

ASOTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 4, 2020

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Asotin, State of Washington, met this date. Present was Chris Seubert, Chairman and Brian Shinn, Vice Chair by webinar/teleconference. Member, District 3 Vacant.

Executive session held at 8:30 a.m. for approximately twenty minutes regarding personnel issues per RCW 42.30.110(I).

Electronic webinar regular meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

(1)

Seubert announced there would be an addition for a COVID-19 update as well as appointment to the vacant District 3 Commissioner position.

(2)

Shinn moved to approve the minutes of April 27, 2020 as written. Seubert seconded, motion carried.

Cynthia Tierney, Community Services Director:

(3)

Tierney requested authorization to advertise for Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) Grant. Tierney explained, this subcontractor would provide services related to the EPIC program.

Shinn moved to authorize the request for proposals. Seubert seconded, discussion: Shinn said the hope is to engage more youth. Seubert said the program has been working well. Tierney said after discussions with the Collation, Community Services provides services directed towards Birth to 3 and Employment by going to a subcontractor this will allow someone with more experience to run the program under the direction of the County. No further discussion, motion carried.

(4)

Shinn moved to send a letter of support to Kelly Susewind, Director Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife and Larry Carpenter, Chairman Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission endorsing the Snake River Salmon Recover Board letter regarding the Columbia River Basin Salmon Management Policy C-3620 for habitat restoration. Seubert seconded, motion carried.

(5)

Shinn moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the Multiple Materials Schedule A contract with EnviroTech Services, Inc. Seubert seconded, motion carried.

(6)

Shinn moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the Multiple Materials Schedule B contract with Road Products, Inc. Seubert seconded, motion carried.

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(7)

The Board discussed issues related to Governor Inslee's extended stay home stay safe proclamation. Seubert said he had talked to Brady Woodbury, County Health District Administer this morning. Seubert said the Board is concerned with the extension and would like to see county businesses back up and running. Seubert said he felt the Governor should have included Asotin County in the list of counties approved for faster openings. He would like businesses, if they feel they can open to do so while enforcing the social distancing. Seubert said enforcement will be minimal for the County, enforcement is done by Dr. Lutz.

Shinn said he listened to the Governor's last speech and was disappointed. The Governor is trying to say all counties are the same as the west coast and they are not. The higher risk population needs to be safe but we cannot penalize the citizens. Shinn said, he is not saying don't follow the rules but practice safe distancing. Shinn said the Governor's new four phase process is unrealistic and the county should be included in the program to open. Should we throw away face masks, no, we all need to do our part.

Shinn said the former Attorney General, McKenna spoke on a Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) phone conference. McKenna said when the Governor declares an emergency he has the emergency power and can countermand what local governments have to say. Shinn said there were some counties that pushed back and then found out the legal impact so they have pulled back in to compliance.

Shinn said Health Officer Alan Melnick said the Governor may have the authority but it is given to him by the legislature only during an emergency declaration and that is works better if there is voluntary compliance.

Seubert said that Woodbury will be pushing for Asotin County to be allowed to open up, he is working on Asotin County to be added to the variance and be allowed to go to Phase 2.

Shinn said the Board is in no way advocating to disobey the Governor's proclamation, but do what you need to do.

(8)

Seubert said the County was provided three applicant names from the Republican party to choose from for the vacant District 3 position. Those persons were Nate Uhlorn, Jock Pring and Chuck Whitman. Seubert said since there is a restriction on open public meetings he called each to talk to them.

Shinn moved to appoint Chuck Whitman as Commissioner to fill the vacant position for District 3 for the remainder of the 2020 year. Seubert seconded, discussion: Shinn said anyone interested in the position will need to file the week of May 11th. No further discussion, motion carried.

Claims approved and ordered paid:

#001	Current Expense	\$	10,383.47
#101	County Road	\$	1,548.01
#103	Capital Improvement	\$	10,943.10
#104	County Fair	\$	1,007.02
#112	Noxious Weed	\$	250.00
#122	Ins In Lieu	\$	1,059.16

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#127	E-911	\$	296.21
#129	Community Services	\$	4,762.93
#170	Trial Court Improvement	\$	218.87
#410	Landfill	\$	9,885.04
#460	Stormwater	\$	3,028.15
#501	ER&R	\$	1,419.42
#502	Central Services	\$	1,532.40

The following voucher (warrant) numbers are approved for payment:

298339 through 298392 for \$46,333.78

Board adjourned at 9:34 a.m. until their next scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m., May 11, 2020.

May 11, 2020



Vivian Bly, Clerk of the Board



Chris Seubert, Chairman

Brian Shinn, Vice Chair