

Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners
Minutes – Meeting of Tuesday, June 20, 2023

Morning Workshop Session

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

Workshop Session Agenda

10:00 AM – Public Works/Road Department Update

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

Director Hunter provided an update on the Consent Agenda items and Payment Approvals.

Engineer Scarola provided an update on the Construction Program and Road Design.

Director Hunter provided an update on the East and West end Maintenance Projects and upcoming facilities work.

Director Hunter commented on last week's Standards meeting.

Chairman Christopher asked Director Hunter to look into trimming a tree on Horseshoe Bend.

10:10 AM – Department Update/Report Human Resource Update

Attendance: Human Resource and Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, Fiscal Manager Jennifer Neil, Human Resources Manager KC Sheridan, Technical Services Director Randy Christiansen and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Fiscal Manager Jenn Neil presented the updated 2023 Budget Book.

Director Van Cleave provided an update on Washington County Risk Pool (WCRP) Training.

Human Resources Manager Sheridan advised the Board that the Classification Committee recommended the Klickitat County Engineer position to be at a Grade 75, with the same effective date as Director Hunters promotion. The Board agreed.

Manager Sheridan updated the Board on the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) annual salary survey.

Technical Services Director Randy Christiansen provided an update on the network redesign and goals. The Board discussed the network of SmartNet and the process of replacing and updating switches within the next 5 years. Discussion followed about the budget for SmartNet.

Director Van Cleave shared an update on the Solid Waste Department Ecology Funding for the 2-year period starting July 1, 2023, and followed with the Landfill Compliance Officer update.

Discussion from the board

Commissioner Zoller updated the Board on the EFSEC extension process and a discussion followed.

The Board discussed receiving a Prosecuting Attorney Opinion Request regarding receiving gifts.

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller Passed unanimously). To recess for lunch at 11:10 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 as presented.

Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes:

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): the Klickitat County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes for June 6, 2023 as presented.

Citizen Comment:

Attendance: Goldendale resident Kathy Moco, Accessor Billi Bare, Goldendale resident Dave West, and various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Leslie Naramore, with WAGAP, sent an open invitation to the Board as well as the public to attend the CPWI Open House, June 28, 2023 at the White Salmon Wellness Center.

Sheri Bosquet, resident of Husum, commented on the Commissioners Short Term Rental (STR) Workshop and Large-Scale Solar.

Kathy Moco, resident of Goldendale, commented on dying trees on private property.

Chairman Christopher and Commissioner Anderson replied to Ms. Moco.

Accessor Billi Bare, resident of Goldendale, commented on closure notices for the Holiday.

Tracy Mccune, resident of Lyle, commented on addresses approved by the County.

Commissioner Anderson replied to Ms. Mccune, Ms. Bousquet, and Ms. Naramore. Commissioner Anderson inquired if his seat mates would be in favor of moving over reserved funds from the upcoming supplemental budget to bring the Youth Center back to \$20,000. A discussion followed.

Chairman Christopher replied to Ms. Mccune.

1:30 PM Public Meetings/Public Hearings/Bid Openings:

Public Hearing: Franchise Agreement Avista Utilities, Corporation

Attendance: Avista Regional Business Manager, Steve Vincent, Goldendale resident Kathy Moco, Accessor Billi Bare, Goldendale resident Dave West, Various County elected officials, employees, and members of the public present in person and via Zoom.

Director Jeff Hunter presented the matter of granting a non-exclusive Franchise Agreement (**C13323**) between Avista Utilities Corporation and Klickitat County.

Chairman Christopher declared the public hearing open

Sheri Bousquet, resident of Husum, commented against the Franchise Agreement and stated her concerns.

Steve Vincent with Avista Utilities, commented in regards to Franchise Agreements and recommended approval to protect Klickitat County rights.

A discussion followed.

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): Franchise Agreement with Avista Utilities, Corporation.

1:45 PM Chairman Christopher presented and opened the Public Hearing in the matter of the Sixth Addendum to the Agreement (**C13223**) regarding Solid Waste Handling Between Klickitat County and Republic Services, LLC

There was no public comment.

Discussion by the Board followed

Public Hearing was closed at 1:54 PM

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller Passed unanimously): Agreement to the Sixth Addendum

1:55 PM Consent Agenda:

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): Consent Agenda with 8 items.

