

OKANOGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'

RESOLUTION NO. 108 - 2023

A resolution authorizing the Okanogan County Sheriff's Office to install fire hardening improvements at the Tunk Mountain Communications site.

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2021 the American Rescue Plan Act was signed into law which authorized funds for State and Local Fiscal Recovery across America;

WHEREAS, Funds are provided to remedy rising costs and falling revenues due to COVID-19 public health pandemic and to continue to support the public health response and maintain public sector operational capacities; and

WHEREAS, Okanogan County currently owns and operates equipment at the Tunk Mountain Communications site where the equipment shelter is a 50 plus year old log cabin and extraordinarily susceptible to destruction by wildfire; and

WHEREAS, the Tunk Mountain communications site and equipment at the site are critical to the day to day operations of public safety agencies delivering emergency services to the citizens of Okanogan County. Destruction of the log cabin shelter and equipment within would have catastrophic impacts on public safety operations; and

WHEREAS, Fire hardening improvements at the Tunk Mountain communication site would preserve the operational capacity and preparedness of the Okanogan County public safety radio network during wildland fire events, public safety and public health events; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Board of Okanogan County Commissioners to support the continuity of public safety operations and support improved communications, command and control during wildland fire, other public safety events and public health events occurring in Okanogan County; and

WHEREAS, the BOCC issued resolution 61-2022 on May 10th 2022 allocating \$275,000 ARPA funds to the project; and

WHEREAS, rising cost of materials and services of near double the prepared estimates create an unintended financial burden on the county to complete the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the BOCC authorizes an additional \$200,000 ARPA funds from Fund 170 to be allocated for the install of fire hardening improvements at the Tunk Mountain Communications site not to exceed \$475,000.

DATED at Okanogan, Washington this 15th day of August 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON**



Chris Branch, Chairman


Andy Hover, Member


Jon Neal, Member



ATTEST:


Lalena Johns, Clerk of the Board