

BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Weekly Agenda Meeting

Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 10:00 AM

City Council Chambers, 129 North 2nd Street, Yakima, Washington

- **PRESENT:** Chairman Ron Anderson, Michael D. Leita, J. Rand Elliott, Legal Counsel Don Anderson, Clerk of the Board Rachel Michael.
- **PRESENTATION:** Recognizing Ralph Huck for His Dedicated Service to Yakima County:
Dave Cook – Assessor: Thank you, I don't want to detract anything from Vern's party going on here, but I'd like to take just a moment, first of all, I'd like to thank you gentlemen for the opportunity to acknowledge and pay tribute to former Yakima County Assessor Ralph Huck who passed away on June 10th. Ralph was first elected Assessor in '77 and took office in 1978 and served 16 years in that capacity. After his retirement from Assessor, he served many, many years on our local county Board of Equalization dealing with property tax appeals. Also, he was deeply involved on the outside with the restoration of the Ahtanum Mission. Ralph in my estimation is the epitome of service to this community. It would difficult for me to find a more honest and honorable human being. He was one of the good ones. In my opinion, he will be missed. Again, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to take just a moment to recognize Ralph and his service to this community.

- **PRESENTATION: Public Services: 28 Years and 9 Months of Service Certificate to Vern Redifer; Commissioners Presenting:**

Matt Pietrusiewicz - Good morning, Commissioners, my name is Matt Pietrusiewicz, County Engineer, and I am here on behalf of the Public Services Department to recognize my friend Vern Redifer and his retirement. Vern's been doing this a while. In '78 I believe, he graduated from Gonzaga with a Civil Engineering degree and work with DOT for about 11 years afterwards. In 1989 he came to Yakima County as the Assistant Director/Assistant County Engineer and in 2000, he became the County Engineer. Then, in 2004, we restructured and he been the Public Services Director since. You can't adequately address impacts that he has had, positive impacts that he has had. I think what I want to mention, is that it became very apparent to me early on in working for him, is his rare ability not only as a technically sound engineer, but he's able to communicate with people, no matter what the audience is and communicate the technical aspects in a way that we can all understand. I've tried to aspire to come close – I am nowhere near that. It is a very unique ability and it has really helped Yakima County out. Vern's really led us by example, he's set very high standards for us and it's because he's set very high standards for himself. I know, again, my own personal experiences, he expects us to behave and conduct ourselves with integrity and honestly. No matter how uncomfortable that honesty may be at times. If we make a mistake, we own it and correct it. Personally, Vern you are very good friend of mine and an outstanding mentor. I know that there is nothing I can say that will express that. Lisa and Carmen rallied the troops and we have a bunch of gift cards here for you and just on behalf of your department, Public Services, wish you and Sharon the very best in retirement, you deserve nothing less.

Rand Elliott – First, I guess I'd like to point out Vern that this crowd is a testament to you and the respect the County family has for you. We've worked together for nearly 12 years and you've always been a diplomat, problem solver, many is the time I have come to you with a problem and I have never had you say no, you can't do it. It's always how can we make this work. He's cool, he's collected, I've never seen him lose his temper – he gets a little red-faced once in a while. He manages to keep things under control. He has willingly and happily accepted whatever we threw at him over the years. Projects of all sorts and never a word of complaint. He's a leader in the clubhouse, obviously the Public Services department. I think he has the respect of everyone else in the Courthouse as well. Every time we put a committee together or some such thing, the first name that always comes up is Vern Redifer. We're going to miss those contributions very much. But, mostly I am going to miss Monday mornings. Vern has a habit of coming to the Commissioner's office and he'll stick his head in the door and say, "Just checking in". And, many a Monday he's come in with bandages or stitches, black eyes or a limb or some other evidence of a weekend mishap. So, we always enjoy a good laugh at his expense. It's always fun to have you around, Vern. I will dearly miss you and we are all the poorer for your retirement, but it is very well earned. I wish you all the happiness and all the best in the coming years. Thank you very much.

