

MEETING MINUTES OF THE 15th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (Clark, Klickitat, Skamania, and Yakima) met in the Public Utility District No. 1 of Klickitat County Meeting Room, 1313 S. Columbus Street, Goldendale, Washington on Monday, March 30, 2009 at 1:30 P.M.

Call to order, welcome and introductions.

The meeting was called to order, welcome given by Klickitat County Commission Chairman David M. Sauter followed by staff introductions and introductions from each commissioner present.

Present:

County Commissioners representing the 15th Legislative District:

Clark County: Tom Mielke, Marc Boldt and Steve Stuart
Klickitat County: Rex F. Johnston, David M. Sauter and Ray Thayer
Skamania County: Paul Pearce, Jamie Tolfree and James Richardson
Yakima County: Mike Leita, Kevin Bouchey and J. Rand Elliott

Staff:

Tim O'Neill: Klickitat County Prosecuting Attorney
Brenda Sorensen: Klickitat County Auditor
Pam Pimley: Klickitat County Chief Deputy Auditor
Crystal D. McEwen: Klickitat County Clerk of the Board
Brandie Sullivan: Klickitat County Elections Administrator
Mert Scheradella: Klickitat County Elections Voter Reg.

General Public:

Approximately 20 members of the public were present.

Nominees each introduced themselves.

Nominees:

Jacob Anderson #1
David V. Taylor #2
Don J. Vlieger #3

Joint meeting chairperson.

Yakima County Commissioner J. Rand Elliott had offered his services to chair the meeting which was acceptable to all participants. Chairperson Elliott began the meeting.

Review, discuss and/or amend the proposed agenda and meeting rules and procedures.

All documents were reviewed with a recommendation that the candidates be interviewed individually and therefore would be requested to leave the room.

Adoption of proposed agenda and meeting rules and procedures.

David Sauter moved and Rex Johnston seconded a motion to accept the agenda, meeting rules and procedures, and the recommendation that the candidates be interviewed individually. Motion approved.

Five (5) minute presentations to the commissioners individually by each nominee in order of preference as voted upon by the 15th Legislative District Republican State Central Committee.

Nominee #1 – Jacob Anderson
Nominee #2 – David V. Taylor
Nominee #3 – Don J. Vlieger

Commissioner questions and answer period with nominees queried individually in order of preference as voted upon by the 15th Legislative District Republican State Central Committee. Questions for each nominee were a variation of the following:

Order of Speakers for each candidate interviewed:

- Tom Mielke: (Are you familiar with the Committee structure in Olympia and which two committees would you be interested in serving on? What is your definition of a tough vote?)
Nominee response.
- Marc Boldt: (What are your views with regard to the National Scenic Area Act and the Columbia River Gorge Commission? Explain your views with regard to water right issues and as a legislator how will you help the counties with respect to water right issues and timelines?)
Nominee response.
- Steve Stuart: (Why do you want this job? Explain how you will represent and benefit the people of the 15th District in a State with a democratic Governor and a democratically controlled legislature? If appointed, describe what you would be doing in your first three months.)
Nominee response.
- Mike Leita: (How much interaction has taken place between you, the legislature and county commissioners prior to this meeting? What is your knowledge of the various committees and panels at the legislative level and which committee or panel would you prefer to serve on? What was your best achievement? What is Yakima County's biggest, most critical need? Can you represent all four counties?)
(Vlieger: Would you be in favor of random drug testing in all police departments? Explain your views on drug suppression, intervention and prevention. Would you be amenable to funding intervention and prevention and if so, how would to do it?)
Nominee response.
- Kevin Bouchey: (Serving on the legislature is more than a part-time position; noting the 15th District is a large district. How do you plan to fulfill the duties of the position? How would you represent the agriculture and natural resource interests within the district?)
Nominee response.
- David Sauter: (Recognizing that a large majority of the voters reside in Yakima County can you be effective in the fall election and what is your plan? How will you represent Klickitat County constituents? What are your views with respect to exempt well provisions and water code revisions proposed by Director Manning?)
Nominee response.
- Ray Thayer: (What separates you from the other two candidates with regard to running a successful campaign in the November election?)
Nominee response.
Rex Johnston: (Anderson: How will you deal with being one of the youngest representatives in the legislature?)
(Appointment will require running two elections in a very short period of time which will be expensive. Are you comfortable that you will have the support and ability to raise the dollars required for a successful campaign?)
Nominee response.

- James Richardson: Will you be able to maintain a high level of energy with the upcoming campaigns of the position; essentially running three campaigns in a four year period? Explain your position on windpower.)
Nominee response.
- Paul Pearce: (What is the number one issue in Skamania County? What should the legislature do to help?)
Nominee response.
- Jamie Tolfree: (There is a huge diversity between the four counties which comprise the 15th District. What do you see as the biggest issue which binds or links the four counties? What are your thoughts with respect to developing renewable energy sources?)
- Nominee response.

Recess.

Meeting Reconvened/Vote.

Chairperson Elliott reconvened the joint meeting.

Two (2) minute final remarks by each nominee in order of preference as voted upon by the 15th Legislative District Republican State Central Committee.

Nominee #1 – Jacob Anderson

Nominee #2 – David V. Taylor

Nominee #3 – Don J. Vlieger

Vote.

Ballot “A” was distributed by Auditor Sorensen, votes cast, ballots collected, results read aloud by Chairperson Elliott and tallied as follows:

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	BALLOT Number	NOMINEE Anderson	NOMINEE Taylor	NOMINEE Vlieger
Clark County Tom Mielke	1-A		X	
Clark County Marc Boldt	2-A		X	
Clark County Steve Stuart	3-A	X		
Klickitat County Rex F. Johnston	4-A		X	
Klickitat County David M. Sauter	5-A		X	
Klickitat County Ray Thayer	6-A		X	
Skamania County Paul J. Pearce	7-A	X		
Skamania County James D. Richardson	8-A	X		
Skamania County Jamie Tolfree	9-A	X		
Yakima County Mike Leita	10-A		X	
Yakima County Kevin Bouchey	11-A		X	
Yakima County J. Rand Elliott	12-A		X	
<i>Total reported by Chairman Elliott</i>		<i>4</i>	<i>8</i>	

Chairperson declares 15th Legislative District House of Representatives appointee.

Chairperson Elliott declared that there was a clear majority in favor of David V. Taylor and congratulated Mr. Taylor as the newly appointed member of the 15th Legislative District House of Representatives and signed the official certificate of appointment.

Adjournment.

At 3:25 PM. the joint meeting of county commissioners was adjourned by Chairperson Elliott.

Swearing In Ceremony/Oath of Office.

Newly appointed 15th Legislative District Representative David V. Taylor was immediately sworn into office by Klickitat County Superior Court Judge Thompson Reynolds and the oath of office administered. The Oath of Office and the Certification were forwarded to the Office of Chief Clerk, House of Representatives, in Olympia on 03/31/09.

Clark County
Board of Commissioners



Marc Boldt, Commissioner



Steve Stuart, Commissioner

Tom Mielke, Commissioner

Attest:



Rebecca Lister
Clerk of the Board Deputy