

**Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, March 14, 2023**

Morning Workshop Session

Chairman Dan Christopher called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Commissioners present: Dan Christopher and Lori Zoller, Jacob Anderson is present via Zoom.

Workshop Session Agenda

9:30 AM - Legislative Update:

Zach Kennedy provided a legislative update on HB1670, HB1240, HB1333, HB1720, HB1445, HB1674 and HB5440.

Commissioner Anderson inquired and a discussion followed in regards to the status of HB1216.

9:57 AM – Public Works/Road Department Update

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

Interim Director Hunter provided an update on the consent agenda items and a pay estimate.

Interim Engineer Scarola provided an update on the Construction programs and Road Designs.

Interim Director Hunter provided an update on the East and West End Maintenance projects, upcoming facilities work/events, gravel roads, applying for safety grants, sidewalk grant, Dallesport Internet, passing cost to EFSEC for google teams meeting, DNR fire reduction work and Klickitat Mill site.

A discussion followed in regards to the Klickitat Mill site.

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

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

Director McClure introduced the new Economic Development Specialist, Chelsea Jones, and provided an update on projects and grants that Ms. Jones will be doing.

Mr. Foster gave an update on the Community Directed Spending request, the Goldendale City Grant for the Chamber of Commerce Building Small Business Innovation Fund Grant, the Job Skills Program, the Scaleup' Program, the Child Care Committee documentary screening at the library and the WSU grant that Specialist Jones will be taking over. A discussion followed in regards to the MCED Broadband grant for the Snowden area.

Director McClure provided an update on designating the KCPEDA organization for the county, HB1717, HB1267, SB5229 and HB1783.

Director McClure provided a Natural Resources Department update.

A discussion followed in regards to the BLM programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and Resource Management Plan amendments for updated utility-scale solar energy planning and policies on Federal Public Lands.

The board discussed providing a work space for Natural Resources new staff and providing a workspace in the WSU Extension office for Lorena Lowell with the Washington Small Business Development Center.

11:30 AM Department Update/Report: Code Compliance Update

Attendance: Code Enforcement Officer Jorge Sendejas and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Officer Sendejas provided an update on some of the current code compliance cases and commented on looking at contacting comparable counties Code Compliance for ideas on improvements to our county code compliance department.

Unfinished Business:

Commissioner Zoller provided an update on the Rhine Village funding request.

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously). To recess for lunch at 11:48 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Dan Christopher reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Christopher and Commissioner Zoller were present. Commissioner Anderson was present via zoom

Agenda:

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): Business Agenda with as presented.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for February 28, 2023 as presented.

Citizen Comment:

Gabriel Gilbert, resident of Fruit Valley, invited Commissioner Zoller to have a meeting with a daycare provider.

Pat Arnold, resident of Trout Lake, commented on Broadband Internet being available in Trout Lake.

Greg Wagner with CEASE commented on legal representation against industrial solar, on short term rentals, the Consent Agenda and commented on the electric car charging stations in front of the Klickitat County Administrative Building.

Sheri Bousquet, resident of Husum, commented on legal representation against industrial solar and a Tetra Tech lawsuit.

Elaine Harvey, resident of Goldendale, commented on the Carriger proposal on the EFSEC website and commented on the Natural Resource Department.

Commissioner Anderson responded to comments from Ms. Arnold, Mr. Wagner, Ms. Bousquet and Ms. Harvey.

Commissioner Anderson left the zoom meeting at 1:28 PM

Commissioner Zoller responded to comments from Ms. Gilbert, Ms. Arnold, Mr. Wagner, Ms. Bousquet and Ms. Harvey.

Chairman Christopher responded to comments from Ms. Arnold and Mr. Wagner.

Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): granting final approval of Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-17, which is an adjustment of the property line between Parcel No's 03-10-1400-0012/00 & 03-10-1452-0004/00: Applicants: George Mersereau Trust.

Assistant Planner Rebecca Hail reported that Boundary Line Adjustment BLA2022-17 is a proposal to adjust the common property line between Parcel No's 03-10-1400-0012/00 & 03-10-1452-0004/00, which are located in the White Salmon vicinity.

Ms. Hail 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.

