

BOARD OF SKAMANIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Skamania County Courthouse
240 NW Vancouver Ave. Lower Level, Room 18
Stevenson, WA 98648
Minutes for Meeting of December 17, 2019

The Commissioners business meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on December 17, 2019 at the Commissioners' Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, with Commissioners Robert Hamlin, Tom Lannen and Richard Mahar, Chair present.

The Pledge of the Allegiance was led by Mary Repar, County resident.

Mary Repar, Home Valley resident commented on affordable housing, and the impeachment hearings.

Commissioner Hamlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Minutes for Meeting November 12-13, 2019
2. Certification of Property Tax Levies for Taxing Districts for collection in 2020
3. Resolution 2019-56 Dissolving the County Arterial Preservation Program (CAPP) fund and transferring all funds to the County Road fund
4. Joint Resolution 2019-59 of the Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Boards of County Commissioners relating to the appointment of trustee to the Fort Vancouver Regional Library
5. Amendment with Department of Corrections for housing DOC offenders
6. Contract renewal with City of Stevenson for incarceration services for Stevenson municipal inmates
7. Agreement with American Fidelity Assurance Company for Group Disability plan
8. Annual re-service information for Section 125 program with American Fidelity Plan 501
9. Annual re-service information for Section 125 program with American Fidelity Plan 502
10. Annual re-service information for Section 125 program with American Fidelity Plan 503
11. Annual re-service information for Section 125 program with American Fidelity Plan 504

Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlin and motion carried unanimously to approve vouchers in the amount of \$104,445.88 with \$52,457.88 being Current Expense, covering warrants 174440- 174555.

The Board reported on various meetings they attended. Commissioner Hamlin reported on Washington Gorge Action Program, Homeless Housing, and Mid-Columbia Economic Development District. Commissioner Lannen reported on a meeting at Washington Association of Counties with a steering committee on economic improvement on Counties with the Marbled Murrelet. He also attended the Skamania County Economic Development Council annual retreat and met with Cherie Kearney of Columbia Land Trust. Commissioner Mahar attended Healthy Skamania, Fair Board, and Oxford House. Commissioner Hamlin also told of a request to have the name of a road changed in Home Valley.

The meeting recessed at 10:00 a.m. and reconvened the same day at 10:17 a.m. with Commissioner Robert Hamlin, Commissioner Tom Lannen and Richard Mahar, Chair present.

The Board met for Department Head reports.

Kirby Richards, Community Health Director reported on Behavioral Health, Public Health, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. Kirby also reported interviews positions in her department. The Oxford House was discussed an MOU with Klickitat County for developmental disabilities.

Tim Elsea, Public Works Director/County Engineer reported on Engineering, County Road, ER & R, Solid Waste, Planning, Environmental Health, Building & Fire Safety, Information Technology, Buildings and Grounds and Wind River Business Park. Tim gave a quick overview of the County's new website. He also reported a broken water line at Wind River Business Park, Windows 10 transition, Wind River Boat Launch Dock, a workshop needed to discuss the Nuisance Ordinance.

The Board met with Keith Chamberlain, Columbia River Gorge Commissioner for updates. Keith reported on urban area boundary adjustments and the 2020 Management Plan rewrite. He discussed the draft Economic Development policy and the need for comments to be submitted.

The meeting recessed at 11:25 a.m. and reconvened the same day at 1:30 a.m. with Commissioners Robert Hamlin, Tom Lannen, and Richard Mahar, Chair present.

The Board met with Krystyna Wolniakowski, Gorge Commissioner Executive Director, and Lynn Burditt, National Scenic Area Manager for updates on the Scenic Area. Lynn reported on the Federal budget, Columbia River Highway, Dog Mountain, Northwestern Lake area, land acquisition, recreation, trails, and timber health relating to bug kill. Krystyna reported on vital sign indicators, new staff, and an overview of the management plan update.

Port Updates schedules for 2:30 p.m. were postponed.

The meeting recessed at 2:35 p.m. and reconvened the same day at 3:31 p.m. with Commissioners Robert Hamlin, Tom Lannen, and Richard Mahar, Chair present.

The Board met for a workshop with Manager of Cultural Events and Recreation Manager, Alex Hays to discuss a Drug Free Community grant. Chief Deputy Waymire gave background on the grant as the Sheriff's office was the fiscal sponsor. Alex is asking that Skamania County be the fiscal sponsor so the grant can be applied for, and the One Prevention Alliance program continued. It was explained that the coalition runs the grant and the county is the fiscal agent. Administrative fees were discussed, and reporting. A workshop will be held in January to further discussed.

The meeting recessed at 4:08 p.m. and reconvened the same day at 5:30 p.m. with Commissioners Robert Hamlin, Tom Lannen, and Richard Mahar, Chair present.

The Board held a Public Hearing to take public comment and consider Resolution 2019-48. Supplemental Budget #5 to the 2019 Budget. A staff report was given by Heidi Penner, Financial Management Administrator. She reported that \$174,613.43 was needed from Current Expense. The Board asked that a running total of Current Expense expenditures be posted to each Supplemental. There was no public comment, and no further deliberations. Commissioner Hamlin moved, seconded by Commission Lannen to approve Supplement Budget #5. The motion carried unanimously. The public hearing was closed.

The Board held a Public Hearing to take public comment and consider Resolution 2019-57, Establishing a Comprehensive Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. Tim Elsea, Public Works Director gave a staff report. He reported on projects and funding. There was no public comment. Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commission Hamlin, and motion carried unanimously. The public hearing closed.

Commissioner Hamlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen to approve Resolution 2019-58 Adoption the 2020 Annual Road Programs. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board held a public hearing to take public comment and consider: Resolution 2019-52, Setting the Current Expense Property Tax Levies for 2020, Resolution 2019-53, Setting the County Road Property Tax Levies for 2020, and Resolution 2019-55, Adopting the 2020 Final Budget. There was no staff report, and no public comment for Resolutions 2019-52 and 2019-53. Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlin to approve Resolution 2019-52, Setting the Current Expense Property Tax Levies for 2020. Commissioner Mahar stated in light of the Forest Service paying a low Forest Lands zoned sales tax that would add \$3.5 million to the tax base, Skamania County taxing less than 2% of its property at full rate, and a homeless and affordable housing crisis with people paying more in property taxes than their mortgage originally was, he would abstain from voting for the 1% increase. The motion carried with Commissioners Lannen and Hamlin voting aye, and Commissioner Mahar abstaining. Commissioner Hamlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2019-53, Setting the County Road Property Tax Levies for 2020. Heidi Penner, Financial Management Administrator gave a staff report for Resolution 2019-55, Adopting the 2020 Final Budget. She reported after changes were made, the budget is balanced for 2020. Commissioner Hamlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Lannen, and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2019-55, Adoption of the 2020 Final Budget. The hearing closed.

Commissioner Lannen moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlin and motion carried unanimously to approve Certification of 2020 Current Expense and County Road Property Tax Levies to the Assessor.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

ATTEST:



Debbie Alaux
Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON

[Signature]
Commissioner
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Commissioner
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Commissioner

Aye 3
Nay 0
Abstain 0
Absent 0