

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

Morning Workshop Session

Legislative Update: Potts & Associates.

9:30 AM Legislative Update: Attendance: Lobbyist Zak Kennedy, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Lobbyist Zak Kennedy provided an overview of proposed legislative bills being considered in the legislative session, noting that the main priority is housing and climate change impacts and firearms. Mr. Kennedy advised that there are a lot of new legislators and legislative aids in this session.

Human Resources Manager KC Sheridan requested and received verbal approval for a Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Account Administrative I, II, III or Accountant position within the Treasurer's Office.

Chairman Christopher provided a Legislative Steering Committee update and reminded the Board that Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) hosts virtual legislative updates every other Friday. Commissioner Anderson asked about WSAC's priorities for the session.

Human Resources Manager KC Sheridan requested and received verbal approval for a Personnel Authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Payroll Analyst, steps 1-3, Grade 39, position within the Auditor's Office.

Workshop Session Agenda

10:15 AM – Public Works/Road Department Update:

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

Interim Director Hunter provided a brief overview of the Consent agenda item.

Interim Deputy Director Scarolla provided an overview of the Federal projects' timelines.

Interim Director Hunter provided an update on the East, West End projects, Upcoming Facilities Work/Events and the Klickitat Mill Site cleanup.

Interim Deputy Director Scarolla advised that the Fleet parking spaces have been designated.

Commissioner Anderson provided an update on the White Salmon/Hood River Bridge.

Dave McClure and Richard Foster discussed the process of the Klickitat Mill asbestos cleanup.

10:30 AM – Elected Official Report/Update: Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel: Pending issues update some of which qualify for Executive Session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), to discuss threaten and pending litigation

At 10:29 AM Chairman Christopher announced the Board would be convening into Executive Session in accordance with RCW42.30.220(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation with Prosecutor David Quesnel. It was noted the session would last thirty (30) minutes. At 10:59 AM Chairman Christopher announced that the Executive Session would be extended thirty (30) minutes. At 11:29 AM Chairman Christopher announced that the Executive Session would be extended ten (10) minutes. At 11:39 AM Chairman Christopher announced that the executive Session would be extended twenty (20) minutes. At 11:59 AM Chairman Christopher announced that the Executive Session would be extended five (5) minutes. The Board convened back into regular session. No action was taken.

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously). To recess for lunch at **12:04 PM.**

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Christopher reconvened the Regular Meeting for Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 1:00 PM, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Agenda:

***Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously):** Business Agenda with 1 add on under unfinished business. Resolution in the matter of enacting a moratorium on the siting, permitting and the acceptance of permit applications for large scale solar projects over one acre in size and Pull #2 from the consent agenda for discussion.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

***Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously):** The Board of Commissioner meeting minutes for December 27, 2022.

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

Gabriel Gilbert commented on the interlocal agreement between Fish & Wildlife and 911, representation of mental health in the Latino community and childcare infrastructure.

Sharon Carter commented on the Senior Center and renting the Goldendale Grange.

Trout Lake resident Rachele (was unable to get her last name) commented on the interlocal agreement between 911 and Fish & Wildlife.

Ron Kinsella commented on the solar moratorium having a meeting open to the public.

Greg Wagner thanked Chairman Christopher and Commissioner Zoller and commented on the solar moratorium and Conditional Use Permits for Short Term Rentals.

Sheri Bousquet requested that County employees identify themselves when they speak and expressed gratitude to Chairman Christopher and Commissioner Zoller for the moratorium on Industrial Solar.

Commissioner Zoller responded to Ms. Gilbert, letting her know that she looked forward to working on the child care issue and she appreciated everyone in the room and online participation.

Commissioner Anderson responded to Ms. Gilbert's comment, letting her know that he and the Health Director will get in contact with her in regards to Latino community mental health representation. Commissioner Anderson responded to Rachelle's comment, advising her to stay on the line since the Emergency Management update will be coming up.

Chairman Christopher responded to Rachelle letting her know that Emergency Management may or may not cover the interlocal agreement between 911 and Fish & Wildlife.

Del Eldred commented on extending the time for citizen comment.

Department Update/Report:

1:30 PM – Emergency Management Department Update:

Attendance: Emergency Management Director Jeff King, Emergency Management Chief of Operations Filiberto Ontivaros, various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Emergency Management Director Jeff King provided an update on the Public Safety Radio System performance, functionality, maintenance and Radio site lease agreements.

Chief of Operation Ontivaros provided an update on staffing, operations and training for 911 staff and user agreements and renewals. Chief Ontivaros stated that there was a phone outage that affected only US Cellular users.

