

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, August 16, 2022**

Morning Workshop Session

Chairman Jacob Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Commissioners' Anderson, Christopher and Sauter were present.

Workshop Session Agenda

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

Attendance: Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director Kelsey presented an overview of pay estimates and a change order for the Courtney Road Project as previously discussed. A review and discussion of consent agenda items followed. Director Kelsey provided details and explained the benefits and cost savings purchasing a drone would provide in planning and engineering construction projects.

Director Kelsey provided an update on construction projects, road crew maintenance assignments, and facilities repairs and upgrades. Mr. Hunter reported on the status of the Satus Pass radio site, noting that the power is in and the concrete floor for the structure will be poured tomorrow.

Director Kelsey reviewed possible dates FEMA is considering holding a public zoom meeting to discuss the new FEMA Flood Maps. The Board indicated that September 27th beginning at 5:30 PM works best for them.

Mr. Hunter provided a draft Landfill Gas Improvement application for the Dallesport Wastewater Treatment Plant for the Board to review. The Board discussed project applications from Klickitat PUD. The Board indicated they would like to move forward with applications for the Goldendale Wastewater Treat Plant and the Dallesport Wastewater Treat Plant.

10:00 AM – Elected Officials Update/Report:

Attendance: Sheriff Bob Songer, Chief Jail Deputy Carmen Knopes, Chief Civil Deputy Karen Elings, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Sheriff Songer provided updates on calls for services provided by the Sheriff's Office, and new deputy Criminal Justice Training Academy schedules. Sheriff Songer reported that the deputy assigned to the K-9 program has resigned and K-9 Profi will be reassigned to another Deputy. A brief discussion followed regarding the public donations raised to fund the K-9 program. Chairman Anderson indicated that he would be interested in knowing the actual cost of the K-9 program. Chief Civil Deputy Elings advised that she would pull data and have it ready for next Thursday's budget workshop discussion.

Chief Knopes provided updates on court appearances, mental health care and medical care for inmates. Chief Knopes stated that the new designated crisis responder (DCR) was tested last weekend and did a wonderful job. Corrections Officers transported the inmate to the hospital and had to stay with the patient for fifteen (15) hours before the DCR was able to locate a mental health hospital bed in Yakima. Discussion followed regarding a safe room that Klickitat Valley Health was working on before the hospital levy failed.

Chief Civil Deputy Elings provided a budget update. Discussion followed concerning the possibility of building a new jail sometime in the future. Sheriff Songer proposed to build the jail in the parking lot West of the current jail with a skywalk to bring inmates to court, and to turn the old jail into mental health beds with a full time counselor on site. Further discussion followed regarding revenue sources such as renting jail beds to federal and state agencies to house their inmates.

Ms. Elings advised of a grant program with Yamaha for the use of a side by side vehicle that could be used by Timber Patrol Deputies in rough terrain and by the Posse at community events. Ms. Elings reported the Sheriff's Office will have a booth at the County Fair, and that the body cams have arrived. Discussion followed regarding body cam training and about the details of the body cam contract.

11:00 AM – Code Compliance Officer Update:

Attendance: Compliance Officer Jorge Sendejas, Building Director Lynn Ward, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Compliance Officer Sendejas advised of an interdepartmental non-compliance case brought to his attention by the Building Department which involves placement of a manufactured home and sheds with most of the work completed. Occupancy has not been issued due to unpaid permit fees and the road approach has not been completed. The Building Department has placed a non-compliance lien on the property. Officer Sendejas stated he is seeking director from the Board on how they would like him to proceed and whether he should work on interdepartmental issues.

The Board discussed the details of this particular code violation case and the current process. Director Ward noted that the County has never evicted anyone from their homes, a lien of non-compliance is placed on the property which will make it difficult to get a mortgage, or sell the property without coming into compliance.

