

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, September 20, 2022**

Morning Workshop Session

Chairman Jacob Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Commissioners Anderson, Christopher, and Sauter were present.

10:00 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 advised there is only one Public Works consent agenda item on the agenda, which is the Final Acceptance and Release of Retainage for the Courthouse First Floor Asbestos Removal Project. A construction program review of the various projects underway and in the design phase followed, which included the Roosevelt Grade paving, Small Works Guardrail Project, Courtney Road, Annual Stripping, Klickitat Path, Courthouse parking lots, Rock Creek bridge, Sundale Road/Old Hwy 8 and the Federal Safety Projects.

Deputy Director Hunter advised that additional crushed rock will be needed for the Courtney Road Project, noting that rock from the reconstruction of a road is estimated and reused in the construction process. In this case less rock resulted and it will be necessary to purchase rock from the County to complete the project, which is still a net savings. Discussion followed regarding purchase options, costs, and completion timelines.

Director Kelsey provided updates on road crew maintenance assignments, and facilities repairs and upgrades. Mr. Hunter reported on the status of the Satus Pass radio site, noting that the electrical rough in is complete and the shelter should be completed in a couple more weeks.

Director Kelsey reported on follow up issues, the Lund Hill contractor should be finishing up grading this week, speed limit signs have been installed and speed restrictions are in place.

10:30 AM – Public Health Department Update:

Attendance: Public Health Department Director Erinn Quinn, Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Chief Jail Deputy Carman Knopes, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director Quinn provided a brief update on COVID, advising that they will stop reporting cases on their website and noted that the Health Department has started providing Moderna booster vaccinations.

Director Quinn reported that due to the State ending the state of emergency the Health Department will be reevaluating licensing for volunteers because of changing requirements. Director Quinn reported that there have been no cases of Monkey Pox in the County. Updates followed concerning a vaccine audit, a rabies exposure and rabies protocols. On the Environmental Health side Director Quinn provided updates on food safety, water lab and sewer inspections.

Director Quinn advised that the WIC coordinator is retiring and another employee will transition to the position. Ms. Quinn reported that she is looking at contracting for insurance medical billing services, and Facebook canceled the Health Department's account because they were advertising COVID vaccines.

Discussion and updates on mental health services followed. Director Quinn stated that Lifeline will cover mental health triage until January 1st and she recommended leaving Lifeline under the Beacon contract. The Board agreed.

Following discussion, the Board indicated they would support creating a full service mental health department.

Director Quinn stated that the behavioral health application has been more time consuming than previously anticipated, it is a lot of work setting up an entire department especially within a limited timeline. Director Quinn advised that further discussion will be needed if the County is granted the licenses by November 6th. Following further discussion, Director Quinn stated that she would like to explore having staff as contract employees while Human Resources implements an organizational chart for the department. Director Van Cleave advised of the liability risks involved if the County operates a mental health program. Discussion followed regarding what the County wants the program and staffing model to look like on November 6th and then on January 1st.

The Board discussed whether there were other private professional agencies that would be willing to provide behavioral health services in the County. Chairman Anderson noted that he thought we had already tried to find another private agency and we couldn't, that is why we have moved forward to create a behavioral health program, adding right now we are trying to provide the barest of services to fill the gap with Comprehensive Health's departure.

Following further discussion, the Board agreed to move forward in creating a Behavioral Health Department and asked Director Quinn and Director Van Cleave to development an organization chart in phases for submission to the State.

The Board reviewed and discussed a Behavioral Health Agency estimated program operations budget provided by Beacon Health.

Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously). To authorize the Chairman to sign off on the behavioral health organization chart for the new Klickitat County Behavioral Health Department.

11:00 AM – Elected Officials Update/Report:

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

Sheriff Songer provided updates on the Sheriff's Office, which included calls for service, the new K-9 handler and K-9 Profi, community events, and Posse member activities and assignments.