- 1) Memorandum from the Planning Department to schedule a public meeting to be held in the Board of County Commissioners meeting room Wednesday July 5, 2023 at 1:30 PM as follows: To consider approval of Binding Site Plan BSP2022-01 & RV2022-01 for the Twin Willows RV Park, Parcel No. 04-15-2451-0002/00 Lot 2 SP 93-03 IN N2NENE Section 24, T4N, R15E. 3224 State Hwy 142, Goldendale, WA. Applicants: Che and Vanessa Ladiges.
- 2) Contract Renewal (**C12923**) between Klickitat County Technical Services and PexIP for secure licensing for all of Klickitat County Video Conference systems.
- 3) Contract Amendment (**C13023**) between Klickitat County Public Health and The Department of Commerce for a Public Services Community Development Block Grant on behalf of Washington Gorge Action Programs.
- 4) Klickitat County Public Works Non-Capital Project List Amendment #2 to move the "Replace Dryer" project forward and in place of "Replacing Refrigerator" which will be delayed, for the Klickitat County Jail.
- 5) Concurrence to Award Bid (**C13123**) between Klickitat County Public Works and Frank Gurney, Inc. for Slope Flattening and/or Guardrail, CRP 370. This contract provides for the improvement of Trout Lake and Pine Forest Road.
- 6) **Resolution (06623)** in the matter of reappointing Alan Reitz to the Horticulture Pest and Disease Board.
- 7) **Resolution (06723)** in the matter of reappointing John Rigglesman to the Horticulture Pest and Disease Board.
- 8) **Resolution No. (06823)** Notice of Public Hearing to be held in regards to Ordinance O061323, Interim Official Control prohibiting large scale solar projects over one (1) 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, 5-17 in Klickitat County, Washington on

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 1:30 pm in the Board of County Commissioners room in the Klickitat County Public Service Building.

2:00 PM Payment Approvals, Pay Estimate and Change Orders:

Approval of Pay Estimate #1 for Klickitat County Public Works 2023 Annual Striping Program. RN 642-23, in the amount of \$456,085.00. Bids were publicly opened on January 1, 2023 in the Commissioners Chambers. Stripe Rite was the lowest responsive bidder. This project is included on the 2023 Annual Maintenance Program and Road Fund Budget.

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): Pay Estimate to Stripe Rite.

Approval of Pay Estimate #1 & Final for the Klickitat County Juvenile Department Floor Covering Project. The Contractor shall supply all equipment, labor, and materials to install County Supplied carpet and Contractor supplied VCT tile and rubber base. One (1) valid bid was received from Oliver's Floor Covering in the amount of \$10,712.38. This project is included in the Non-Capital Improvement budget.

Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller Passed unanimously): Pay Estimate to Oliver's Floor Covering

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

Accounts Payable: (#322424 and 322574) For a total amount of \$761,735.10 for the date ending June 20, 2023. There were no Payroll warrants requiring approval.

New Business:

2:00 PM Klickitat County Assessor Billie Bare commented on scheduling a date for a Public Hearing to update the application fees for Open Space Designated Forest Land by amending Klickitat County Code 3.16.030. A discussion followed.

2:05 PM Unfinished Business

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Anderson. Passed unanimously) Resolution No. (06523) in the matter of appointing Doug Gibson, Marla Keethler, and Jacob Anderson to serve as Klickitat County's representatives on the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge Authority, and the Bridge Authority Alternate positions are Alternate #1 Seth Gilchrist, Alternate #2 Eric Wilson and Alternate #3 Steve Yates. Initial appointments are one (1) year terms, effective July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2024.

2:10 PM Board Pending:

Commissioner Zoller commented on the EFSEC application process and moving forward with Legal Counsel. Discussion by the Board followed

The Board agreed that Commissioner Zoller would submit a Prosecuting Attorney Opinion Request for outside legal counsel of representation limited to the EFSEC Carringer Project.

Commissioner Anderson commented on the Oregon Legislature Budget for the Hood River Bridge Project.

Commissioner Zoller commented that the Board of Adjustment has a District 2 Board Member opening.

Commissioner Anderson commented on the Open House for new tolling costs of the Hood River Bridge.

Commissioner Zoller will be attending the June 21st Zoom COG Meeting.

***Board Correspondence for the Record:**

Letter to Skagit County Commissioners in regards to the Skagit County Contract with Republic Services.

2:54 PM Approved (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 AM on Thursday, June 22, 2023.