Mike Leita – Well said, Commissioner Elliott. Vern, I've had the pleasure of nearly 14 years of working with you and when I first came into Office, we had our challenges. I clearly understood from the very beginning because we'd kind of known each other back from my construction days, I knew who you were and in the vernacular of construction,

you were the rock of Public Services. You have the largest department of Yakima County, financially and personnel-wise and I was very appreciative that I didn't have to be taking extra effort or energy to oversee that department. I knew it was in good hands with your leadership and with the people that you have. Even today with your leaving, I know it will be in good hands with all the employees that worked in Public Services under your leadership. With the change of leadership, we have confidence in the people that are there to continue on very professionally for the benefit of Yakima County. Yes, we've had our issues and our challenges, but I want to add what Commissioner Elliott was saying, you were steadfast, you were always there. You and I had those personal moments where we able to solve some problems, little ones and big ones. I think importantly too, you were there to work with the Commissioners and Board in those days through bringing Yakima County forward to address some very contentious issues. When I was first elected, I knew how to spell a four-letter word called jail and now I know how to spell a five-letter word called water. We continue to work on those endeavors, but we've made substantial progress for the benefit of Yakima County under your expertise that we've depended so heavily on. Again, I know we can continue on with the same expertise and staff that you've nurtured and surrounded yourself with. Yes, this is a transitional moment for Yakima County. We are going to miss you, but most importantly, we recognize you, I recognize you as a friend and friends are forever and I look forward to, well, I would suggest to your wife buying an extra box of Band-Aids, because I know you'll be working on a lot of projects. We will miss you working on our projects and we wish you all the best and we'll be in touch I know.

Ron Anderson – Vern, I've only been working with you a short period of time relative to the others. I want to thank you for your mentoring and your patience and your background information and willingness to share everything that you know with me and the others. I've continued to grow and learn every day something new in this position. I thank you very much and I want to give you something personally. If you would come forward. As he opens this, it won't bite. As he opens this, in the last few months as Vern had made a decision to when he was going to retire there was this signal that only a few of knew.

Vern Redifer – (Holding up a t-shirt) It says ask me if I care.

Ron – That became the little signal within our meetings and if we were meeting with somebody outside this small group that nobody else knew about that. I hope you wear it every day.

Vern – I'll try not to get blood on it.

Ron – And, we would also like to present to you this plaque in honor of your service and commitment to the County.

Vern – Can I go now?

Ron – Any parting words? Would anyone else like to make comment or say anything?

Don Anderson – I'd like to take a moment to express my appreciation for Vern. I've been in the public sector for over 20 years and a Civil Prosecutor for 15 years. I've worked with Vern for 3 years and I can tell you without a doubt that in my 15 years of prosecuting in 4 different counties, he is absolutely the best Public Services Director that I have worked with or had the opportunity to work with. I just wanted to say that.

Kevin Bouchey – As a recovering politician, I had the privilege of working alongside you and with you for 8 years. I really didn't know Vern prior to being elected Commissioner. He and I have laughed about this situation more than once, but there were a couple of outspoken individuals in the community that told me, "You gotta fire that Vern Redifer". Fortunately, that didn't happen because when you first get on and start working with this gentleman and the historical knowledge and what he did right off the bat we dealt with the Nile slide. Talk about someone who stepped up and helped the community and really went above and beyond. The number of days and hours that you spent out there in that area, I'm sure you probably didn't see him a whole lot during that period of time Sharon. So, with that type of situation, I truly, quickly learned to respect. So, Vern thank you for your service and the residents of the County truly have been the beneficiary of your career here.

Jim Davenport - I want to say this is a real gentleman and a real fair man.

Mike – After this concludes, there will be a reception and I know a lot of you want to tell Vern your special thoughts and I guess we can end this proceeding, so we don't roast you too bad. On behalf of the Board, truly and on behalf of Yakima County, thank you Vern.

- **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
- **CONSENT ITEMS:** Approved as presented.

