

January 23, 2023

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 Brian Smiley, Vice Chair Robert Rosencrantz, Commissioner John Gentle, and Clerk of the Board Crystal Zieske. J. Gentle offered the invocation and led the flag salute.

(1) R. Rosencrantz provided reports from PO Conservation District, Northeast Tri County Health District, Ione & Usk Bridges Rehabilitation Open House, Newport City Council, and Rural Resources Director interviews. J. Gentle gave an update on Legislative Steering Committee. B. Smiley provided updates from Economic Development Council and Parks Board meetings.

(2) Road District Superintendent Kevin Thomas phoned in with an update on the rockslide on Sullivan Lake Road.

(3) The Board participated in a Zoom conference with Potts & Associates lobbyist Zak Kennedy. A review of legislative bills was provided

(4) B. Smiley continued his Parks Board report and gave an update from the Public Works meeting with Bonner County.

(5) C. Zieske mentioned the addition of two items to the Consent Agenda, as the revised Job Description/Advertise & Hire Seasonal Field Inspector (Weed Control) and the HCA Contract Amendment K3935-7.

Consent Agenda - Motion was made by R. Rosencrantz to approve the Consent Agenda, as described by C. Zieske. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda includes this week's Agenda, the Minutes of the Board's January 17, 2023 meeting and the following items:

Investment Earnings (year-to-date estimate, as of 1/20/23): \$ 63,984.11

Payroll Change Notice:

District Court-

Kelly McGuire, Deputy Clerk, Discharge, Effective 1/17/2023

Information Technology-

Nardos Scott, OnBase Administrator, \$95,000/yr. to \$100,000/yr., (2023 *Wage Adjustment*), Effective 1/1/2023

Counseling Services-

Jennifer Stout-Willett, Clinical Director, Paid Administrative Leave, Effective 1/19/2023

Sheriff-Communications-

Ethan Leal, Dispatcher, Step 1, \$3,207.96/mo., Effective 1/17/2023

Request to Advertise & Hire-District Court Deputy Clerk, 4/5th Time, Steps 1-3 DOE

Approve Job Description and Request to Advertise & Hire-Deputy I Accountant, Steps 1-3 DOE

Approve Job Description and Advertise & Hire-Seasonal Field Inspector at \$18.64/hour

Healthcare Authority (HCA) Contract K3935-07
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04, COMMISSIONERS' RECORDING

Washington State Office of Public Defense, Agreement No. ICA23026
AGREEMENT NO. 2023-04, COMMISSIONERS' RECORDING

Approval of Corrections to the 2023 Salary Schedules, to Include Previously Omitted Positions

Increase OnBase Administrator Nardos Scott salary by \$5,000 in 2023, Effective 1/1/2023

(6) City of Newport Police Chief Wade Nelson was present for introductions. Also present were Sheriff Glenn Blakeslee and Civil Services Chief Examiner/Clerk Alicia Pereyda.

(7) J. Gentle was excused to participate in the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) Virtual Assembly, and the Board recessed for lunch at 11:56 a.m.

(8) The meeting resumed at 1:15 p.m.

(9) J. Gentle provided an update from the WSAC Virtual Assembly.

(10) Ponderay Industries CEO Todd Behrend was present for an update. Also present were Director of External Affairs Laura Verity, Merkle Standard COO Monty Stahl, and Economic Development Director Jamie Wyrobek. Discussed were current status and challenges of reopening the newsprint mill, plus a potential Department of Commerce Evergreen Manufacturing Growth Grant. L. Verity requested a letter of support from the Board for the grant application.

(11) Human Resource Director Brenda Miller was present for an update. Topics included mechanic apprentice MOU, recruiting in Spokesman Review and local advertising, ADA Coordinator designation, WCIF Insurance Advisory Committee, insurance billing and monitoring, and retirement plan meetings. Also discussed was retirement progression.

