noted that the first benefit from energy projects would be private property rights, there are definitely tax revenue benefits and short term jobs, which also add to the economy sector of the County, mostly Goldendale.

Commissioner Christopher responded to Mr. Eldred, suggesting that he go back and listen to the radio interview. Commissioner Christopher stated that citizens contribute \$5,000,000 in property taxes toward the County's \$50,000,000 budget, indicating that you could argue that citizens are supplementing the Sheriff's budget or that Landfill dollars are supplementing the Planning Department. Commissioner Christopher commented on the evening meeting, noting that if discussion is calm and productive there will be more. Commissioner Christopher thanked Kathy Moco for her comments. As far as when property owners holding energy project leases will start paying taxes, Commissioner Christopher suggested that Mr. Wagner talk to the County Assessor.

Commissioner Christopher stated that the top three benefits from energy projects would be that property owners leasing property would receive income, increased property tax revenue, and local jobs. The argument is not whether there are benefits its whether they are worth it due to the eye sore they create.

Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:

Public Meeting to consider approval of Short Plat SPL2022-04, Parcel No. 06-12-2053-0002/00 in the Glenwood vicinity; Applicant: Allen Feller.

Assistant Planner Alisa Grumbles reported that Short Plat No. SPL2022-04 is a short plat creating 2 lots from Parcel No. 06-12-2053-0002/00, which is located in the Glenwood vicinity. Ms. Grumbles 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 publics' 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 SPL2020-14, which creates 2 lots from Parcel No. 06-12-2053-0002/00; Applicant: Allen Feller.

Public Meeting: To consider approval of Short Plat SPL2021-20, Parcel No. 04-15-0400-0010/00 in the Goldendale vicinity; Applicant: Michael Cahill.

Associate Planner Denise Lee, advised that Short Plat SPL 2021-20 is a short plat creating 3 lots from Parcel No. 04-15-0400-0010/00 and is located in the Goldendale vicinity.

Ms. Lee noted 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 publics' interest to approve this short plat, a motion needs to be made granting final approval of SPL 2021-20.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Motion granting approval of Short Plat SPL2021-20, which creates 2 lots from Parcel No. 04-15-0400-0010/00; Applicant: Michael Cahill.

Public Meeting: To consider approval of Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-02 and Short Plat SPL2022-05, Parcel No.s 03-13-1350-0001/00 & 03-13-1350-0002/00 in the High Prairie vicinity; Applicants David & Judi Strait and Brian & Virginia & Knowles.

Assistant Planner Alisa Grumbles reported that Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-02 is a proposal to adjust the Boundary between Parcels 03-13-1350-0001/00 and 03-13-1350-0002/00; and Short Plat SPL 2022-05 is a proposal to create 4 lots from Parcel 03-13-1350-0001/00, the proposals are located in the High Prairie vicinity.

Ms. Grumbles 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 these proposals, a motion needs to be made granting final approval of BLA2022-02 and SPL 2022-05.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Motion to approve Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-02 and Short Plat SPL2022-05, Parcel No.s 03-13-1350-0001/00 & 03-13-1350-0002/00 in the High Prairie vicinity and grant final approval; Applicants: David & Judi Strait and Brian & Virginia & Knowles.

Miscellaneous Reports/Comments: Board discussion concerning 4 day work week schedules and working remotely due to the lack of childcare and raising fuel costs.

Attendance: There were various county elected officials, department directors, county employees, and members of the public present in person and via zoom.

The Board had a discussion with elected officials, directors and staff about 4 day work week schedules, working remotely, and flexible work schedules. Commissioner Christopher stated that other employers are offering more flexibility to their employees, noting that alternate work schedules are already allowed but he would like the Board to encourage department directors to allow employees to work alternate schedules when possible.

Director Kelsey stated that Public Works has a lot of employees on alternate schedules, and during the summer the road crew works 4-ten hour days, however that doesn't work in the winter.

Building Director Ward commented that a 4 day work week does not work for the Building Department.

Director Van Cleave noted that the flexible work schedules are well established in County policy, but there is no policy for working remotely.

Economic Development/Natural Resources Director McClure stated that the two (2) of his employees work remotely several days a week and it has worked well.

Auditor Sorensen stated that 4 day work weeks will not work for her office, they cannot serve the needs of the public and get the job done.

Superior Court Administrator Hanson advised that statutorily the Superior Court has to be open 5 days a week, which means that the Clerk's Office and the Prosecutor's Office also need to be available 5 days a week.

Following further discussion, Chairman Anderson stated that he was an employee that worked a flexible work schedule and he is in favor of this when it works for the office/department.

New Business: Discussion regarding an opportunity to have a military intern work with county corrections officers.

Attendance: Chief Jail Deputy Carmen Knopes, Director Van Cleave, and HR Manager KC Sheridan. There were also various Elected Officials, Directors, employees, and members of the public present in person and via zoom.

Chief Jail Deputy Knopes advised the Board of an opportunity to have an intern work in the jail at an entry level with Corrections Officers. The program was established to help service member's gain real world experience in their chosen career field before they transition from military to civilian careers. Chief Knopes noted that the military pays the interns salary plus benefits. The Board indicated that they were supportive of the program.

