

**Klickitat County**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

**Morning Workshop Session**

Chairman Jacob Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Commissioners Anderson and Christopher were present. Commissioner Sauter had a previously scheduled meeting and joined the meeting at 10:57 AM.

**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 provided a review of consent agenda items, a pay estimate and the annual and 6-year Transportation Improvement public hearing. An update on construction projects, road crew maintenance assignments, and facilities repairs and upgrades followed.

Mr. Hunter reported on the status of the Satus Pass radio site, noting that the shelter will be weatherized by the end of the month. The Board had a discussion regarding winterizing Trout Lake Park and advised Public Works to winterize the park when needed to avoid any broken water pipes. Further discussion and updates followed.

**10:30 AM – Economic Development/Natural Resources Department Update/Report:**

Attendance: Economic Development/Natural Resources Director Dave McClure, Economic Development Specialist Richard Foster, and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director McClure presented a Natural Resources update, covering Salmon Recovery Funding Board funding projects, upcoming potential and pending grant opportunities, and well monitoring. Director McClure updated the Board on a water right acquisition in the Little Klickitat Basin.

Economic Development Specialist Foster reported that the award letter was received for the federal EDA grant funded aviation training/hangar project at the airport. Mr. Foster advised the 3.5 million dollar grant still has a funding gap of 2.3 million dollars and he is looking for opportunities to fill the shortfall. Mr. Foster provided further updates on available Workforce training, development of a commercial kitchen in the White Salmon area, and the Port of Klickitat's Industrial Site Readiness grant for a project at the Dallesport Industrial Park. A discussion was held regarding an open position on the Lodge Tax Advisory Committee.

**11:00 AM – Code Compliance Department Update/Report:**

Attendance: Code Compliance Officer Jorge Sendejas, Director Robb Van Cleave, and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Code Compliance Officer Sendejas reported on his community outreach activities and provided an overview of code and nuisance cases. The Board held a discussion about using roll off containers for nuisance cases to assist property owners to clean up their properties. Further discussion followed about citizens using the Code Compliance Department as a weapon against their neighbors.

Chairman Anderson asked Commissioner Sauter to attend a Hood River Bridge Replacement event this Friday in his place due to a scheduling conflict. Commissioner Sauter agreed. The Board continued a previous discussion regarding the Republic Services contract and proposed amendments. Commissioner Christopher reported that the Opioid Settlement Agreement was approved by all counties and he suggested that there should be a stakeholder group or taskforce committee to oversee how the funds will be used.

**Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously).** To recess for lunch at 11:46 AM.

**Commissioner's Business Meeting**

Chairman Anderson reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, October 11, 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 at this time.

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

Candy Magnuson commented on the battery storage webinar Commissioner Christopher will be attending.

Lyle resident Vern Harpole provided an update on Lyle Sandbar access activities, noting that they will be asking the County to ask the WSDOT to remove the barrier.

Lisa Evans asked for information about volunteering and donating to help the proposed animal shelter.

Sheri Bousquet commented on holding a town hall meeting on solar projects to discuss various issues such as setbacks, which should be seven miles.

Greg Wagner commented on Dave Barta's comments at the Decommissioning hearing regarding solar lithium batteries and stated that Commissioner Christopher would have to recuse himself from a hearing related to a solar project.

Commissioner Christopher disagreed with Mr. Wagner's comments and advised that he would be attending a University of Washington course on lithium batteries, which will be paid by the County. Commissioner Sauter asked Ms. Bousquet how she determined solar project setbacks should be seven miles. Ms. Bousquet said that she copied the criteria from the Douglas County solar ordinance. Chairman Anderson expressed his concerns regarding lithium battery storage and restated that the County has received no battery storage applications as of this date.

**Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:**

**Public Hearing/Continued: Establishing the 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Plan for Klickitat County, noting that the hearing may be continued as needed to reach a final budget, And Public Hearing/Continued: Adopting the 2023 Preliminary Klickitat County Budget; noting that the hearing may be continued as needed to reach a final budget**

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing regarding the 2023-2023 Capital Improvement Plan and requested a staff update.