Director King reported that the Consent agenda item #2 is the renewal of the user agreement with the City of Goldendale for 911 services. The board discussed the cost of living increase over the next five (5) years and agreed that the agreement should be changed and approved for One (1) year instead of five (5) years.

Director King stated that Dispatch answers all 911 calls and processes them appropriately.

Director King provided an update on Fund 107 and Burn Ban.

The Board discussed Burn Ban codes and waivers.

Director King continued with an update on training exercises, volunteer recruitment, grants and the emergency notification system.

Director King recognized Debi Stover as Employee of the Month.

Old Business:

***Approved (M/Zoller, S/Christopher, Commissioner Anderson was opposed) Resolution No. 00823** in support of the Boards motion on January 3, 2023 in the matter of enacting a moratorium on the siting, permitting and the acceptance of permit applications for large scale solar projects over one (1) acre in size in Township-ranges 3-14, 3-15, 3-16, 4-14, 4-15, 4-16, 4-17, 5-15, 5-16, located within Klickitat County, Washington.

Commissioner Anderson expressed his concerns and questioned legal liability, the possibility of violating the Open Public Meeting Acts and putting a moratorium over specific locations without findings or rationale. Commissioner Anderson stated that when it comes to land use decisions, it is usually the procedures that get appealed, not the decision. Commissioner Anderson questioned if Chairman Christopher could enact a moratorium over an area with a proposed project in which Chairman Christopher has previously recused himself from. Commissioner Anderson questioned the goal of the moratorium, stating that if a solar project goes through the Washington Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) permitting process local control is taken out of the County's hands. Commissioner Anderson stated that his goal is to have local control over the large scale solar projects.

Chairman Christopher disagreed with Commissioner Andersons concerns and stated the differences with Yakima Counties and Kittitas Counties moratorium. Commissioner Zoller stated her goals to address policies with solar ordinances.

A discussion followed in regards to the moratorium and meeting with Cypress Creek Renewables.

Consent Agenda:

***Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously):** Consent Agenda with seven (7) items, item #2 was modified for a change in the contract term.

- 1) *Interlocal Funding Assistance Agreement (C00423) between Klickitat County and Washington Gorge Action Programs granting operating funds for \$16,660.00 to the Bingen/White Salmon Community Youth Center for the 2023 budget year.
- 2) *Renewal of Interlocal Agreement (C00523) for Radio System Use and 911/Dispatch Service with City of Goldendale.
- 3) *Purchase Authorization request from Erinn Quinn, to purchase two (2) Dell Latitude 7320 Laptops to support the Behavioral Health program.
- 4) *Purchase Authorization request from Erinn Quinn, to purchase two (2) Dell Latitude 5530 Laptops to support the Behavioral Health program.
- 5) *Agreement (C00623) to retain Kaplan Kirsch Rockwell LLP to provide advice regarding transfer of the airport water right without jeopardizing current and future FAA funding.
- 6) *Notice to Contractors to advertise and scheduling of a bid opening to be held on January 31, 2023 at 1:30 PM for the 2023 Annual Striping Program RN 642-23.
- 7) *Grant Agreement Contract (C00723) (22 SHSP E23-095) between Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Washington Military Department for \$61,592.
- 8) *Personnel authorization to begin the advertising process to fill a vacant Accounting Admin I/II/III or accountant position at Grade 35 to 39, Steps 1-3 within the Treasurer's Office.
- 9) *Third party agreement (C00823) with NEOGOV for online services for an electronic evaluation system.
- 10) *Resolution in the matter of appointment of Dave Barta to the Klickitat County Planning Commission Position No. 3, representing Commissioner District No. 2.
- 11) *Unified Certification Program Agreement (C00923) between Oregon Department of Transportation, Oregon Business Development Department and Columbia Gorge Regional Airport to participate in the disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) program.

Board Pending/New Business:

Commissioner Anderson reported that there would be a meeting January 11th at the White Salmon library for the Federal Broadband Mapping Program.

The Board discussed the policies for appointments to fill vacancies on boards and commissions and attendance.

Motion (M/Christopher, S/Zoller) to appoint Lori Zoller to serve on the Airport Board. Commissioner Anderson raised a point of order against the appointment, explaining that whenever there is a board position that has a 3 year term there needs to be a motion to remove said person from the board then make a motion to appoint a new board member. Commissioner Christopher rescinded his motion.