The Board agreed that there is clearly a difference between properties in code violation doing business for profit and residential properties. The consensus of the Board was that the Code Compliance Officer should not pursue interdepartmental non-compliance cases and that the current code and policies should be applied uniformly until County Code is updated with stronger more effective penalties and defensible language.

Following further discussion, the Board advised that they would like the process to revise and update codes to be done in workshops with the Board after the 2023 Budget workshops have been completed.

Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously). To recess for lunch at 11:34 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 1:00 PM, opening 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/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed with Sauter abstaining due to being absent for the meeting): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2022.

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

Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave advised that an IT Manager candidate has been selected, noting that the person is well qualified with ten (10) years of experience as a County IT Manager, as well as five (5) years past experience as a Klickitat County IT Technician. Following discussion, the Board verbally approved placement at Step 7 of the pay schedule and four (4) weeks of unpaid leave.

Commissioner Christopher shared screen shots of the State's opioid settlement presentation. Commissioner Christopher recommended that the County sign on to the settlement agreement, which is due September 23, 2022.

Greg Wagner, stated that both Commissioner's Sauter and Anderson were born and raised in Klickitat County and Commissioner Christopher says Goldendale is near and dear to his heart, so why do you Commissioners refuse to do anything about the invading industrial solar companies coming into the County.

Commissioner Christopher stated that Mr. Wagner's statement referring to him, is not true and it is a lie, commissioner Christopher said that he has been working and if Mr. Wagner has a problem with truth that is fine, but he does not.

Chairman Anderson stated that we have answered this questions many times in the past and there is nothing he can add that hasn't been said over and over again.

Miscellaneous Reports/Comments: Update on the replacement of the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge.

Attendance: Port of Hood River Project Director Kevin Greenwood, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director Greenwood presented a PowerPoint presentation that provided a history and background of the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge replacement project, benefits of replacing the bridge, bridge design, current status of the facility, work on biological assessments and tribal agreements, governance through a Bi-State Bridge Authority, financing through USDOT and both State Legislatures and advocacy in Washington D.C.

Discussion, questions and clarification of various components of the bridge replacement process followed.

Department Update/Report: Public Health Department.

Attendance: Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director Quinn provided updates on clinical and environmental services, which included reports on the various public health programs, improvement in code and billing procedures, staff changes, increased grant funding, new grant awards, covid cases and other immunizations.

New Business: Board of Health Meeting.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): Motion to recess the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners at 2:03 PM for the Board of Health Meeting.

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Board of County Commissioner's regular meeting at 2:46 PM.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously): Motion to accept the Board of Health's recommendation, and appoint Sunday Sutton to serve on the Klickitat County Board of Health. Staff will follow up with a Resolution to formalize the appointment on the consent agenda next Tuesday.

Director Quinn provided an update on crisis responder services, noting that Chairman Anderson took the lead in contracting our first crisis responder and consultant to develop a program. Director Quinn advised that putting a department together in 90 days is unrealistic and where will the funding come from? Director Quinn suggested scheduling a workshop to address the details of setting up a program and how it will be funded. Director Quinn asked and received direction from the Board to use the Health Department's address on the behavioral health application.

Chairman Anderson provided a summary of the immediate tasks that need to be completed to set up our own program. Director Quinn provided an estimate of funding that would be needed to set up a department. The Board had a brief discussion about whether the County should do a full-fledged mental health department or just designated crisis services. The Board agreed they would move forward with designated crisis services.

Request for a variance to the County's burn ban within Zone 3, Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3.

The Board of Commissioner's reviewed a request for a variance to the County's burn ban within Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3 (Zone 3), from Christian Quiver to host a Lakota Nation Ceremonial Sundance and sweat lodge event on Friday, August 19, 2022 through Tuesday, August 30, 2022.

Commissioner Christopher raised concerns about liability risks. Commissioner Sauter stated the County has granted variances in the past with approval and support from Fire District Commissioners and their Chiefs.

