

March 29, 2021

The meeting of the Pend Oreille County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in their meeting room. Present were Chair Mike Manus, Vice Chair Brian Smiley, Commissioner John Gentle, and Clerk of the Board Crystal Zieske. M. Manus offered the invocation and led the flag salute.

(1)

Joining the meeting via Zoom were Human Resources Manager Terra Sirevog, Sheriff Glenn Blakeslee, Emergency Management Deputy Director JoAnn Boggs, County Clerk Tammie Ownbey, Weed Control Coordinator Sharon Sorby, Assessor Jim McCroskey, Public Works Director Mary Jensen, District Court Judge Robin McCroskey, Tri County Economic Development District (TEDD) Executive Director Jeff Koffel, Newport Miner News Editor Don Gronning, David Sears, and in-person was Bob Rumsey.

(2)

Northeast Tri County Health District (NETCHD) Administrator Matt Schanz was present via Zoom for a COVID-19 update. Present via Zoom were those listed above and Commissioner Programs/HR Assistant Christine Rahoun, Counseling Services Business Manager Kris Martin, Associate Professor and County Extension Director Mike Jensen, Newport Hospital & Health Services Director of Primary Care & Ancillary Services/Director of Safety Christina Wagar, Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers' Deputy District Director Andrew Engell, and NHHS COVID-19 Incident Commander/Public Information Officer Jenny Smith.

(3)

M. Manus reported from the TEDD meeting. J. Gentle gave updates from WSAC, Martin Hall, CERB Kick-Off, LSC, and EWCoG meetings. He suggested a schedule for Comprehensive Plan Update meetings, reported that Ecology has suspended processing the Crown Columbia water application, and said there is buyer interest in Ponderay Newsprint. Present was B. Rumsey and via Zoom was D. Sears.

(4)

Consent Agenda - Motion was made by B. Smiley to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda includes this week's Agenda, the Minutes of the Board's March 22, 2021 meeting and the following items:

Investment Earnings (year-to-date estimate, as of 3/26/21): \$2,773.49

Payroll Change Notice:

Assessor-

Josh Tiede, Appraiser Trainee, Step 3, \$2,956.88/mo., Effective 4/1/2021

Public Works-Solid Waste-

Terry Skipper, Transfer Station Technician, 4/5th Time to Full Time, \$21.43/hr.,
Effective 3/16/2021

Amendment A to Subrecipient Agreement Between Pend Oreille County and Family Crisis Network

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-30, COMMISSIONERS' RECORDING

(5)

Motion was made by J. Gentle to approve the Amado Meadows Final Short Plat. Motion was seconded by B. Smiley. Motion carried unanimously.

(6)

Motion was made by B. Smiley to approve the signing of the Middleton Short Plat Final Plat. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

(7)

Sheriff Glenn Blakeslee was present for an update. In attendance was B. Rumsey, and via Zoom were D. Sears, D. Gronning, Undersheriff Geoff Rusho, J. Boggs, T. Sirevog, C. Rahoun, and Gem State Editor Sophia Aldous. G. Blakeslee discussed a proposed firearms sale and advised the Board of a planned memorial march in Newport this weekend.

(8)

Auditor Marianne Nichols and Financial Manager Jill Shacklett were present for a budget overview. Discussed were the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds designated for counties. Present via Zoom were T. Sirevog, D. Sears, D. Gronning, and S. Aldous, and in-person was B. Rumsey.

(9)

J. Gentle was excused to attend WSAC Virtual Assembly at 12:02 p.m.

(10)

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:03 p.m.

(11)

The Board conducted a review of Counseling Services' Medicaid and Medicare Services General Compliance and Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Training and False Claims Statute Training. Present was B. Rumsey, and via Zoom was D. Sears.

(12)

Motion was made by B. Smiley to approve the Employment Agreement for Public Works Director/Engineer with Mary Jensen for the sum of \$125,000.00. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

Employment Agreement for Public Works Director/Engineer-Mary Jensen
AGREEMENT NO. 2021-08, COMMISSIONERS' RECORDING

(13)

The Board discussed elected salaries. J. Shacklett was present at the Board's request. Also present was B. Rumsey, and via Zoom was D. Sears.

(14)

Prosecuting Attorney Dolly Hunt was present via Zoom for a legal update. Present was B. Rumsey, and via Zoom was D. Sears. D. Hunt reported that she is reviewing several county contracts.

(15)

M. Manus was excused at 3:02 p.m.

(16)

Public Comment –Mike Hanson and B. Rumsey were present, and M. Hanson provided comment.

(17)

Meeting continued to March 30.

March 30, 2021

The meeting resumed at 9:00 a.m. with M. Manus, B. Smiley, J. Gentle, and C. Zieske present.

(18)

Assistant County Engineer George Luft was present for an update. Also in attendance were Interim Public Works Director Teresa Brooks, Fleet Manager Brian Eglan, and Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Ben Eggleston, and via Zoom were Becky Walrath and D. Sears. B. Eggleston presented a carpet bid for Hall of Justice. T. Brooks requested a pay raise for B. Eggleston, requested to hire a summer temp for Buildings & Grounds, notified of an upcoming retirement, and presented a proposal for fairgrounds improvements. T. Brooks and B. Eggleston left the update.

a) Motion was made by B. Smiley to approve purchase from Western States Equipment, under state contract, for grader and truck wing carbide blades, for \$13,251.84, including sales tax. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

b) Motion was made by J. Gentle to approve purchase from State Contract, snowplow blades from Winter Equipment, for the amount of \$26,820.48, excluding sales tax. Motion was seconded by B. Smiley Motion carried unanimously.

c) B. Eglan proposed to surplus the county's old Grizzly to the Kalispel Tribe, showed photos of the new distributor, and requested to sell T68. Motion was made by B. Smiley to direct ER&R to sell the 2011 Ford F350 (T68), VIN: 1FDRF3H68BED08714, to Mary Walker School District for a price of \$15,000.00. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously. B. Eglan left the meeting.

