**BOCC Notable Minutes**

Legislative Update:

Various climate change bills are being introduced in the State legislation session including Department of Natural Resources land leases. And, Senate Bill 6578 effects the pumped storage project utilizing statutorily authorized water rights to projects of statewide significance and the State’s requirement to comply with the Open Public Meeting Act and Public Records requests. (1/28)

Zak Kennedy discussed various bills before the state Legislature and eventually brought about a discussion of the pump storage projects in the State. He also stated that climate change language is being written into a lot of bills and can cause significant changes for local government entities. (2/11)

Auditor Department Update:

The February 11th Election ballots were mailed for the five (5) school districts proposing levies. (1/28)

Solid Waste Department Update:

There are various bills in Legislation at this time that impact single-use bags; sharps waste stewardship; energy recovery facilities, compost and minimum recycling content. (1/28)

Public Works/Road Department:

Director Gordon Kelsey reported on a discussion regarding the re-decking of State route 197 bridge. Two closure options were proposed, and the closure option of from 7 PM to 7 AM, Sunday through Thursday is the most feasible and safest option, for Klickitat County residents. (2/11)

Natural Resources/Economic Development Update:

Director Dave McClure reported on the Columbia Gorge Community College’s effort to establish an aircraft maintenance training program that will need hanger space at the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport that will include the following:

* Pursuit of a Federal Economic Development (EDA) grant to fund construction of the hanger and infrastructure. This would include several undeveloped lots on a closed runway.
* This project should qualify for a grant that will cover 80% of project costs with a 20% local match.
* Job creation shall be a primary consideration as the purpose for the grant request and hanger/infrastructure construction.
* The City and/or County may also be asked to assist with the matching funds portion of construction.
* The board supports the EDD moving forward to secure the funding.

New Business:

Resolution No. 12320 was approved and Passed unanimously in the matter of supporting the designation of the Goldendale Pump Storage Project as a project worthy of statewide significance. (2/4)

The Goldendale Pump Storage Project was added to the list of projects meeting the requirements of statewide significance. It is the desire of the Washington State energy Office to integrate more renewable energy projects. (Consent Agenda: 2/11)

Citizen Comment:

County resident Ty Ross provided an overview of a project he is having issues within the Dallesport area, (1/28)

The Board stated that Commissioner Sauter was in Olympia today testifying on behalf of the County supporting the statewide significance designation for the Goldendale Pump Storage Project. (2/4)

Consent Agenda:

Resolution No. 02520 in the matter of setting a public hearing on March 10, 2020 at 1:30 PM to consider imposing a sales tax and use tax to provide affordable and supportive housing, including creating an affordable and supportive sales tax credit fund then, adding a new chapter 3.10 to the Klickitat county Code. (2/11)

Miscellaneous Reports:

D-MCC Chairperson Don McDermott and two Dallesport residents reported that the Council has conducted three (3) regularly scheduled meetings to discuss the use of ATV/UTV vehicles on Dallesport streets and the overwhelming attendance was supportive. Commissioner Sauter advised there is a process to be dealt with regarding this issue, and that Public works will do an analysis of which roads will meet statutes. (1/28)

Elected Official Reports/Updates:

Treasurer Greg Gallagher raised concerns regarding proposed legislation to remove property tax penalties, noting that most property owners pay their property taxes on time and removing that incentive would only create issues and decrease revenues. (1/28)

Commissioner Sauter provided a brief update on the Dallesport Water District’s State Financial audit. (1/28)

Board Pending:

Commissioner Sauter requested and received concurrence from the board to explore options to renew or reissue a permit for a rock quarry and barge landing in Dallesport near the Old Fairy Road. (1/28)