(12) The Board reviewed the letter from Jean Hines, not seeking reappointment to Planning Commission. Motion was made by R. Rosencrantz to sign and send a letter of appreciation to Jean Hines, dated January 23, 2023, expressing appreciation for her service on the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

(13) Colville National Forest District Ranger Carin Vadala was present for a Forest Service update. Discussed were the Stimson land exchange, W. Branch LeClerc fish barrier, Mill Creek bridge re-route, Mill Pond potential grooming for skiing, and concessionaire permit process.

(14) Public Comment –Phyllis Kardos and Gretchen Koenig were present in person, and Newport Miner News Editor Don Gronning was present via Zoom. Providing comment were P. Kardos (Comp Plan) and G. Koenig (Comp Plan).

(15) The Board expressed their appreciation of the Planning Commission's dedicated service, especially during the 2020 Comprehensive Plan update.

Motion was made by J. Gentle to send Mr. Eugene a letter of appreciation for service on the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by R. Rosencrantz. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by J. Gentle to send a letter of appreciation to Norris Boyd appreciating his service on the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by R. Rosencrantz. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by J. Gentle to send a letter of appreciation to William Kemp appreciating his service on the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by R. Rosencrantz. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by R. Rosencrantz to send a letter of appreciation to Tom Watson for service on the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by R. Rosencrantz to send a letter to Paul Edgren in appreciation for service on the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by R. Rosencrantz to send a letter to Andy Armantrout in appreciation for service on the Planning Commission. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

(16) Meeting continued to January 24.

January 24, 2023

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

(17) Public Works Acting Director George Luft was present for an update. Also in attendance were K. Thomas, Fleet Manager Brian Egland, Fleet Accountant/Risk Manager Teresa Deal, Engineering Technician/Contracting & Procurement Agent Mike Kirkwood, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Ben Eggleston, Solid Waste Coordinator Amanda Griesemer, B. Miller, and present via Zoom was Office Manager/Cost Accountant Christy Parry.

B. Egland requested to hire two Mechanic Apprentices, and the Board was in full support. He mentioned two agencies interested in surplus vehicles, then left the update.

B. Eggleston provided a report on the courthouse flooding and carpet replacement. Motion was made by J. Gentle to approve Build & Grounds' request to add two additional offices and the breakroom to the carpet that is being replaced due to roof flooding, at an approximate cost of \$16,423.38. Motion was seconded by R. Rosencrantz. Motion carried unanimously. B. Eggleston and T. Deal left the meeting.

A. Griesemer requested a public hearing for a potential rate increase. Motion was made by R. Rosencrantz to set a public hearing on February 14, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. for a potential Solid Waste Rate increase. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously. A. Griesemer provided a report on 2022 recycling numbers, including almost \$70,000.00 in revenue.

G. Luft recapped the meeting held with the Bonner County Public Works Department regarding interagency agreements. M. Kirkwood reported there were no quotes for 2023 Cold Mix. G. Luft gave an update on the Ione and Usk Bridges Bundled Rehabilitation Open House. M. Kirkwood

provided a Parks & Recreation update, including the receipt of the Park Host's termination of his agreement, Park Host house options, LNSP land swap, and POC Park water system update.

(18) Counseling Services Director Nicole Vangrimbergen was present for an update and an introduction of Behavioral Health Criminal Justice (BHCJ) Program Administrator Lucretia Gill. A presentation was provided on the BH CJ Program's 2022 data, including projects aims and milestones.

Motion was made by R. Rosencrantz to approve the adjusted wage scale for the Compliance Coordinator in the Counseling Services Department. Motion was seconded by J. Gentle. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by J. Gentle to approve the adjusted wage scale for the Business Office Manager, Sr. in the Counseling Services Department. Motion was seconded by R. Rosencrantz. Motion carried unanimously.

N. Vangrimbergen reported on the status of compliance in Counseling Services.

(19) Grant Writer Stacy Carter was present for an update. Topics of discussion were funding opportunities, research, and training.