Declare One Road Department Vehicle Surplus, Establish Fair Market Value, and Authorize Direct Sale to Mary Walker School District, and Give Direction on Book Value and Sale of Vehicle Funds

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-31, COMMISSIONERS' RECORDING

d) G. Luft requested additional harvests in Section 16, as Units 4 and 5 have been identified as declining units and are in need of harvest as soon as possible. Motion was made by J. Gentle to approve Public Works' request to give County Forester Mike Wolcott notice to proceed for two additional harvests in Section 16, under Contract C-2020-15. Motion was seconded by B. Smiley. Motion carried unanimously.

e) G. Luft notified the Board of a potential land donation from a private citizen. He presented a video of a Batey-Bould camping concept. Steve Kiss joined the meeting in progress. G. Luft gave an update on Mountain Meadow Dam and reported that the CRAB certification had been submitted.

(19)

M. Nichols and J. Shacklett were present for a budget process discussion. Present via Zoom were D. Sears and B. Walrath. The process for spending public facilities funds was explained.

(20)

Associate Professor and County Extension Director Mike Jensen was present for an update. Present via Zoom were Ferry County Extension Assistant Professor of Community & Economic Development/Regional Specialist Trevor Lane, B. Walrath, D. Sears, and B. Rumsey. T. Lane and M. Jensen gave updates on Broadband Action Team (BAT), Convergence, and local investment networks.

(21)

The Board met in executive session to review the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for 15 minutes, from 11:19 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. Present was Mike Jensen.

(22)

T. Sirevog was present for a HR update. Present via Zoom were B. Walrath and D. Sears. Discussed were recent hires and Clinical Director salary adjustment. Motion was made by J. Gentle to approve a 6% base salary adjustment for Counseling Services' Clinical Director position. Motion was seconded by B. Smiley. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by J. Gentle to approve the Payroll Change Notice for Clinical Director position. Motion was seconded by B. Smiley. Motion carried unanimously.

Counseling Services-

Jennifer Stout-Willett, Step 1, \$5,993.47/mo., Effective 4/1/2021

T. Sirevog suggested creating a county process for hiring and promotions, and the possibility of using a consultant to overhaul the county's personnel policy.

(23)

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:19 p.m.

(24)

M. Nichols was present for a Salary Commission discussion. Also present were G. Blakeslee, J. Shacklett, T. Ownbey, and T. Sirevog. Present via Zoom were B. Walrath and D. Sears. The Board presented a proposal to increase the elected salaries, using an incremental percentage increase over three years. The salaries would be a percentage of the Superior Court Judge scale, based on Washington Citizens' Commission of Salaries for Elected Officials (WCCSEO).

(25)

The Board met in executive session to review the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for 30 minutes, from 2:37 p.m. to 3:05p.m. Present was C. Zieske.

(26)

The Board met in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) for collective bargaining for 30 minutes, from 3:06 p.m. to 3:36 p.m. Present were T. Sirevog and J. Shacklett. J. Shacklett left the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

(27)

Correspondence Received:

- 3.11 EWCoG-3.26.21 Meeting Notice, 3.26.21 Agenda, 1.29.21 Minutes.
- 3.12 Martin Hall-3.25.21 Agenda & 2.25.21 Minutes
- 3.13 A. Yank-Letter re: Proposed Silicon Smelter
- 3.14 C. Van Valkenburg-2020 4th Quarter Caseload Report
- 3.15 A. Biel-2020 2nd Quarter Caseload Report
- 3.16 A. Biel-2020 4th Quarter Caseload Report
- 3.17 State of Washington Department of Ecology/G. Thomas Tebb-Letter re: Crown Columbia LLC application for proposed water bank on the Colombia River
- 3.18 C. Van Valkenburg-2020 2nd Quarter Caseload Report

(28)

As of this date, the Board approved vouchers for payment as listed and made available by the Auditor’s Office. The following vouchers/warrants/electronic payments are approved for payment:

	<u>Salary and Claim</u>
Current Expense	\$ 333,444.96
Counseling Services	\$ 75,625.69
Crime Victims Compensation	\$ 292.53
Law Library	\$ 27.55
Park	\$ 1,734.01
Road	\$ 116,867.85
Emergency 911 Communications	\$ 29,678.94
Low Income Housing/2060	\$ 619.65
Homeless Program/2163	\$ 3,745.36
Public Facilities	\$ 3,574.05
Election CARES Grant	\$ 50,387.25
Solid Waste	\$ 15,699.09
Equipment R&R	\$ 40,479.69
IT Services	\$ 15,563.56
Sheriff’s Trust	<u>\$ 377.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 688,117.18

Checks 195017 through 195023 totaling \$4,022.81 and Electronic Funds Transfers 33455 through 33655 totaling \$276,999.27, and Checks 195024 through 195049 totaling \$36,556.01, and Electronic Funds Transfers 33656 through 33663 totaling \$238,275.02, dated March 25, 2021. Includes Jr. Taxing Districts.

Checks 195050 through 195101 totaling \$178,774.11, dated March 29, 2021.

(29)

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Chair of the Board

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board