Chief Jail Deputy Carmen Knopes provided updates on staffing, noting that Corporal Bellamy has resigned and has accepted another position to pursue his career goals. Chief Knopes advised that currently there are three (3) openings to be filled and she has requested an additional Civil Service test for lateral and entry level Corrections positions, and for a Control Board Operator test as that list is no longer valid. Chief Knopes reported that the Sheriff's Office will be conducting defensive tactics training and will be hosting a fingerprinting class taught by the Washington State Patrol.

Chief Knopes stated that Superior, East, and West District Courts provide dockets almost daily to the jail, adding that this docket contains the names of all scheduled to appear and alerts the jail as to who has to appear that day. Chief Knopes advised that the Posse continues to provide all of our court security.

Chief Knopes reported that inmate transports this month have been to Yakima and Norcor. An update on medical and mental health needs of the inmates followed, with Chief Knopes advising that there will be increased medical costs during the next three months that cannot be avoided.

Chief Knopes thanked the Jail's behind-the-scenes employees, Criminal Records Specialist Mesecher, and two (2) Control Board Operators, Jennifer Miner and Danielle Goodman, who are also instrumental in daily operations.

Chief Civil Deputy Karen Elings provided an update on the Sheriff's budget through August 2022 and projected that there will be budget remaining at the end of the year due to the department's budget saving measures. Ms. Elings reported on revenues from concealed pistol licenses and special programs that she has been promoting at the community events throughout the County such as the Rural Crime Prevention program. Ms. Elings reported that the body cameras have arrived and Motorola is beginning with the Sergeants to test the cameras.

Director Quinn provided an organization chart and draft budget for the proposed Behavioral Health Department with phases from 7 employees to 20 employees, which was followed by discussion, questions, and clarification.

Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously). To recess for lunch at 11:51 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 1:00 PM, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Agenda:

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

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

There were no Commissioner meeting minutes requiring approval.

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

Dave Barta commented that there is a blood drive going on at the American Legion Post and encouraged everyone to donate blood.

Greg Wagner stated that the Code Compliance Officer has indicated that he has a conflict of interest regarding investigating a complaint against Commissioner Anderson, and added when will the complaint be investigated.

Pat Arnold, Trout Lake area resident, asked how citizens get copies of documents the Board is handed during meetings. Ms. Arnold also asked about a shoreline code complaint filed by Friends of the White Salmon, and she requested clarification concerning the code/nuisance complaint policy and where she could see the policy in writing.

Sheri Bousquet stated that two (2) official code complaints have been filed on Mr. Anderson's short term rental. Ms. Bousquet noted that she has never received a reply to her complaint and she was told by the Planning Department that if she wanted to have a short term rental she would need a conditional use permit. Ms. Bousquet read sections of the code related to short term rentals.

Commissioner Christopher advised Ms. Arnold that all she needs to do to get a copy of a document handed to the Board during a meeting is to request a copy. Ms. Arnold noted that she doesn't want a copy she just wanted to know the process. Commissioner Sauter agreed with Commissioner Christopher.

Commissioner Sauter responded to Ms. Arnold and the shoreline complaint. Commissioner Sauter stated that nuisance complaints require two (2) complaints from individuals within five (5) miles of the subject, code complaints only require one (1) complaint. There has been Board policy discussion regarding code complaints that the complaint should come from local individuals not an agency. Commissioner Sauter responded to Mr. Wagner's comments about complaints, advising that there is no conflict of interest, the other two (2) Commissioners will work through the process, which is the same for everyone. We have not prioritized complaints on short term rentals, there are many short term rentals in the County and it is more of a resource issue for our citizens.

Chairman Anderson stated for the record that during the executive session, he left the room when the discussion moved to the complaints on his property.

Chairman Anderson responded to Ms. Bouquet's comments, noting that he was not present when his seatmates discussed a complaint against his Airbnb, and advised that the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance is only applicable to ADUs, not short term rentals and does not affect permitted single family dwellings. The ADU ordinance was implemented to provide people of modest means to be able to afford to live in the County.

Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:

Public Meeting: To consider approval of Boundary Line Adjustment BLA 2022-05, Parcel No's 06-10-2657-0004/00 and 06-10-2618-1503/00 in the Trout Lake vicinity: Applicants: Woodruff Properties & White Wave Maritime Consultants & Navigation.

Assistant Planner Alisa Grumbles reported that Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-05 is a proposal to adjust the common property line between Parcel No's 06-10-2657-0004/00 and 06-10-2618-1503/00, which are located in the Trout Lake vicinity.

Ms. Grumbles advised that an administrative review of the boundary line adjustment has been completed and signatures have been obtained from the Road, Health, and Planning Departments and the Treasurer's Office signifying that 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 boundary line adjustment, a motion needs to be made to grant final approval.

Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously). Motion granting approval to Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-05, which adjusts the common property line between Parcel No's 06-10-2657-0004/00 and 06-10-2618-1503/00: Applicants: Woodruff Properties & White Wave Maritime Consultants & Navigation.

Public Meeting: To consider approval of Boundary Line Adjustment, BLA 2022-12, Parcel No's 05-16-3317-2102/00 & 05-16-3317-2103/00 in the Goldendale vicinity; Applicants: Kolander and Abeyta.

Assistant Planner Alisa Grumbles reported that Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-12 is a proposal to adjust the common property line between Parcel No's 05-16-3317-2102/00 & 05-16-3317-2103/00 in the Goldendale vicinity.

Ms. Grumbles advised that an administrative review of the boundary line adjustment 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 boundary line adjustment, a motion needs to be made to grant final approval.

Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously). Motion granting approval to Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-12, which adjusts the common property line between Parcel No's 05-16-3317-2102/00 & 05-16-3317-2103/00, which is located in the Goldendale vicinity; Applicants: Buddy Kolander and Lauralyn Abeyta.

Public Hearing: to review proposed amendments to Klickitat County's Model Decommissioning Plan and receive public testimony on the same.

Chairman Anderson declared the public hearing open to consider amendments to the Model Decommissioning Plan (Resolution No. 04308) and requested a staff review.

Planning Director Mo-chi Linblad provided background Information, noting that the County's Model Decommissioning Plan was adopted in 2008 by resolution. The model plan outlines the circumstances under which the project components would be removed, and methods for decommissioning the overall project and restoring the site. Director Lindblad advised that the plan also requires financial security to ensure proper decommissioning. The current proposal before the Board is to amend the model decommissioning plan to make clear the model plan is applicable to both wind and solar energy projects. Other changes made to the model plan include: Funding Schedule, Credit for Value of Equipment and Recognized Forms of Financial Security.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing for the purpose of receiving public testimony on the proposal.

Goldendale resident Dave Barta commented on the steel beams that support solar panels, noting that they should be required to be removed, and there is no mention of lithium batteries.

Greg Wagner stated that there is no mention about bankruptcy and testing of the soil for containments.

Sheri Bousquet commented that she agreed with the two (2) previous commenters, and noted that the plan is very vague.

Chairman Anderson asked if there was anyone else wanting to comment, hearing no response, he called for Board discussion. Commissioner Sauter asked questions regarding scrap metal and possible containment.

Director Lindblad advised that the draft was designed to assure that the County will have sufficient resources to clean up if a developer fails to honor their responsibilities. Commissioner Christopher asked if lithium batteries were considered. Director Lindblad stated yes, noting that the plan is designed to address long term and it is a guidance document, developers will need to get a permit for decommissioning, which is where other considerations can be addressed.

The Board discussed requiring the plan to be reviewed and updated every 5 years and adding a CPI component.

Following discussion and prior to the motion the Board directed the Planning Director to prepare a draft Decommissioning Plan based on today's discussion.

Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): to continue the public hearing open to further public comment to Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 2:30 PM to review proposed amendments to Klickitat County's Model Decommissioning Plan.