Motion Passed (M/Christopher, S/Zoller, Commissioner Anderson was opposed) to remove Commissioner Anderson from the Airport Board. Commissioner Zoller explained her interest in being on the Airport Board. Commissioner Anderson explained the issues that he has been working on with the Airport Board.

Motion (M/Christopher, S/Zoller, Passed Unanimously) to appoint Commissioner Lori Zoller to the Airport Board.

Chairman Christopher requested clarification in regards to the Neogov Contract. Director Van Cleave updated the board on the Neogov Contract.

At 3:10 PM Chairman Christopher announced the Board would be convening into Closed Session to discuss collective bargaining proposals/negotiations, grievances, mediation and/or arbitration proceedings all associated with collective bargaining in accordance with RCW 42.30.140(4) for ten (10) minutes. At 3:20 PM it was announced that the Closed Session would be extended five (5) minutes. At 3:25 PM it was announced that Closed Session would be extended ten (10) minutes. Chairman Christopher announced that at 3:35 PM that the Board

would be going into Executive Session for ten (10) minutes in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(d) to review negotiations on the performance of publicly bid contract when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased costs. The Board convened back into Regular Session at 3:45PM and moved to adjourn. No action was taken in the Closed or Executive Session.

Board Correspondence for the Record:

- Letter of support to the US Department of Health and Human Services in support of Recovery Cafe' Clark County's (RCCC) request for funding.
- Letter of support to the Beacon Health Options of Washington in support of Recovery Café' Clark County's (RCCC) request for funding.

(3:45 PM)(M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously). There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned to 9:30 AM on Thursday, January 12, 2023 for scheduled workshops.

Thursday, January 12, 2023 - Regular Meeting Extension: Workshop Extension.

Chairman Christopher called the workshop to Order at 9:00 AM. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

2023 Budget Workshop Schedule

Attendance: Public Health Director Erinn Quinn, Behavioral Health Consultant Chris Devilleneuve, Under Sheriff Carmen Knopes, Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Code Compliance Officer Jorge Sendejas, Prosecuting Attorney David Quesnel, Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, Environmental Health Director David Kavanaugh, Building Director Lynn Ward, Acting Public Works Director Jeff Hunter, Acting County Engineer Seth Scarola, members of the Dallesport Water District Board, and approximately twenty (20)+ members of the public.

9:30 AM - Public Health Director Erinn Quinn: Discussion concerning the Behavioral Health strategic plan.

Director Quinn provided a brief update on two (2) applicants for the County Health Officer position, requesting and receiving Board approval to schedule an interview with the applicant with the required qualifications.

Behavioral Health Consultant Chris Devilleneuve provided an overview of the process of developing the County's behavioral health program, a review of what has been completed and what needs to be done next. There was discussion regarding the decline in the number of available behavioral health hospital beds in Washington State. Undersheriff Knopes commented on the overwhelming number of mental patients that occupy beds in the Jail and the lack of available behavioral beds. Mr. Devilleneuve indicated that he is working with various Managed Care Organizations to bring in more funding sources to put behavioral health services in place to serve the population in need and keep them out of County courts and jail.

Director Van Cleave noted that the Board has discussed putting together a team consisting of different County Offices/Departments to assist the Behavioral Health Program. Chairman Christopher suggested that Commissioner Anderson be invited to the team.

Discussion continued about staffing and the challenges of filling positions. Mr. Devilleneuve advised that there is a psychologist willing to provide services virtually and outpatient services should start in June, which will allow time to get the building ready and hire staff.

Undersheriff Knopes stated that transportation for non-jail patients' needs to be added to behavioral health discussions. Discussion followed regarding a meeting with the Emergency Medical Service District (EMSD) Board to discuss options that would allow EMSD ambulance crews to transport patients to behavioral health hospital beds.

Chairman Christopher presented draft letters in support of the Recovery Cafe's grant request through the Southwest Washington Region Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grant program. The Board unanimously indicated their intention to sign the letters of support.

10:30 AM – Code Compliance Officer Jorge Sendejas: Department update.

Code Compliance Officer Sendejas presented a PowerPoint presentation to explain his frustration and lack of direction in dealing with short term rental (STR) complaints. Discussion followed regarding developing a STR ordinance and whether it should be a Planning Commission project or not.

Planning Director Lindblad provided clarification regarding zoning and planning ordinances, noting that Planning does not do code compliance, their role is to assist and work with all relevant departments to resolve compliance issues. Officer Sendejas asked Director Lindblad if a STR required a conditional use permit. Director Lindblad advised if the address of property is not located in an area where the zoning or land use allows for STR, then it would need to go through the conditional use permit process and before the Board of Adjustment. Ms. Lindblad added that nowhere in our code does it list or address accessory dwelling units or STR.

