



Board of Commissioners' Work Session Meeting
Joint Meeting with Bonanza Leadership
February 15, 2023 ~ 3:00 pm ~ Room 214

2/15/2023 - Minutes

1. To Watch A Live Stream Of This Meeting, Click The Link Below Or Go To www.klamathcounty.org

2. Call To Order & Those Present

Commissioner DeGroot, Commissioner Henslee, Bonanza Mayor Betty Tyree, Bonanza Councilor Nelson, Bonanza Councilor Mary Schiefelbein, Cheri Stewart/Bonanza City Recorder, Sandy Cox/Admin Staff, Tom Crist/Solid Waste, Chris Kaber/Sheriff, Jeremy Morris/Public Works, Rick Vaughn/Property Manager, Vickie Noel/Finance

3. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting

Commissioner DeGroot approves minutes from February 1, 2023 Work Session Meeting.

4. Joint Meeting With Town Of Bonanza Leadership

1. Bonanza School Gym / MOU / Paving

Cheri Stewart addresses the Board indicating they need some help with the inadequate parking as the school district doesn't have enough funds to do the gym and the parking lot. Commissioner DeGroot asks how big of an area? Discussion about the area and also taking out 28 large pine trees. Mayor Tyree asks of the County does any paving? Commissioner DeGroot indicates we don't. Discussion about contact a private contractor and seeing if they might be willing to provide a discount?

2. Bonanza's Upcoming Road Projects

Discussion about Public Works chip sealing in the Bonanza area and the increased price of materials. Morris suggests a 6-7 year cycle and they are in year 5 right now, but really should have the roads evaluated and get back to the Board with potential cost. Commissioner DeGroot asks if we have any projects in the Bonanza area coming up? Morris responds yes likely summer of 2025, there will be lots of public notice.

Morris elaborates that the State is getting more serious about transferring the Bonanza and Malin Highways to the County, conversations continue.

3. Hecate's Bonanza Energy Project

Commissioner DeGroot indicates the Board is very familiar with the project, has met with Hecate as well as each Board member has had a tour with Dave Noble on a different proposed site. Commissioner DeGroot states that Hecate will be submitting a new application. Mayor Tyree indicates they are against the project, is concerned about how the project will affect the local water supply/aqua fir. Additionally concerned about the facility catching on fire, it's very dangerous. They would like to see the project moved away from the town and farms. Councilor Nelson indicates they met with Rep Reschke yesterday, he indicated that he is going to try and get something passed at the State level to allow more local/Commissioner control of these types of projects.

Commissioner DeGroot explains the local Solar Ordinance that was recently passed, which is meant to protect farm ground and let developers know where they can and can not develop their projects. Further explains these commercial projects don't allow local input. Commissioner Henslee does not like the project either. Councilor Mary Schiefelbein questions the original plan indicating they were going to install an 8ft fence, is that against code? Both Commissioners indicate they need to see the new plan that will be submitted with the new application.

4. Sheriff's Patrol In Bonanza

Cheri Stewart would like to see more funding put in the Sheriff's budget so that they can take care of the rural areas such as Bonanza. Commissioner DeGroot indicates there is only a certain amount of money and we need to figure out ways to get more money in the County budget. Mayor Tyree asks what we can do? Commissioner DeGroot indicates we need to grow and bring in more industry, we lost timber which was huge. Commissioner Henslee indicates that the UGB needs to be annexed into the City, which will free up the Sheriff's office to move more into the rural areas, he understands that this may not be popular but needs to happen. Commissioner Henslee is excited about creating the strategic plan, which will include input from the Bonanza Community. Mayor Tyree further reiterates they need more law enforcement in their area. Sheriff Kaber agrees with Commissioner Henslee to a degree, but not sure how we get their without people feeling like it's a hostel take over. Further discussion about how the tax rate would change for City and UGB residents. Sheriff further indicates he is having hiring/retention issues. Sheriff explains that they have an east county deputy that is helping out in that area and they will continue to help as much as they can, but can't commit to regular patrol.

5. Solid Waste Agreement

Cheri Stewart addresses the Board indicating the agreement is from 1998,



would like to look at updating it, making sure insurance is in place. Suggests donating the land to the County for free community dumping? Commissioner DeGroot indicates solid waste is an enterprise department/self sufficient, we have 8 transfer stations in which all of them lose money, we try really hard not to raise rates. Tom Crist reviews the net loss for the Bonanza Transfer station. Discussion that Bonanza would be willing to give the County and the County doesn't want it. Mayor Tyree indicates that Tom Crist is fabulous to work with.

5. Other

Vickie Noel, Sheriff Kaber presents Order adopting an alternative method of holding public funds related to and agreement with Permittium for Board approval. Commissioner DeGroot motions to approve and sign Order, Commissioner Henslee seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved

6. Adjournment

4:07pm

Audio recordings of all proceedings are available at the County Commissioners' office. The meeting facility is handicap accessible. Persons needing materials in alternate format or communication access, should telephone this office at 541-883-5100  (voice/TDD) or the ADA Coordinator at 541-883-4296  at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Klamath County Commissioners' Weekly Calendar is subject to change without notice.
305 Main Street 2nd Floor, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

E-mail: bocc@klamathcounty.org Website: www.klamathcounty.org