New Business: Consider acceptance of the Landfill Gas Improvement Fund Committee's decision and recommendation to approve and formalize a commitment by the County to provide funding assistance to make improvements to the Glenwood Water System corrosion control system.

***Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** The Landfill Gas Improvement Fund Committee's decision and recommendation to approve and formalize Landfill Gas Improvement Funding Assistance Agreement (C16422) between Klickitat County and Public Utility District No. 1 of Klickitat County to provide funding assistance in the amount of \$140,000 to make improvements to the Glenwood Water System corrosion control system as required by the Department of Health, and to locate any possible leaks in the system. (This will require a supplemental budget).

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Consent Agenda with item #4 being pulled for a total of ten (10) items.

- 1) *Independent Contractors Agreement (C16522) between Klickitat County (Solid Waste Department) and Gorge Country Media to provide advertising to provide current information on recycling services, issues and programs on local radio stations, KYYT, KLCK and KRSX.
- 2) *Homeland Security Grant Program Agreement E23-064 (C16622) between Klickitat County (Emergency Management Department) and the Washington State Military Department and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for the purpose of providing \$48,757.00 to implement investments that build, sustain, and deliver the core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient Nation, effective July 31, 2022 through July 31, 2023.
- 3) *Final Acceptance and Release of Retainage in the amount of \$1,858.77 to Pacific Northwest Environmental for the Klickitat County Courthouse First Floor Asbestos Removal Project.

- 4) **(Pulled)** Resolution in the matter of extending outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County, Burn Ban Zone One (1) , effective through October 14, 2022.
- 5) ***Resolution No. 07922** in the matter of extending outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County, Burn Ban Zone Two (2), effective through October 14, 2022.
- 6) ***Resolution No. 08022** in the matter of extending outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County, Burn Ban Zone One (1), effective through October 14, 2022.
- 7) ***Resolution No. 08122** in the matter of adopting the 2023-preliminary budget and setting a public hearing to be held October 4, at 1:30 PM.
- 8) ***Resolution No. 08222** in the matter of setting a public hearing to be held October 4, 2022, at 1:30 PM, for the 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan.
- 9) ***Personnel Authorization** to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Legal Administrative Assistant I, II or III/Victim Witness Assistant position at Grade 35, 36 or 37, Steps 1-5, within the Prosecutor's Office.
- 10) ***Personnel Authorization** to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Part time Van Driver position at Grade 33, Step 1, within the Senior Services Department.
- 11) ***Purchase Authorization** from the Public Health Department to purchase one (1) Dell Latitude 7420 Laptop to support the Behavioral Health program at a total cost of \$1,749.57.

Voucher Certification and Approval

***Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously).** Accounts Payable: (#316610 - 316749) for a total of \$303,201.28 for the date ending September 19, 2022.

Board Pending:

The Board continued to discuss options for creating a Mental Health Department. Fiscal Manager Bartley provided an overview of state requirements and budget constraints related to creating the Mental Health Department. Auditor Sorensen advised of the requirements regarding BARs numbers and the 2022 and 2023 budgets. Ms. Bartley recommended that this matter should be vetted through the Finance Committee. Following further discussion, the Board directed Ms. Bartley to publish the preliminary 2023 budget as planned.

The Board discussed the timing of when to refill the vacant Deputy Clerk position. The general consensus was to fill the position due to anticipated additional duties being added to staff.

The Board directed staff to move forward with a Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill the vacant Clerical Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk of the Board position at I, II, or III within the Commissioner's Office.

The Board had a discussion regarding Superior Court public defender services for the next contract period and legislative changes in the management of public defenders, effective 2023. The Board directed staff to schedule a meeting with the attorneys who responded to the request for proposals.

Commissioner Sauter left the meeting at 4:01 PM to attend another scheduled meeting.

The Board discussed Republic Services proposed contract amendments. No action was taken.

(4:07 PM) (M/Christopher, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously). There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned. There are not scheduled workshops on Thursday, September 22, 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 9.20.2022 BoCC 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



10-4-22
Date