Fiscal Manager Jenn Bartley advised due to the addition of the Behavioral Health Department she recommended to cancel both the Capital Improvement Plan and Adoption of the 2023 preliminary budget public hearings and start the process over and repost the public hearing notices in December.

**Motion (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** to cancel the CIP and 2023 Budget public hearings and start the process over and repost public hearing notices.

**Public Hearing: To consider proposed amendments/extensions to the Klickitat County Annual and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for 2023-2028.**

Chairman Anderson opened the hearing by advising that the purpose of the hearing is to take public testimony about the proposed revisions and extensions of the Klickitat County Six (6) Year Transportation Improvement Program for the plan years 2023-2028. Chairman Anderson requested a staff review.

Deputy Public Works Director Hunter reported that counties are required by state law to review and adopt an annual and six (6) year improvement plan. Deputy Director Hunter reported that half or more of the projects are funded by grants, noting that local roads are also funded with Landfill dollars.

Deputy Director Hunter explained how projects are selected and reasons for delays, noting that everything on the plan does not get completed according to its position due to emergencies, grant changes, and deadlines, winter storm damage, slides, available funding, permitting, and right-of-way issues. County funds are used to leverage state and federal grant dollars to accomplish as much as possible each year.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing to public comment.

- Below is a brief synopsis of the testimony offered.

Sabrina Hayes requested improvements to be made to Sleepy Hollow Road.

Candy Magnuson requested and received clarification regarding the Roosevelt Grade overlay project.

Jennie Patterson requested improvement to Sleepy Hollow Road due to increased traffic.

Matt Rowland requested improvements to Eyrie Road to improve fire safety.

Vern Harpole asked for improvements to be made to 3<sup>rd</sup> street in Lyle, between Hwy 14 and the Post Office, and the Lyle Boat Ramp.

Greg Wagner spoke against improvement to Oak Ridge Road and asked that it be removed from the plan. He also asked for the total cost of Courtney Road and the Roosevelt Grade overlay.

West end County resident, Eva spoke in support of improvements on Cimmiyotti Road, which is off the Lyle Snowden Road.

Jim Knightley spoke in support of improvements to Sleepy Hollow Road.

Sheri Bousquet stated that she is opposed to improvements to Oak Ridge Road and asked that it be removed from the Plan.

Chairman Anderson asked if anyone else wished to comment, hearing none, he called for Board discussion.

Mr. Hunter provided clarification to the Board regarding primitive roads and roads that are narrow with no County right-of-way such as Eyrie Road. Commissioner Christopher advised that the Lyle Boat Ramp is on the Capital Improvement Plan.

\*Comments received from the community of Wishram (61 signatures) requesting improvements to Park Place.

Chairman Anderson asked if anyone else would like to comment, hearing no response he closed the public hearing to comment and called for Board discussion.

Commissioner Anderson requested and received clarification on the improvements planned for Park Place Road in Wishram from Mr. Hunter. Commissioner Christopher requested and received more information on the replacement of culverts, discussion followed related to alternative funding options to replace culverts and maintain roads damaged by heavy loads.

**Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** to continue the Klickitat County Annual and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for 2023-2028 public hearing/open to further comment to 6:00 PM in Goldendale and on Zoom.

**Unfinished Business:** Continued discussion regarding the Sheriff's vehicle purchases and the Vehicle & Rental Replacement Fund.

Attendance: Sheriff Bob Songer, Deputy Erik Beasley, Chief Civil Deputy Karen Elings, Chief Jail Deputy Carmen Knopes, Director Robb Van Cleave, Fiscal Manager Bartley, and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Deputy Beasley advised that it is still difficult to order and receive vehicles due to supply chain issues, indicating that he wasn't sure if the 2022 vehicles would arrive before the end of the year. Deputy Beasley suggested ordering 2023 vehicles in 2022, noting that the dealer has the vehicles on the lot and they are available.

Discussion followed regarding potential impacts to the 2022 & 2023 budgets. The Board discussed the difference between Dodge pickups and Chevrolet Tahoes, and the \$10,000 difference in cost. Fiscal Manager Bartley advised that the cleanest method is to stick with the current approved 2022 authorization.