Prosecutor Quesnel agreed with Ms. Lindblad's comments, the Code Compliance Officers role is not to pass complaints on to other departments, Code Compliance is supposed to use the other Departments expertise to do his job.

It has been County policy not to enforce fines on unpermitted STR until rules were put in place. Chairman Christopher stated that the County needs to fix the issue to legally allow transient (STR) rentals, we need a policy change and to go through a public process.

The Board discussed holding monthly STR workshops and having Code Compliance and Building working together to develop a draft STR ordinance, Prosecutor Quesnel advised that his office should be able to draft an ordinance within 30 to 45 days. Following further discussion, the Board thanked Prosecutor Quesnel for his offer and noted that the current County policy regarding STR will remain the same while the County is working on a policy and ordinance related to STR.

Chairman Christopher reviewed a list of topics he would like to discuss at future workshops, beginning with training for boards, commissions, committees and employees on the Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records, monthly town hall meetings, press releases, trucking potable water, Title 12 Road Standards, website upgrades, requiring elected and department heads to seek approval prior to applying for grants, increase the size for ADUs, and special out building permits.

Commissioner Anderson provided a brief history on how the Code Compliance Officer job description was developed for Commissioner Zoller. Chairman Christopher explained how the code compliance and nuisance abatements have been handled, adding the ordinance needs to be updated, until that can happen the County has been focusing on health and safety issues.

Lunch Recess: (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): Motion to recess for lunch at 11:50 AM.

1:00 PM – Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad: Department update.

Planning Director Lindblad provided a review of long range planning projects and an update on the search for a Project Coordinator, noting that two (2) applications have been received. Director Lindblad updated the Board on the Shoreline Master Plan update, advising that she plans to bring a draft to the Board before June 30th for approval, and then the plan will be sent to the Department of Ecology for final approval.

The Board discussed Planning Commission positions, and poor attendance. Further discussion followed regarding the Comprehensive Management Plan update and the solar moratorium public hearing. Chairman Christopher advised that there should also be an evening public hearing, which may need to be held in the large meeting room on the first floor.

Director Lindblad finished her update by asking the Board if there was anything they would like her to be doing or working on that she had not covered. The Board unanimously said no, and thanked her for her dedication to the County.

Economic Development/Natural Resources Director McClure reminded the Board about an approved community development dollars funding request from the White Salmon Grange. The Commissioners Clerk advised that a supplemental will be required to move dollars to the expenditure budget to cover the expense, which was not included in the final budget.

2:00 PM - Dallesport Water District: Continued discussion.

Dallesport Water District (DWD) Commissioners Bill Clark, William Morris and Mark Pepple met with the Board to continue the discussion regarding uncompleted tasks related to the transfer of the Airport Well water right, and other unresolved matters. Before the meeting got started Chairman Christopher laid out meeting ground rules.

The DWD Commissioners expressed their desire to see the Dallesport peninsula grow, as well as their concern for future residential water needs and the water needs for development at the airport and business park.

Commissioners Morris and Pepple expressed concerns about unmetered buildings at the terminal business park, fire flow capacity due to under sized pipes, a Landfill grant, the well contract and the transfer of the water right to DWD.

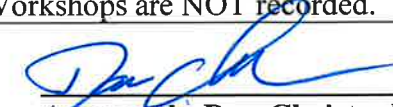
Discussion followed with Commissioner Anderson providing a timeline and an update on the County and City of The Dalles effort to satisfy the Federal Aviation Administration's questions about the value of the water right. Commissioner Anderson also provided clarification on the unmetered accounts. Cost effective options to correct the size of the fire suppression pipe for the hydrant was discussed. Commissioner Anderson expressed concerns over DWD's budget and expenses.

During the meeting several issues were resolved and another workshop was scheduled for January 26th at 2:00 PM to continue the discussion to resolve all issues and unanswered questions.

Airport Board Chairman Jim Wilcox provided further clarification regarding some of the earlier discussion between the Board and DWD and addressed a couple of items mentioned. On another matter, Mr. Wilcox stated that the Airport's water bill has more than doubled, which far exceeds what was presented to the Board by DWD.

(M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): The workshop was adjourned at 3:26 PM.

* 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 1.10.2023 Board of County Commissioners Meeting. Please Note: All Commissioner meetings and workshops are open to the public to attend. Meetings are recorded, Workshops are NOT recorded.


Approved: **Dan Christopher**
Chairman of the Board



2-7-2023
Date