

Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, March 28, 2023

Morning Workshop Session

Chairman Dan Christopher called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Commissioners present: Dan Christopher, and Lori Zoller. Jacob Anderson arrived at 9:35 AM

Workshop Session Agenda

9:30 AM – Legislative Update:

Zak Kennedy provided a legislative update on the Transportation Budget, the operating capital budget, the cutoff for policy bills, the lack of communication among legislators and HB1670.

9:45 AM – Board follow-up discussion on legislative issues:

Commissioner Anderson offered to sit in for the Legislature Steering Committee for Chairman Christopher since he will be unable to attend. A discussion followed in regards to designating an official alternate person.

9:45 AM -Department Update: Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave:

Attendance: HR Director Robb Van Cleave and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director Van Cleave provided a brief update concerning the Public Works Director position. Director Van Cleave and the Board discussed making a verbal job offer to the Acting Interim Public Works Director and the Acting Interim Engineer.

Approved (M/ Anderson S/Zoller, passed unanimously) to direct staff to give a verbal job offer for Public Works Director and County Engineer as well as enter into a discussion on wages.

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 gave an update on the consent agenda items.

Interim Engineer Scarola gave an update on the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) report.

Commissioner Anderson requested clarification on the Ingram Quarry and a discussion followed.

Interim Engineer Scarola gave an update on the Construction Program and Road Designs. A discussion followed in regards to requesting the Board to reach out to Senator King to encourage Washington Department of Transportation funding approval so that Public Works can move forward on projects.

Interim Director Hunter gave an update on the Maintenance Projects on the East and West end, upcoming facilities work and events and commented on Arrow Street in Roosevelt. A discussion followed in regards to City of White Salmon requesting Public Works to oversee contract administration for federal funds. The Board agreed to let Public Works oversee the contract with the understanding that the City of White Salmon reimburses the overhead costs.

Chairman Christopher inquired on the cost of the infrastructure put in at the Regional Airport and a discussion followed.

10:23 AM – Elected Official Report/Update: Sheriff Bob Songer

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

Sheriff Songer thanked the Commissioners for taking a position on the anti-gun legislation. Sheriff Songer gave an update on the calls for services, a meeting in Dallesport Community in regards to sex offender leveling, hiring Loren Culp as new Chief Jail Deputy, the Search and Rescue Awards Dinner and the double homicide that occurred in the Box Canyon area.

Undersheriff Knopes provided an update on Civil, Corrections, Patrol, attending an Opioid Awareness group meeting and the County's Drug Recognition Expert Sergeant Riggers training. Undersheriff Knopes informed the Board that the Tribe would be willing to pay for the cleanup needed on a parcel along the Klickitat River in Klickitat that is considered sacred fishing grounds. Undersheriff Knopes provided an update on the demonstration for the Flock Camera plate readers and a discussion followed in regards to working with Public Works to put the Flock Cameras in places that are appropriate.

Civil Deputy Elings provided an update on the Budget and Contracts. A discussion in regards to increasing what the cities pay for Jail services followed. Civil Deputy Elings continued with an update on the Range-Timber Program, the Body Worn Camera Program, the K-9 Program, the Marine Patrol and the Posse program.

Klickitat Valley Health Executive Officer Leslie Hiebert provided a history of the formation of the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) District.

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously). To recess for lunch at 11:30 AM.

Commissioner's Business Meeting

Chairman Dan Christopher reconvened the meeting 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 2 add-ons: Under New Business a discussion with HR in regards to Stipends and under Old Business, District Court costs.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for March 7, 2023 as presented.

Citizen Comment:

Gene Callan, resident of Goldendale, commented on the moratorium, the Comprehensive Plan, adopting solar ordinances and legal counsel.

Dave Barta, resident of Goldendale, commented on industrial solar and local control.

Sheri Bousquet, resident of Husum, commented on EFSEC and spending money for legal counsel.

Dave West, resident of Goldendale, commented on solar and legal counsel.

Gabriel Gilbert, resident of Fruit Valley, commented on legal counsel, the dog shelter and Commissioner Zoller attending a meeting in White Salmon with a Child Care provider.

Delmar Eldred, resident of Goldendale, commented on a comment made by Gina Mosbrucker obtaining 7.5 million dollars for local government.

Patricia Arnold, resident of Trout Lake, commented on the dog shelter.

Chairman Christopher responded to comments from Mr. Callan, Mr. Barta, Ms. Bousquet, Ms. Gilbert and Ms. Arnold.

Commissioner Zoller responded to comments from Mr. Callan, Mr. Barta, Mr. West, Ms. Bousquet and Ms. Arnold.

Commissioner Anderson responded to comments from Mr. Callan, Mr. Barta, Mr. West, Ms. Gilbert and Ms. Arnold.

Commissioner Anderson discussed putting the response on the solar project application on the agenda.

