



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**KLICKITAT COUNTY SERVICES BUILDING
115 WEST COURT, ROOM #201
GOLDENDALE, WASHINGTON
509-773-4612**

BOCC@KLICKITATCOUNTY.ORG

JANUARY 27, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 27, 2026 beginning at 9:30 AM in the Board of County Commissioners Chambers at the Klickitat County Services Building, 115 W Court St. Goldendale, Washington 98620. Commissioner Ron Ihrig, Commissioner Todd Andrews and Commissioner Lori Zoller were present.

9:32 AM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

County Administrator Robb Van Cleave provided an update regarding the contract with Moetivations for the Emergency Management Department, as well as the transfer of the department to Public Works. The Board also discussed naming the new Emergency Communications/911 Department and agreed on the name "Klickitat County 911 Dispatch".

9:46 AM Chairman Ihrig called a fourteen (14) minute recess, reconvening at 10:00 AM.

10:00 AM PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Public Works Director Jeff Hunter and County Engineer Seth Scarola provided a staff update on Consent Agenda Items, Construction Program and Road Design, West and East end Maintenance Projects, upcoming facilities work, events and other issues and follow-ups.

10:11 AM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Ihrig announced the Board would be going into Executive Session with Public Works Director Jeff Hunter in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(g) to review the performance, discipline, and/or qualifications of a public employee. Chairman Ihrig announced the Board would be in Executive Session for forty-five (45) minutes, ending at 10:56 AM. At 10:56 AM the Board extended Executive Session for a period of 10 ten (10) minutes, ending at 11:06 AM.

11:06 AM LUNCH

- **Approved (M/Andrews, S/Zoller. Passed Unanimously):** To recess until 12:45 PM.

10:11 AM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Ihrig announced the Board would be going into Executive Session with Prosecuting Attorney Rebecca Cranston and County Administrator Robb Van Cleave in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to litigation or potential litigation. Chairman Ihrig announced the Board would be in Executive Session for fifteen (15) minutes, ending at 1:00 PM.

1:02 PM CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All three Commissioners were present.

1:03 PM BUSINESS AGENDA

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously):** With the addition of a Planning Commission appointment, Dog Shelter letter, Landfill Gas Infrastructure Fund application and a discussion regarding the proposed Flagpole under Unfinished Business and Columbia Gorge Regional Airport T-Hangar funding under New Business.

1:05 PM COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously):** Approval of the Commissioner meeting minutes for January 20, 2026 as presented.

1:06 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

John Ruse
Rodger Nichols
Kaylee Towle
Robert Johnson
Greg Wagner
Delmar Eldred
Kathy Moco
Ann Slead
Ty Ross

1:33 PM CONSENT AGENDA

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously):** Approval of the consent agenda as presented.
 1. **Resolution No. 01226** Setting dates for the 2027 Budget Development Process
 2. Concurrence to Award Bid: Bundle #2 – Preventative Maint. – Bearing Repairs, CRP 378
 3. Final acceptance and Release Retainage Bond – Sunnyside Road Overlay, CRP 374
 4. Execute the Contracts and Bonds – Bundle Preventative Maintenance, Deck and Expansion Joint Repair DRP 376, BHOS-2020(052) and CRP 377, BHS-Z920(004), Contract No. TA-7808 & TA-7806 (**C03126**)
 5. **Resolution No. 01326** appointing members of the Klickitat County Public Economic Development Authority Board of Directors
 6. Board of Adjustment Letter and Certificate of Appreciation – Niemela
 7. Planning Commission Letter and Certificate of Appreciation – Riley
 8. Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council Letter and Certificate of Appreciation – Chiles
 9. 2023 Homeland Security Grant Program, 23 SHSP, E24-136 – Updated Grant Agreement Signature Authorization Form
 10. 2024 Homeland Security Grant Program 24 SHSP, E25-204 – Updated Grant Signature Authorization Form
 11. Sheriff's Department Authorization to Purchase from State Bid/Contract – 2025 Chevy Tahoe PPV

12. Sheriff's Department Authorization to Purchase from State Bid/Contract – Two (2) 4024 Chevy Silverado PPV's
13. Klickitat County 2026 Superior Court Public Defender Contract with Johnson & Associates Law Offices (C03226)

1:34 PM PAY ESTIMATE

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously):** Approval of Pay Estimate #2 for the Curve Warning Signs & Guideposts, CRP 381 in the amount of \$109,571.00.

1:34 PM PAYROLL WARRANTS/PAYROLL CERTIFICATION

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously):** Approval of Accounts Payable Warrants in the amount of \$698,878.73 and Payroll/Benefit Warrants in the amount of \$1,257,788.13 for the date ending January 26, 2026.

1:35 PM NEW BUSINESS

County Administrator Robb Van Cleave updated the Board on the joint funding agreement between the City of The Dalles and Klickitat County for the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport T-Hangar Project. Administrator Van Cleave requested and received verbal approval from the Board to apply for grant funding.

1:35 PM UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairman Ihrig made a recommendation to appoint Matt Spalding to the Planning Commission for the District No. 3 position.

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously): Resolution No. 01426** in the matter of Appointment to the Klickitat County Planning Commission.

Chairman Ihrig requested that the Board review and approve the draft letter to the Sheriff's Office establishing a deadline of August 1, 2026, for submission of an operational plan.

Commissioner Zoller updated the Board on the Landfill Gas Infrastructure Committee meeting she attended and the items that were agreed upon.

The Board held a discussion with Goldendale citizens Ty Ross and Scott Robinson regarding plans and funding for the proposed flagpole.

2:05 PM RECESS Chairman Ihrig called for a ten (10) minute Recess, reconvening at 2:15 PM.

2:15 PM MISCELANEOUS REPORTS/COMMENTS

The Board discussed legislative updates and added the flagpole discussion to Thursday's workshop agenda.

2:46 PM RECESS

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously):** To recess until 9:30 AM on Thursday, January 29, 2026 for a Workshop.

January 29, 2026

DISCUSSION WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS WORKSHOP

9:36 AM Chairman Ihrig called the workshop to order.

In Attendance: Chairman Ron Ihrig, Commissioner Lori Zoller, Commissioner Todd Andrews, County Administrator Robb Van Cleave, Human Resources Director KC Sheridan, Sheriff Bob Songer, Undersheriff Carmen Knopes, Auditor Heather Jobe, Assessor Billi Bare, Budget Manager Heather Gallagher, County Clerk Renea Campbell, Treasurer Greg Gallagher and Goldendale citizen Andrew Smyth.

The Board met with attending elected officials and had discussions regarding the County budget, hiring freeze, impact fees and their impacts on County projects and resources, labor relations, PTO and vacation carryover policies, and animal shelter operations and services.

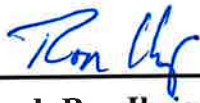
11:33 AM RECESS Commissioner Ihrig called a five (5) minute recess, reconvening at 11:38 AM.

The Board had a discussion on the Flag pole proposal. The board came to a consensus to not follow through with the flag proposal.

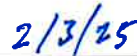
12:03 PM ADJOURN

- **Approved (M/Zoller, S/Andrews. Passed unanimously)**

* Reference Document on File. The Board of Commissioners' minutes are action minutes. A digital recording is on file as part of the official record. Please Note: All Commissioner meetings and workshops are open to the public to attend.



Approved: Ron Ihrig
Chairman of the Board



Date