(20) The Board recessed for lunch at 11:58 a.m.

(21) The meeting resumed at 1:15 p.m.

(22) ITS Director Shane Flowers was present for an update. Also present was Public Records Officer David Whiting. An update was provided on the progress of county website update, deployment of body cameras, and potential of using gov.com.

(23) The Board hosted a discussion on POC 2020 Comprehensive Plan. Present was Community Development Director Greg Snow, and via Zoom were Prosecutor Dolly Hunt and Permit Technician Vicki Koehler. A review of the update process was explained by G. Snow, including history of public hearings and public comment periods, purpose of the update, and process for future revisions.

(24) The Board hosted a discussion of a potential EMS District formation, with a roundtable held with invited guests. Those speaking were: PO Paramedics (POEMS) Owner John Jackson, Newport Hospital & Health Services CEO Merry-Ann Keane, Newport City Administrator Abby Gribi, Fire District 2 Chief Christopher Haynes, Fire District 4 Chief Robert Webber, G. Blakeslee, Emergency Management Deputy Director JoAnn Boggs, Fire District 5 Chief Jay Foster, SPOFR Scott Doughty, FD2 Chris Curkendall, previous County Commissioner Mike Manus, and via Zoom was South Pend Oreille Fire & Rescue (SPOFR) Chief Mike Nokes.

Also in attendance were FD2 Operations Captain Brian Ferrante, FD2 Jim Mundy, POEMS Chief Paramedic Erik Gallagher, FD2 Patrick Miller, FD2 Conrad Ervin, POEMS John Dugger, FD4 Star Orman, POEMS Kelsey Phillips, W. Nelson, and joining via Zoom were Assessor Jim McCroskey, Treasurer Nicole Dice, ITS Administrative Assistant/Civil Deputy Glennis Stott, D. Hunt, SPOFR Jake Hogue, and FD2 Captain Chris Cato.

A follow-up meeting will be scheduled at a later date.


Chair


Vice Chair


Member

(25) Correspondence Received:

- 1.12 M. Lithgow-Informational Statement of Interest in Parks & Recreation Advisory Board
- 1.13 LEPC-11.10.22 Minutes
- 1.14 NACo-Letter re: 2023 Dues
- 1.15 P. Kardos/RG*NEW-(hand-delivered at Public Comment) Letter re: Comp Plan 2020 Update & cc: Futurewise 5.11.21 Letter to Planning Commission
- 1.16 R. Webber/POFD4-(hand-delivered at Potential EMS District Discussion) Letter re: Potential EMS District Formation

(26) Correspondence Sent:

- J. Hines-Letter re: Appreciation for Service on Planning Commission
- T. Watson-Letter re Appreciation for Service on the Planning Commission
- P. Edgren-Letter re Appreciation for Service on the Planning Commission
- A. Armantrout-Letter re Appreciation for Service on the Planning Commission
- B. Eugene-Letter re Appreciation for Service on the Planning Commission
- N. Boyd-Letter re Appreciation for Service on the Planning Commission
- W. Kemp-Letter re Appreciation for Service on the Planning Commission

(27) 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	\$ 62,237.45
Counseling Services	\$ 6,443.65
Fair	\$ 550.00
Road	\$550,301.58
Growth Management	\$ 8,374.18
American Rescue Plan Act	\$ 0.98
Solid Waste	\$ 175.50
Equipment R&R	\$ 25,304.64
IT Services	\$ 0.04
Sales/Excise Tax	<u>\$ 3.58</u>
TOTAL	\$ 653,391.60

Checks 208386 through 208447 totaling \$653,359.02 and Electronic Funds Transfer 44426 totaling \$35.34, dated January 23, 2023. Includes Jr. Taxing Districts.

(28) Meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

APPROVED: 
 Chair of the Board

ATTEST: 
 Clerk of the Board