Prosecutor Quesnel advised that the Board does not have statutory authority to grant a variance for the County's burn ban, adding there are no provisions within County Code that will allow the Board to grant a variance.

Emergency Management Director King stated granting variances with the Fire District's recommendation and support has been a past practice, but Prosecutor Quesnel is right there is no provision within the Code that allows a variance to be granted.

Following further discussion and advisement from Prosecutor Quesnel, the Board did not approve or deny the request due to legal counsels recommendation.

Voucher Certification and Approval

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Pay Estimate No. 6 to Interstate Concrete & Asphalt, Co -dba- American Rock Products in the total amount of \$12,239.41 (no retainage) for the Roosevelt Grade Road Overlay, CRP 362, FED AID # STPR-N201(001) Contract # TA-7079.

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Pay Estimate No. 1 to Stripe Rite, Inc. in the amount of \$291,290, which includes retainage of \$14,561.50 for a total amount of \$276,725.50 for the 2022 Annual Striping Program NR-642-2022.

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Change Order No. 1 which provides for Fuel, and Asphalt Escalation reimbursement in the estimated amount of \$266,104.32 to James Dean Construction, Inc. per WSDOT GSP's 1-09.3 OPT1.FR1, and 5-04.5-OPT2 for the Courtney Road Project, CRP 342 & 343.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously).** Consent Agenda with item #4 being pulled for total of eight (8) items.

- 1) ***Interagency Agreement (C15622)** IAA23035 between Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts and Klickitat County (Juvenile Court) for the support of the CASA/Volunteer Guardian Ad Litem Program and to increase the number of children served by court-appointed special advocates (CASAs)/volunteer guardians ad litem as defined by RCW 13.34.030(12) in dependency matters or to reduce the average caseload of volunteers to recommended standards.
- 2) ***Resolution No. 07022** in the matter of setting a Public Hearing for 1:30 PM September 27, 2022, to consider amendments to Klickitat County Code chapter 2.72 relating to Land Development Fees.
- 3) ***2022-2024 Consolidated Contract (C15722)** Amendment No. 6 between Klickitat County (Public Health Department) and the Washington State Department of Health for the purpose of adding Statements of Work for the Foundational Public Health Services and increase the funding allocation for a revised maximum consideration of \$3,628,604, effective July 1, 2022.
- 4) **(PULLED)** Agreement between Klickitat County (Information Technology Services Division) and TRI-TEC Communication, Inc. for the purpose of upgrading the agreement from "Advanced No Phone Support" to "Managed No Phone Support" for the remaining eight (8) months of the current plan year.
- 5) ***Personnel Authorization** to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Office Manager position at Grade 47, Steps 1-3 within the Juvenile Department.

- 6) *Fairgrounds Licensing Agreement (C15822) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and Washington State University for the purposed of modifying terms and regulations for rental of the Klickitat County Fairgrounds for multiple annual 4-H events, effective January 1, 2022-January 1, 2024.
- 7) *Request for concurrence to reject all bids for the Klickitat Multi-Use Trail Concrete Work as per Section 1-03.1 of the Standard Specifications, the right is reserve by the Contracting Agency to reject any or all bids and republish the call for bids because of the high cost of the bid.
- 8) *Request for concurrence to reject all bids for the New Services Parking Project as per Section 1-03.1 of the Standard Specifications, the right is reserve by the Contracting Agency to reject any or all bids and republish the call for bids.
- 9) *Request from the Public Works Department for authorization to purchase a DJI Matrice 300 RTK Drone, Zenmuse L1 Lidar Package, RTK Base, DJI Terra Software and accessories from KR, Inc. for a total cost of \$37,540.24, which includes applicable taxes.

Payment Approvals

***Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** Accounts Payable Warrants: (#315872 - 315948), totaling \$474,310.81. Payroll Warrants: (#231657 – 231920), Co. Benefit Warrants: (#315767 – 315776) Electronic Transfer (#972, in the amount of \$735,895.24, with a combined total of \$1,210,206.05, for the date ending August 15, 2022.