Call to Order/Roll Call

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

2024 Budget directive workshop.

Attendance: Human Resources & Administrative Services Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Fiscal Manager Jenn Neil, Deputy Prosecutor Rebecca Cranston, IT Manager Randy Christianson, and Deputy Finance Director Pam Beierle.

Fiscal Manager Jenn Neil stated that her goal today is to get direction from the Board on 2024 revenues, expenditures, and COLAS, to be able to give directions to Elected Officials and Department Heads in preparing their 2024 budgets. Ms. Neil advised that she has changed the outline of the budget memo and will be asking for Offices/Departments to state whether their budget is an increase or decrease from the previous year and why. The first August workshop will be a session with the Finance Committee and the Board to go through the budgets and build the workshop schedule. The Board indicated approval of the new format.

10:39 Chairman Christopher called for a brief recess.

Discussion and review of various fund balances, revenues, COLAS, insurance rates, and interest earnings followed. Ms. Neil suggested that vehicles in the Board's fleet should be surplus vehicles from other departments and there is no reason they need rental rates. Following further discussion, Ms. Neil recommended that 2024 budgets should come in as close to 2023 as possible.

The Board briefly discussed the draft trucked water policy. Commissioner Zoller noted that Skagit County will be making their final decision on the Solid Waste handling bid next week and suggested the Board write another letter encouraging them to choose Republic Services. The Board decided to work on the letter in the afternoon session.

Motion (M/Anderson, S/Zoller. Passed unanimously). To recess for lunch at 11:43 AM.

Chairman Christopher opened the afternoon workshop at 1:15 PM. All three (3) Commissioners were present

Continued discussion regarding process for determining Elected Officials salaries:

Attendance: HR Director Robb Van Cleave, HR Manager KC Sheridan, Chief Deputy Auditor Elaynna James, Deputy Prosecutor Rebecca Cranston, and Assessor Billi Bare.

Director Van Cleave provided a brief overview of the last workshop discussion regarding Elected Officials salaries, noting that he has prepared a draft resolution and will include moving the Commissioners to full time.

Assessor Bare stated that she had not been contacted about the elected official's salary proposal, but she thought it was a good plan, noting that by tying elected officials' salaries to the Superior Court Judges salary the politics would be taken out of the process.

Chief Deputy Auditor James spoke on behalf of Auditor Jobe, noting that the Auditor has concern over the -1% of average. If you are paying average or below average salaries you are going to get average or below average employees.

Commissioner Anderson asked about other counties Elected Officials salaries and benefit packages and how they compare to Klickitat County. Commissioner Anderson stated that he wants a public hearing before approving any action and he wants to wait for the budget process.

At 1:44 PM Commissioner Anderson left the meeting to attend another meeting.

Board follow up and pending issues discussions:

The Board discussed Skagit County's 30-year relationship with Republic Services and expressed concerns regarding the final contract award. Commissioner Zoller noted that Republic was the low bidder and has offered a discount on top of that. The Board put down their thoughts and drafted a second letter to the Skagit County Commissioners regarding the importance of keeping jobs in Washington State and Klickitat County.

At 1:59 PM Chairman Christopher recessed the workshop for 15 minutes.

At 2:15 PM the Board finished their review of the letter to Skagit County Commissioners regarding the Skagit County contract with Republic Services for solid waste handling.

The Board continued their previous discussion regarding Elected Officials salaries and the difference between a local salary commission and tying salaries to a percentage of the Superior Court Judges salary as allowed by statute.

The Board discussed the negotiation process for the Solid Waste Addendum and the pending bid award for solid waste handling in Skagit County.

Discussion followed regarding EFSEC's verbal determination of land use consistency for the Carriger Project without receiving all documents requested and the Board questioned whether they needed outside legal counsel.

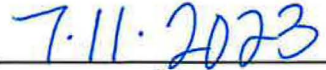
Fiscal Manager Neil provided a brief follow up to the morning budget discussion pointing out suggestions for the Code Compliance budget for 2024. The Board briefly discussed agenda items for the July 13th workshop and indicated they would like to add a discussion about adding a grant writer position and work with the Code Compliance Office to develop a Code Compliance flow chart.

Approved (M/Zoller, S/Christopher. Passed unanimously): There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:18 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 06-20-2023 BoCC Zoom meeting. Please Note: All Commissioner meetings and workshops are open to the public to attend. Meetings are recorded, Workshops are NOT recorded.



Approved: Dan Christopher
Chairman of the Board



Date