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): granting final approval of Short Plat Alteration No. SPL2022-25, which is a proposal to combine lots 2 & 3 of SPL2007-16 into one lot and vacate the access easement on lot 2 and well easement on lot 3. The Parcel No.(s) are 02-13-2707-1602/00 & 02-13-2707-1603/00, located in the Dallesport vicinity; Applicant: James and Connie Gale

Assistant Planner Rebecca Hail reported that Short Plat Alteration No. 2022-25, is a proposal to combine Parcel No.(s) 02-13-2707-1602/00 & 02-13-2707-1603/00, located in the Dallesport vicinity; Applicant: James and Connie Gale

Ms. Hail advised that an administrative review of the Short Plat Alteration 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.

Unfinished Business:

Motion (M/Christopher, S/Zoller) to submit letter appointing Lori Zoller as voting member of the Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) to provide local insight to the EFSEC process for the Site Certification for Cypress Creek Renewables project.

Consent Agenda:

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Consent Agenda with 6 items.

- 1) Department scheduling a public meeting to be held Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 1:30 PM to consider summarily accepting the Planning Commission's recommendation for approval of Shoreline Substantial Development Permit and Shoreline Conditional Use Permit No. SH2022-03; Pitt Site Trailhead; Applicant: WA State Parks (Brian Patnode/Chelsea Harris).

- 2) Consolidate Contract (C05823) CLH31016 Amendment 11 between Department of Health and Klickitat County Public Health Department

- 3) Request for proposals for the redesign, installation and support of Klickitat County's network infrastructure as well as to offer other IT services to the county.
- 4) Request to publish a Notice of Planned County Force Work cost for 2022 Road projects.
- 5) Reimbursable Work Agreement (**C05923**) between Klickitat County (Public Works) and the City of White Salmon for providing services or material to the City of White Salmon.
- 6) Concurrence to Award Contract Bid to Ergon Asphalt & Emulsion for 2023 Liquid Asphalt purchase for a total bid amount of \$725,190.00

Voucher Certification and Payment Approvals:

Approved Warrants (M/Zoller, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously):

Accounts Payable: (#320324 – 320423); for a net of \$140,645.47.

Combined Payroll: (#236077 – 236337), County Benefit Warrants (#320314 – 320323) Electronic Transfer #993, Total Payroll warrants \$726,605.81.

For a combined total of \$867,251.28 for the date ending March 13, 2023.

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): Pay Estimate 1 to Gary Denny Floor Covering for the Klickitat County Courthouse Conference/Break Room Floor Covering, KN9-2-N21002, C19622, for the amount of \$9566.65.

Board Pending:

The Board discussed various issues which included:

Commissioner Zoller discussed the meeting with Skamania County Commissioners in regards to timber trusts.

Chairman Christopher announced that he will be attending the Bickleton Pancake Dinner and more than one Commissioner may be attending the Republican meeting with Dan Newhouse.

(1:55 PM) Approved (M/Zoller, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 AM on Thursday, March 16, 2023 for scheduled for workshops.

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Christopher reconvened the meeting at 9:00 AM. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Workshop Session Agenda:

Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave: Discussion regarding what the Klickitat County Solid Waste (SW) program should look like, Salary Commission and other related Human Resource matters.

Attendance: HR & Administration Services Director Robb Van Cleave, SW Office Manager Lyn Zielinski, Landfill Compliance Joe Johnson, SW Resource Coordinator MacKenzie Coleman, Auditor Heather Jobe, Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, Deputy Prosecutor Rebecca Cranston, Interim Public Works Director Jeff Hunter and Interim County Engineer Seth Scarola, Deputy Finance Director Pam Beierle, Treasurer Greg Gallagher, Senior Services Director Sharon Carter, Assessor Billi Bare, IT Manager Randy Christianson, IT Technicians Curtis Schlegel, and Shelby McKern, Emergency Management Project Coordinator Frank Hewey and Ruby Irving.

Resource Coordinator MacKenzie provided an overview of SW grants, programs, education, outreach, and community clean ups. Landfill Compliance Officer Joe Johnson updated the Board on landfill operations and compliance. Director Van Cleave provided a brief update on post closure activities and State requirements at the former Horse Thief Landfill.

Discussion regarding whether a Salary Commission would be a benefit to the County:

Chairman Christopher stated that he would like to consider creating a Salary Commission to review all County elected officials' salaries every year. Director Van Cleave and County Auditor Jobe provided clarification on how salary commissions are established.