Following further discussion, Commissioners Anderson and Sauter agreed to authorize the Sheriff's Office to order the 2023 vehicles.

**Motion (M/Sauter, S/Anderson. Passed with Christopher opposed):** Authorization for the Sheriff's Office to order three (3) 2023 Chevy Tahoes and equipment for a total of \$263,825.48.

**Miscellaneous Reports/Comments:** Emergency Management Director Jeff King: Discussion regarding Fund 107.

Attendance: Emergency Management Director Jeff King, Accounting/Admin. Assistant Debi Stover, Director Robb Van Cleave, Fiscal Manager Bartley, and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director King provided an overview and history of use for Fund 107. The issue is overtime and maintaining cash flow while waiting for grant reimbursements. Director King suggested setting a fund balance or cash reserve as an option to maintain adequate cash flow in the Fund 107.

Following further discussion, Ms. Bartley recommended vetting the matter through the Finance Committee. The Board agreed.

The Board had a discussion regarding Burn Ban Zone 3 fire conditions and the Fire Chiefs reevaluation. Director King offered a revised resolution, which reinstates burn ban restrictions in Burn Ban Zone 3, effective October 12, 2022 through October 31, 2022. Director King advised that the burn ban may be extended into November if there is no rain.

**Consent Agenda:**

**\*Approved (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** Consent Agenda with seven (7) Items, after pulling item #6 for further review.

1) \*Scheduling a public meeting to be held Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 1:30 PM to consider approval of Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-08, Parcel No's 06-12-1062-0001/00 and 06-12-1000-0024/00 in the Glenwood vicinity; Applicant: Jerald Dean & LI Dean Enterprises, LLC.

- 2) **\*Resolution No. 08922** in the matter of temporary closure of Courtney Road, No. 11700 for a road reconstruction project at mile post 2.87 through mile post 4.36 from October 15, 2022 through November 18, 2022.
- 3) Washington State Department of Transportation Supplemental Agreement No. 1 (**C17622**) between Klickitat County (Public Works Department) and GN Northern, Inc. for the purpose of extending the completion date to February 28, 2023 and increasing the maximum amount payable by \$150,000 for new maximum payable amount of \$200,000 for On-Call Geotechnical services.
- 4) **Resolution No. 09022** in the matter of extending outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County, Burn Ban Zone Two (2), effective through October 31, 2022.
- 5) **Resolution No. 09122** in the matter of extending outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County, Burn Ban Zone One (1), effective through October 31, 2022.
- 6) (PULLED) Resolution in the matter of establishing outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County, Burn Ban Zone three (3), effective October 15, 2022 through October 31, 2022.
- 7) **Resolution No. 09322** in the matter of approving position descriptions and salary placement for the Crisis Division Manager at Exempt, Grade 73, Crisis Sud-P at Exempt, Grade 68, Crisis Case Manager at Non-Exempt, Grade 36, Clerical Administrative Assistant II/III at Non-Exempt, Grade 35/36, and Community Health Worker/Transport at Non-Exempt, Grade 34.
- 8) **Resolution No. 09233** in the matter of appointing Robert Niemi to the Klickitat County Conservancy Board. Appointment is to an unexpired six (6) year term, expiring October 31, 2028.

#### **New Business:**

**Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously). Resolution No. 09222** in the matter of establishing outdoor burning restrictions within the unincorporated areas of Klickitat County, Burn Ban Zone three (3), effective from October 12, 2022 through October 31, 2022.

#### **Voucher Certification and Approval**

**\*Approved (M/Christopher, S/Sauter. Passed unanimously):** Pay estimate No. 1/Final to Central Mechanical Services in the total amount of \$23,867.15, which does not contain retainage for the Klickitat County Courthouse Plumbing Remodel Project 2022.

**\*Approved Warrants (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** Accounts Payable: (#317067 - 317139) for a total of \$179,991.77, and Payroll Warrants # 232959 – 233219, Co. Benefit Warrants #317018 – 317027, and Co. Benefit Electronic Transfer #978 for a total of \$742,949.87, for a combined total of 922,941.64 for the date ending October 10, 2022.