Director Van Cleave advised that the IT Manager will be leaving the County to take another position. Director Van Cleave requested and received verbal approval to begin the advertising process to hire an IT Manager at Grade 72, Steps 1-5.

Following a discussion concerning the vacant HR clerical position, Director Van Cleave asked the Board for approval to share the Weed Department's part-time Office Manager who is willing to increase her hours to 36 hours a week. Following further discussion and clarification the Board agreed.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/ Christopher, S/ Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Consent Agenda with seventeen (17) items.

- 1) *Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the Washington State Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing federal funds in the amount of \$215,000 to be used during the design phase of the Data Collection/Ball Banking Project, CRP 369.
- 2) *Washington State Department of Transportation Local Agency Agreement (**12122**) (CFDA No. 20.205) to obligate \$215,000 in federal funds for the design phase of the Data Collection/Ball Banking Project, CRP 369.
- 3) *Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the Washington State Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing federal funds in the amount of \$34,000 to be used in the design phase of the Slope Flattening and/or Guardrail Project, CRP 370.
- 4) *Washington State Department of Transportation Local Agency Agreement (**C12222**) (CFDA No. 20.205) to obligate \$34,000 in federal funds to be used in the design phase of the Slope Flattening and/or Guardrail Project, CRP 370.
- 5) *Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the Washington State Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing federal funds in the amount of \$32,000 to be used in the design phase of the Curve Warning Signs and Guideposts Project, CRP 371.
- 6) *Washington State Department of Transportation Local Agency Agreement (**C12322**) (CFDA No. 20.205) to obligate \$32,000 in federal funds to be used in the design phase of the Curve Warning Signs and Guideposts Project, CRP 371.
- 7) *Concurrence to Award Bid and Small Works Contract (**C12422**) between Pacific Power Group, LLC and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the 2022-2024 Generator Preventative Maintenance for Klickitat County Facility generators as bid in the amount of \$26,802.98.
- 8) *Concurrence to Award Bid and Small Works Contract (**C12522**) between Central Mechanical Services and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the 2022 Klickitat County Courthouse Plumbing Remodel Project as bid in the amount of \$22,092.33.
- 9) *Agreement (**C12622**) between ASET (Advanced Security & Electrical Technology, Inc.) and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the purpose of providing an alarm monitoring service for the Klickitat County Services Building on a continuing twenty-four (24) hour bases, seven (7) days a week.
- 10) *Reimbursable Work Agreement (**C12722**) between Klickitat County Rural 7 Fire & Rescue and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the purpose of reimbursing the County for the costs of the work performed by the County and its workers, based on the actual cost of labor, equipment rental, and materials used in the construction, repair or maintenance work involved, including costs for overhead indirect costs, and fringe benefits to labor.
- 11) *Reimbursable Work Agreement (**C12822**) between Klickitat County Fire District #2 and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the purpose of reimbursing the County for the costs of the work performed by the County and its workers, based on the actual cost of labor, equipment rental, and materials used in the construction, repair or maintenance work involved, including costs for overhead indirect costs, and fringe benefits to labor.
- 12) *Concurrence to Award Bid and Small Works Contract (**C12922**) between DIVCO, Inc. and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the 2022-2024 maintenance of Klickitat County Facility HVAC systems as bid in the amount of \$76,934.52.
- 13) *Reimbursable Work Agreement (**C13022**) between Washington State Parks and Klickitat County (Public Works Department) for the purpose of reimbursing the County for the costs of the work performed by the County and its workers, based on the actual cost of labor, equipment rental, and materials used in the construction, repair or maintenance work involved, including costs for overhead indirect costs, and fringe benefits to labor.
- 14) *Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the Washington State Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing federal funds in the amount of \$21,000 to be used during the design phase of the White Plastic Edge Line Project, CRP 368.

- 15) *Washington State Department of Transportation Local Agency Agreement (C13122) (CFDA No. 20.205) to obligate \$21,000 in federal funds for the design phase of the White Plastic Edge Line Project, CRP 368.
- 16) *Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and the Washington State Department of Transportation for the purpose of providing federal funds in the amount of \$250,000 to be used during the scoping phase of the Snowden Road Project, CRP 365.
- 17) *Washington State Department of Transportation Local Agency Agreement (C13222) (CFDA No. 20.205) to obligate \$250,000 in federal funds for the scoping phase of the Snowden Road Project, CRP 365.

Voucher Certification and Approval

***Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/ Christopher. Passed unanimously):** Accounts Payable: Warrants #314930 – #315005 for a total of \$121,913.68 for the date ending July 5, 2022. There were no payroll warrants requiring approval at this time.

Board Pending: Issues as determined by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Christopher provided an update on the South Central Workforce Council (SCWC) Consortium of Commissioners meeting that was held last week. Commissioner Christopher reported that due to legislative changes there will be less grant funding available for SCWC program.

Elected Official – Prosecutor’s Report/Update:

Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel advised that he did not have an update at this time.

(M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM, there are no workshops scheduled for Thursday, July 7, 2022. Commissioner Christopher will be attending a town hall meeting in the Commissioner’s meeting room at 6:00 PM this evening.

* 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 7.05.22 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



7-12-2022
Date