

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

April 23, 2024 – 9:30 am

Those present were:

Commissioner Gary Weaver
Commissioner Deena Vietzke
Commissioner Homer Montemayor

Executive Director Chris Faix
Executive Assistant Carmon Derting

Called to order at 9:27 am.

D. Vietzke made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a discussion of Anthony Prows; H. Montemayor seconded, motion passed.

D. Vietzke made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting; H. Montemayor seconded; motion passed.

H. Montemayor made a motion to approve the vouchers with questions about the McClatchy Ad voucher; D. Vietzke seconded; motion passed.

Joined the Adams County Commissioners meeting from 9:32 am to 9:42 am. The County is working on Broadband and is getting closer to going out to bid for Lind and Ritzville. They are also researching the next phase of what Broadband will look like. The roundabout at Highway 26 and Reynolds was brought up and it has been discovered that it is not being planned. C. Faix presented the letter of support from WSDOT and mentioned that a meeting will be held with the City of Othello to discuss them being a lead on a grant for the project. There is an example of a Grant County entity getting a grant and giving it to WSDOT to do the actual project. There was a question about who would be paying for the match on any grant and an idea would be having the developer pay it or have all entities split it up. C. Faix has a list of grants from the State.

The Port of Othello also reported the Water Tower Project in Bruce is still moving forward.

AIRPORT

The project at the Airport looks like it will be done in June. The WSDOT grant for the ½ of the match has been submitted.

The gentleman wanting to do the FBO is still interested and is getting all the accounts and everything done to begin the project.

The gentleman wanting to build at the airport is still interested and is doing his due diligence to be able to begin the project.

There was a suggestion to change the name of Late Comer Fee to New Connection Fee. H. Montemayor made a motion and D. Vietzke seconded, motion passed.

BRUCE

C. Faix presented the current cost estimate for the Water tower Project. The estimate is higher than the \$6.25 million cap, the work will stop at the cap amount. The remaining piping could be completed when necessary. C. Faix has spoken with a company to install a chlorination system in Well 2 and it would involve building a shed next to Well 2 to put the unit into. JUB is moving the project forward. The first payment will be made before the project is finished due to the timeline of contractors availability to do it.

There was a question if JUB could be used for the Commerce grant as the terms of the grant are so tight. The contract with JUB was reviewed by Commerce and it was approved to use JUB. C. Faix will sign the grant letter and send it back.

HIGHWAY 26/REYNOLDS

C. Faix discussed the meeting that was with Meritage, ACDC and the City of Othello. The meeting was supposed to be about the REC Center, but the grant need for the roundabout came up and the fact the City of Othello will need to take the lead on the roundabout project. The representatives from the City of Othello said no, but Kyle was beneficial to the discussion and tried to clarify things. C. Faix and K. Niehenke will be meeting with the City of Othello. Once that meeting is done, the Mayor will be invited to a Port of Commissioners meeting.

It was mentioned that a TIA would be needed to apply for grants. It was discussed with Meritage, and they are not willing to pay for the study.

On June 11th, the Commissioners will meet to determine the terms for any further extensions.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

OTHER

F. Martinez has proposed building a fountain with lights to go in the flower bed behind the building, facing 7th Avenue. The estimate was around \$17,000 and it was denied.

H. Montemayor made a motion to surplus office equipment numbered 22,17, and 34, D. Vietzke seconded, motion passed.

C. Faix presented the articles that recently came out in the Columbia Basin Herald.

C. Faix presented the results of the DRS audit.

D. Vietzke and C. Faix met with County Commissioners and then ACDC. The SEDS plan was discussed. If anyone has any suggestions, please let Kyle know.

With no further business coming before the Port of Othello Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 10:56 am with a motion made by D. Vietzke and H. Montemayor second and motion passed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Vietzke', written over a horizontal line.

Deena Vietzke, Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H. Montemayor', written over a horizontal line.

Homer Montemayor, Commissioner

Excused

Gary Weaver, Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carmon Derting', written over a horizontal line.

Carmon Derting, Executive Assistant