Chairman Christopher indicated that a policy resolution should be done regarding how often salary review for employees and elected officials should be done. Commissioner Anderson noted that he would like to see the budget impact of a salary commission). Auditor Jobe advised that a salary commission would be a lot of additional work for her office and she is willing to go for it. Director Van Cleave added, that it will be a lot of work for HR and the Commissioner's staff also.

Discussion followed regarding how commission members are selected according to statute, and what the next steps and timeline should be. The Commissioner's staff will prepare a draft ordinance for review to get started.

Commissioner Anderson provided a brief update on his discussion with the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) and the Prosecutor regarding Commissioner Zoller's appointment to the EFSEC related to the Carriger Solar Project, advising that Commissioner Zoller will not be able to discuss the proposed project with the Board.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he would like to hold town halls to hear public comments on the project to help the Board make recommendations to the EFSEC Board.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Zoller resigned from her position on the EFSEC Board. The Board indicated they would be bringing forward names of possible nominees for discussion.

IT Manager Randy Christiansen: E-Government discussion:

The Board had a discussion with IT staff, Elected Officials, Department Heads and staff concerning their office's/department's visions of E-Government services to improve efficiencies, and public access to online county services such as filing permit applications, marketing and information, paying fees, managing public records, as well as management of their websites.

Following the discussion, IT Manager Christiansen noted that he will follow-up with a survey to offices and departments to compile the information for a future discussion about what the County wants and needs.

Interim Public Works Director Hunter advised that the Dallesport Wastewater Treatment Plant had one of their pumps go down, indicating that it has been replaced with the backup unit. Director Hunter requested and received approval from the Board to purchase another backup unit at a cost of \$50,000. Deputy Finance Director Beierle noted that it will be necessary to do a supplemental budget request for this purchase.

Lunch Recess: (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): Motion to recess for lunch at 11:49 AM.

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Christopher reconvened the meeting at 1:00 PM. All three (3) Commissioners were present.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Executive Director Margaret Neuman: Proposal presentation regarding the Old Klickitat Mill site property.

Attendance: Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Executive Director Margaret Neuman and Yakama Nation Restoration Specialist David Lindley, Inter-Fluve Water Resources Engineers Mike Rafferty and Luke Swan (via phone), Economic Development/Natural Resources Director Dave McClure, Economic Development Specialist Richard Foster, Deputy Prosecutor Rebecca Cranston, Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, and County residents Pat Arnold and Dave Barta.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Executive Director Margaret Neuman presented a concept design and overview of a proposal to restore approximately 3 miles of fish habitat on lower Snyder Creek, which runs through property held in trust by Klickitat County (Old Klickitat Mill site).

Water Resource Engineer Mike Rafferty provided a review of assessments and hydraulic flows, as well as history of other restoration projects. Ms. Neuman explained what the channel should look like if it is restored and how it could help to prevent future flooding events.

Ms. Neuman advised they would like to do test pits in 3 selected areas to determine water holding capacity. Following discussion, Ms. Neuman asked what the County's plans are for the property, noting that she likes the idea of dividing it into sections, one for PUD to manage the communities water source, one parcel for State Parks and one for economic development.

Following further discussion and clarification about the project, Commissioner Anderson stated that he would like to have an update in six months and also hear from County staff.

Director McClure advised of another potential risk related to moving concrete at the site. Director Lindblad provided clarification of what development might look like, noting that it will depend on the new high water mark and the underlying use is industrial so the zoning may need to be changed.

Board Pending:

Commissioner Anderson provided a brief update on meetings with Bingen, White Salmon, and West District Court regarding cost sharing of court services.

The Board had a brief discussion regarding the County's appointment to EFSEC for the Carriger application. Commissioner Anderson strongly urged the Commissioners to prepare for discussion regarding an appointment by next Tuesday. Further discussion followed regarding solar projects in general and the Carriger EFSEC project.

The Board had a brief discussion regarding constitutional counties, which was followed by a discussion concerning the Commissioner's monthly KLCK radio interview.

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 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 03-14-2023 BOCC Zoom meeting. Please Note: All Commissioner meetings and workshops are open to the public to attend. Meetings are recorded, Workshops are NOT recorded.

Dan Christopher

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



4-4-2023

Date