Board Pending:

The Board discussed Landfill Gas Improvement (LFG) Funds and the projects that have been funded, with Commissioner Christopher handing out a list of projects. Commissioner Christopher noted that the majority of the projects were submitted by PUD and he would like to see more of a 50-50 split between the County and PUD. Commissioner Sauter provided a brief overview of the history of the use of LFG Funds and details of a few of the projects that Commissioner Christopher had questions about.

Following further discussion, the Board indicated that the County would submit LFG Improvement Fund applications for the Dallesport Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements totaling \$250,000 and the Goldendale Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements totaling \$250,000. The Board agreed they didn't want to deplete the fund. Chairman Anderson shared his negotiation strategy for the upcoming LFG Committee meeting when applications will be reviewed and selected to be awarded LFG funding.

Commissioner Sauter stated the Board needs to have a discussion regarding how to respond to Republic Services draft document sometime in the near future.

Board Correspondence for the Record: *Letter to the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board regarding Change of Corporate Officers/Stockholders Application for Maryhill Sunshine LLC.

(4:03 PM) (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously). There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 6:30 PM this evening to hold a community meeting in Dallesport, Washington to discuss options for the future ownership of the Dallesport Waste Water Plant. The meeting will be held at the Dallesport Community Center located at 136 6th Ave in Dallesport, Washington. There are no scheduled workshops for Thursday, August 18, 2022 due to the Klickitat County Fair.

Tuesday, August 16, 2022:

Regular Meeting Extension: Dallesport community meeting to discuss the Dallesport Waste Water Plant:

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. All three (3) Commissioners were present. Also present were Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Deputy Director Jeff Hunter, Klickitat PUD Commissioner Doug Miller and PUD General Manager Jim Smith and approximately twenty (25) community residents.

The Board met with the Dallesport community to discuss future options for the ownership of the Dallesport Waste Water Treatment Plant. Commissioner Sauter provided an overview of the wastewater treatment plant's development, financing and management, noting that the plant is the only one Klickitat County owns. Commissioner Sauter advised that the current rate structure is finally able to cover maintenance and operation (M&O) costs but not sufficient enough to cover M&O and capital costs, which Klickitat County taxpayers have been subsidizing the last 20 years.

The question was asked how deficient the rates were. Chairman Sauter stated that he wasn't sure at this point, the County is working on a plan to analyze and determine what a self-sustaining rate structure is. Public Works is putting together an engineer's report that will lay out a timeline for maintenance, replacement, repair and/or upgrades of the plants equipment, licenses, software, technology and various systems. Chairman Sauter noted that the Board is here to start the planning process with the communities input.

Discussion and questions followed regarding the size of the sewer district, it's expected life span, comparison of sewer rates paid by other communities, possibility of incorporating as a city, and current and potential economic growth that is and will impact the Dallesport peninsula. The Board was asked about the engineer's report and when it would be available to the public. Commissioner Sauter advised that it is in draft form now, when it is finalized it will be a public document and available.

Chairman Anderson commented that there are needed repairs and maintenance due to Department of Ecology and Department of Health requirement changes that were not in place five (5) years ago. Chairman Anderson provided a brief comparison of the rates in relation to the costs.

Community members asked the Board to commit to keeping the plant for five (5) years to allow the community to start figuring out how to be involved in the process. The Board indicated this is only the first step and there are a lot of decisions that will need to be made. Commissioner Christopher stated that he wants to know the rate structure that is needed by the end of the year.

(M/ Christopher, S/ Sauter. Passed unanimously). The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

* Reference Document on File. The Board of Commissioners' minutes is action minutes. A digital recording is on file as part of the official record and available on file 8.16.2022 Board of County Commissioner's Meeting. Please Note: All Commissioner meetings and workshops are open to the public to attend. Meetings are recorded, Workshops are NOT recorded.


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



8-23-22
Date