#### **Board Pending:**

The Board had a brief discussion regarding a Lodging Tax Advisory Committee appointment. Commissioner Christopher advised of one more insurance pool board meeting with the old insurance provider. Commissioner Sauter provided an update on the Regional Transportation survey that he participated in this morning.

Board correspondence for the Record:

- Letter of support to State representatives in support of Columbia Cascade Housing Corporation's Klickitat County Assisted Living Facility – Capital budget Request.
- Letter to Department of Commerce Program Manager in support of the Port of Klickitat's application for an Industrial Site Readiness Grant for its industrial land at the Dallesport Industrial Park.

**(4:20 PM) (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously).** There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was recessed until 6:00 PM for an evening Public Hearing to consider proposed amendments/extensions to the Klickitat County Annual and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for 2023-2028. There are no workshops scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2022.

**Tuesday, October 11, 2022 - Regular Meeting Extension:** Public Hearing to consider proposed amendments/extensions to the Klickitat County Annual and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for 2023-2028.

Chairman Anderson reconvened the meeting at 6:00 PM to consider proposed amendments/extensions to the Klickitat County Annual and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for 2023-2028. All three (3) Commissioners were present. Public Works Director Gordon Kelsey, Deputy Director Jeff Hunter and Senior Engineer Seth Scarola were also present. There were approximately seven (7) people on Zoom.

Chairman Anderson opened the Klickitat County Annual and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program public hearing and requested a staff overview.

Director Kelsey advised that the Hood River Bridge and the Bingen Under Pass Project will be added to the 6-year Transportation plan, indicating that after reviewing statute, regional transportation projects should be added to county plans. Director Kelsey reported that the State requires counties to revise and adopt a 6-year Transportation plan each year. The 6-year plan is a planning document that helps counties identify needs and prioritize projects, not all of the projects on the 6-year plan will be completed within the 6-year period. There are many factors that affect the plan such as: project costs exceed the annual capital budget, emergency repair projects, delays in obtaining permits or obtaining right of way and grant deadlines and changes in grant programs.

Director Kelsey noted that the County uses county dollars as a local match to leverage grant dollars and fund road construction projects. Grant funding helps support many of the projects on the 6 year plan. Director Kelsey reported that in past years, the county was able to double the County Road Fund expenditure with grant dollars.

Director Kelsey explained how projects are selected for the 6-year plan and provided a breakdown of the 2023 construction budget, \$5,027,000 Federal funds, \$140,000 State Funds, \$500,000 Landfill dollars, and \$1,680,000 Road Fund, for a total draft construction budget of \$7,347,000.

- Below is a brief synopsis of the testimony offered.

White Salmon area resident Matt Long requested that Eyrie Road be added to the 6 year plan to improve fire safety.

Shannon Head requested that the gravel section of Bates Road be added to the 6 year plan because of increased traffic.

Debbie Wagner opposed any improvements to Oak Ridge Road and asked that it be removed from the Plan. Ms. Wagner also asked for the cost of Courtney Road and the cost to taxpayers to overlay the Roosevelt Grade.

Tom Woodward asked that no improvements be made to Oak Ridge Road.

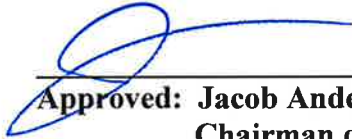
Chairman Anderson asked if there was anyone else wishing to comment, hearing none, he closed the hearing to public comment and called for Board discussion.

Director Kelsey advised that the budget for Courtney Road is 7.2 million and the project is still within the budget, no taxpayers' dollars were used for the Roosevelt Grade overlay. The Landfill pays overweight fees when they use Roosevelt Grade, those dollars are held and used to improve the road when needed. Following further discussion regarding various roads, Chairman Anderson called for a motion.

**Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** to continue Klickitat County Annual and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program public hearing/closed to further oral comment until adopted before December 31, 2022. Written comment will remain open until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, October 18, 2022.

**(6:20 PM) Motion (M/Sauter, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):** to adjourn the meeting, there are no workshops scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2022.

\* 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 10.11.2022 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.

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



10-18-22  
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**Date**