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): adding the county response to the Carriger Project application to the agenda discussion at 2:30 PM

1:33 PM Miscellaneous Reports/Comments: Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Southeastern Region acting Manager Larry Leach to provide an update on DNR trust lands

Attendance: WADNR acting Region Manager Larry Leach, WADNR acting Assistant Manager Stephanie Margheim, Residents of Goldendale: Greg and Debra Wagner, Kathy Moco, Dave West, Dave Barta, Gene Callan and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Manager Leach provided an update on DNR trust lands and discussed sustainable timber yield harvest calculations for the east side.

Assistant Manager Margheim provided a total for harvest sales from timber harvested on County Trust Lands.

2:00 PM New Business: Introduction to Klickitat County's newly appointed representative to the Columbia River Gorge Commission, Valerie Fowler.

Ms. Fowler introduced herself to the Board and gave a brief overview of why she was interested in the appointment to the Columbia River Gorge Commission.

2:05 PM Voucher Certification/Payment Approvals/Pay Estimates/Change Orders:

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

Accounts Payable Warrants (#320650-320715) for the total amount of \$91,055.24 for the date ending March 24, 2023.

Consent Agenda:

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): with items #1 & #2 being pulled for further consideration for a total of 7 items.

1) **(Pulled)** Ground Lease Agreement between City of The Dalles, Oregon, Klickitat County, Washington

and Kenn Francis for the purpose of leasing a 9,800 sq. ft. aircraft hangar, (Building Sites 1 and 2).

- 2) **(Pulled)** Ground Lease Agreement between City of The Dalles, Oregon, Klickitat County, Washington and Chak, LLC for the purpose of leasing a 9,800 sq. ft. aircraft hangar, (Building Sites 3 and 4).
- 3) Letter and **Resolution No. 03623** in the matter of appointing Hannah Joy to the Klickitat-Skamania County Development Disability Advisory Board
- 4) Renewal of Juniper Point Lease Agreement (**C06423**) between Klickitat County (Emergency Management) and NSC Smelter, LLC for the Juniper Radio Site.
- 5) Proclamation from the Department of Emergency Management proclaiming April 9-15, 2023 is Telecommunicators Week which is recognized by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and National Emergency Number Association (NENA).
- 6) Consultant Supplemental Agreement (**C06623**) between Klickitat County (Public Works) and Adcomm Engineering LLC. for professional service for radio systems and modifications.
- 7) Amendments (**C06523**) to the original agreement C18110 to purchase and stockpile rock from Ingram Quarry
- 8) Agreement(**C06723**) between Klickitat County Public Health and Western Governors University to allow students in the Nursing program to do internships at the Klickitat County Health Department
- 9) Authorization of Chair signature for the Digital Submittal Certification for the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) for 2022, Road Levy Certification.

2:10 PM Unfinished Business:

The Board discussed the shared administrative cost for the Regional Airport with The City of The Dalles.

2:15 PM: Public Hearing/Continued/Closed to further public comment: In accordance with RCW 36.70.795, Resolution 00823, in regard to a moratorium for large scale solar projects over one acre in size located within Townships-Ranges 3-14, 3-15, 3-16, 4-14, 4-15, 4-16, 4-17, 5-15, 5-16 and 5-17 in Klickitat County, Washington.

Attendance: Planning Director Mo-chi Lindblad, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Residents of Goldendale: Greg and Debra Wagner, Kathy Moco and David West, Dave Barta, Gene Callan and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director Lindblad provided a staff update, explained the timeline and requested direction from the Board. The Board discussed the Planning Commission's role in the moratorium. Commissioner Anderson commented on the Findings of Fact not showing that an emergency exists and commented on the ordinances he would like the Planning Commission to address. A discussion followed about the County's legal liability and the working draft of the resolution.

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): to continue the deliberation and discussion on the moratorium keeping the moratorium closed to any written and oral comment.

3:05 PM: Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council (EFSEC) appointment discussion.

Commissioner Zoller commented that there could be two Klickitat County residents representing the public at the EFSEC meetings.

Commissioner Zoller left the room at 3:18 PM

A discussion continued in regards to getting a legal opinion on the Moratorium, Land Use Planning and EFSEC.

3:30 PM– New Business:

Chairman Christopher commented on Robb Van Cleave and Erin Quinn receiving stipends for taking over temporary duties as Solid Waste Director and Behavioral Health Director including back pay to when they took over the additional duties.

HR Manager Sheridan provided information for the Board on how stipends were calculated in the past.

Commissioner Anderson directed staff to prepare a recommendation and resolution that follows past practices.

The Board agreed and directed HR Manager Sheridan to prepare a resolution.

Chairman Christopher directed staff to prepare a thank you letter to the Planning Commission acknowledging their extra workload.

Board Pending:

The Board discussed various issues which included:

District Court fees and Probation services fees for the cities.

4:15 PM Voucher Certification/Payment Approvals/Pay Estimates/Change Orders:

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

Payroll Warrants (#236603-236867) for the amount of \$480,256.38, Co. Benefit Warrants (#320611-320619) \$368,321.09 and Co. Benefit – Electronic Trans #994 for \$273,934.03.
For a Total Warrant amount of \$1,122,511.50 for the date ending March 27, 2023.

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM. There is no scheduled workshop on Thursday, March 30, 2023

*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 3.28.23 BOCC Zoom 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



4-11-2023

Date