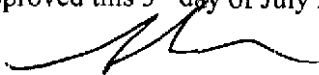
FUNDING LEVEL: A- No Impact B- Under \$100,000 C- \$100,000- \$500,000 D- Over \$500,000				
DEPARTMENT	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING LEVEL	ACTION
Public Services	Reso 227-2018	Accepting the Yakima County HOME Consortium's 2018 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report for Very Low-Income to Moderate Income Residents in the Cities of Grandview, Harrah, Mabton, Sunnyside, Toppenish, Union Gap, Wapato and Zillah as well as the Unincorporated Areas of Yakima County:	A	APPROVED
Vern Redifer, Director	Agreement BOCC154-2018	Certification of Lands and Authorization for Entry, for McCormick Levee Rehabilitation Project No. NAC-04-17:	A	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC155-2018	Agreement with Western Scale, Inc. for Scale Maintenance, Repair and Certification at the Terrace Heights Landfill, Cheyne Landfill and the Lower Valley Transfer Station:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC156-2018	Amendment No. 2 to Grant Agreement No. C1600098 with Washington State Department of Ecology Giving a Time Extension to Complete the Purchase of Senior Water Rights for the Yakima County Water Resource System:	C	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC157-2018	Affordable Housing Restriction Agreement Between Julio & Augustina Hidalgo for the Yakima County Lead Hazard Control Program; Project No. 16-024:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC158-2018	Affordable Housing Restriction Agreement Between Heriberto & Isabel Mendoza for the Yakima County Lead Hazard Control Program; Project No. 16-023:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC159-2018	Affordable Housing Restriction Agreement Between Jesus Juarez for the Yakima County Lead Hazard Control Program; Project No. 16-021a:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC160-2018	Affordable Housing Restriction Agreement Between Jesus Juarez for the Yakima County Lead Hazard Control Program; Project No. 16-021b:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC161-2018	Agreement with SafeGuard Abatement for Lead Abatement for Julio & Augustina Hidalgo for the Yakima County Lead Hazard Control Program; Project No. 16-024:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC162-2018	Agreement with Backflow Management, Inc. for Services to Test Backflow Assemblies for the Terrace Heights and Buena Water Systems:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC163-2018	Agreement with Northwest Hydro-Tech for Annual Maintenance on Control Valves for the Terrace Heights and Buena Water Systems:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC164-2018	Agreement with Selland Construction, Inc. for the Scoon Road Improvement Project No. RC 3630;	D	APPROVED
Commissioners	Voucher/Warrant	Certification of Salary Clearing Warrant No. 647859 through 648425 in the net amount of \$597,960.00:	A	APPROVED
Ron Anderson, Chairman	Voucher/Warrant	Certification of Salary Clearing Warrant No. 646781 through 647858 in the net amount of \$2,863,688.79:	A	APPROVED
	Minutes	Approve Agenda Minutes of 6/19/18:	A	APPROVED

FUNDING LEVEL: A=No Impact B=Under \$100,000 C=\$100,000-\$500,000 D=Over \$500,000				
DEPARTMENT	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING LEVEL	ACTION
Assessor Dave Cook, Assessor	Reso 228-2018	Authorizing Jacob Tate of the Assessor's Office to Sign an Invoice to Manatron, Inc. for Office Software and Data Use:	B	APPROVED
Corporate Counsel Don Anderson, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney	Reso 229-2018	Claim 19-2018 as Filed by Juan Vela:	B	APPROVED
Financial Services Craig Warner, Director	Reso 230-2018	Establishing the 2019 Budget Calendar for Yakima County:	A	APPROVED
Human Resources Jacqui Lindsay, Director	Reso 231-2018	Additions/Deletions to Budgeted Positions in Dept. 612, Office of Emergency Management; 440, District Court; 115, Sales Tax, Superior Court; 420 Clerk; 620 WSU Extension; 450, Superior Court:	B	APPROVED
Sheriff Brian Winter, Sheriff	Reso 232-2018	Establishing a Cash Funds for Sheriff's Office Detective Division:	B	APPROVED
Technology Services Gene Pugnetti, Director	Reso 233-2018	Authorizing Kevin Wickenhagen of Technology Services to Sign an Invoice for Efficiency, Inc. for Recording Software for District and Superior Court:	B	APPROVED
	Agreement BOCC152-2018	Agreement with Knobel's Electric for Radio Installations that Serve the Yakima County Public Works Building in Sunnyside and LEAD:	B	APPROVED
Treasurer Ilene Thomson, Treasurer	Reso 234-2018	Deposit and Distribution of Public Utilities Privilege Taxes:	C	APPROVED
	Reso 235-2018	Distribution of Wildlife Refuge Funds for the United States Fiscal Year 2017:	B	APPROVED


• **REGULAR AGENDA:** Approved as presented.

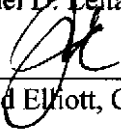
FUNDING LEVEL: A=No Impact B=Under \$100,000 C=\$100,000-\$500,000 D=Over \$500,000				
DEPARTMENT	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING LEVEL	ACTION
Public Services Vern Redifer, Director	Reso 236-2018	Awarding Bid to Selland Construction, Inc. for the Summitview Road and Danner Road Improvement Projects; No. RC 3166 and No. RC 3608; <i>Matt Pietrusiewicz Presenting:</i>	D	APPROVED

Approved this 3rd day of July 2018.

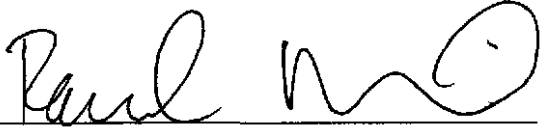

Ron Anderson, Chairman

Excused


Michael D. Leita, Commissioner


J. Rand Elliott, Commissioner




Rachel Michael, Clerk of the Board