

ASOTIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 21, 2023

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Asotin, State of Washington, met this date. Present was Chris Seubert, Chairman, Brian Shinn, Vice-Chair, and Charles Whitman, Member.

Regular meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

(1)

Whitman moved to approve the minutes of August 14, 2023, as written. Shinn seconded, motion carried.

Seubert added a discussion item to follow Public Comment to the agenda.

Open to the Public

(2)

Discussion

(3)

Mike Kuttle Jr. from The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife along with Jay Holzmillier, Community Liaison to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, discussed the Anatone Wolf Pack. The wolf pack has gone over the predation threshold. A recommendation for lethal removal will be sent to the Fish and Wildlife Director. Once a decision is made the public will have 24 hours to submit comments or prepare any litigation.

Cynthia Tierney, Community Services Director

(4)

Tierney presented the Asotin County Professional Services Agreement with People First of Washington to Re-Establish Chapter in Clarkston, WA.

Shinn moved to approve. Whitman seconded, motion carried.

Public Hearing

(5)

At 6:45 p.m., a public hearing was held in the Commissioner's Chambers and was also available via webinar. Cynthia Tierney, Community Services Director, along with Jamie Kearney from Community Action Partnership, presented the review of County and Subrecipient, Community Action Partnership, past performance using \$175,481.00 in Community Development Block Grant – coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds for subsistence payment for low to moderate-income individuals. In 2021 they were able to help 279 individuals, in 2022, 135 individuals and 6 in 2023 individuals (crosses fiscal year). The amounts decreased as funding dwindled. Public comments will be accepted through Friday, August 25, 2023, at noon via e-mail to bocc@co.asotin.wa.us or by mail to PO Box 250, Asotin, WA 99402.

No further comments, hearing closed at 6:50 p.m.

Cynthia Tierney, Community Services Director

(6)

Tierney presented the Asotin County Fee for Service Agreement with Opportunities Unlimited. There was an increase in reimbursement rates.

Whitman moved to approve. Shinn seconded, motion carried.

Tierney presented the Asotin County Fee for Service Agreement with Goodwill Industries of the Inland Northwest.

Shinn moved to approve. Whitman seconded, motion carried.

Tierney presented the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired Memorandum of Understanding Community Rehabilitation Programs (CRP's) This is the same type of agreement as the fee for service previously presented.

Whitman moved to approve. Shinn seconded, motion carried.

Miscellaneous

(7)

A Contract for Professional Services, Asotin County and the Wesley Group was presented. The Wesley Group provides labor/employee relations consultation services.

Shinn motioned to approve. Whitman seconded, motion carried.

Public Hearing

(8)

At 7:00 p.m., a public hearing was held in the Commissioner's Chambers and was also available via webinar. Russ Pelleberg, Public Works Director, and Chris Kemp, COO, presented information to consider declaring Assessor Parcel No: 6-049-00-004-0000-0000 commonly known as Headgate Park, surplus and ordering it sold at public auction. If said county property is deemed surplus the auction will be held online at www.publicsurplus.com. Preview will begin at 9:00 am Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023, and ends Wednesday, September 6th, 2023 at 5:00 pm. The auction will open for bidding Thursday, September 7th, 2023 at 9:00 am and close Thursday, September 21st, 2023 at 5:00 pm. The property consists of 28.65 acres more or less of nearly level land along Asotin Creek with water rights.

Numerous comments were made against selling the property. There were many statements noting the historical nature of the property. One commenter noted that while not in favor of the sale, that if the County does decide to sell the proceeds should go toward more recreation. Other commenters spoke on the possible environmental impacts and of a possible sale to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. One commenter spoke in favor of the sale noting that the pond has not been stocked in years due the possible impacts on endangered fish species in the creek if the pond failed and that it cost a lot of money for the County to try to upkeep.

No further comments, hearing closed at 8:03 p.m.

Chris Kemp, COO

(9)

Kemp presented Resolution No. 23-30 A Resolution Declaring Certain County Property as Surplus and Ordering Sale by Public Auction.

Whitman moved to approve. Shinn seconded. Discussion: Shinn noted that this decision is not as clean and clear as people believe. There are many liability issues associated with the property. Whitman stated that he appreciated the comments made during the public hearing and that the Commissioners have a hard decision to make. Seubert noted that there is no budget for the park. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Commissioners directed COO, Chris Kemp to set the minimum bid to the appraised value of the property.

Committee Reports

(10)

Due to the lateness of the meeting, Seubert delayed committee reports until the next meeting.

Open to the Public

(11)

Media

(12)

Claims approved and ordered paid:

# 001	Current Expense	\$ 112,099.04
# 101	County Road	\$ 51,775.52
# 104	County Fair	\$ 2,222.42
# 107	Veterans Relief	\$ 1,233.86
# 113	Flood Control	\$ 44.25
# 117	Anatone Community Hall	\$ 195.00
# 123	Comm Dev Block Grant	\$ 8,171.40
# 126	Building & Planning	\$ 610.47
# 127	Emergency Svcs Communication	\$ 111,178.00
# 129	Community Services	\$ 6,735.42
# 143	American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	\$ 177,367.55
# 170	Trial Court Improvement	\$ 705.64
# 410	Regional Landfill	\$ 14,686.90
# 501	Equip Rental & Rev	\$ 89,131.76
# 502	Central Services	\$ 1,335.67
		\$ 577,492.90

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

329028 through 329107 for a total of \$577,492.90.

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

328984 through 328991 for \$2,777.87.

Board adjourned at 8:10 p.m. until their next scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on August 28, 2023.

Chris Seubert, Chairman

August 28, 2023

Stacey Harman, Clerk of the Board