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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

APRIL 23, 2024

9:00 AM Review Meeting Minutes- April 15th, 16th, 2024
9:15 AM Public Comment Period
9:30 AM Press Shoot-CGI-Commissioner Neal
11:00 AM Update-Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson
11:45 AM Approve Commissioners Proceedings- April 15th, 16th, 2024
11:55 AM Commissioners to set Wednesday's Agenda if Necessary
12:00 PM Approve Consent Agenda

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a regular meeting at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on April 23, 2024 with Chairman, Commissioner Jon Neal; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Member, Commissioner Chris Branch; and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

AV Capture and Zoom provided audio and video accessibility for public interaction.

Review Meeting Minutes- April 15th, 16th, 2024

Commissioners reviewed ARPA fund 170 balances. The Clerk of the Board provided her reconciliation report.

Public Comment Period

Ruth Hall member of the public via zoom commented on no meetings this afternoon. She expressed gladness about the Board of Equalization having a full board.

Mrs. Jackson commented that she enjoyed The Planning Commission meeting last night as it was interesting and very long. She said there is not enough time to make decisions for the Planning Commission to meet only once a month, No one should ever complain it's taking too long to make requests and decisions for We The People. At the meeting she heard a leader speaking but they did not bring their notes and was not prepared. She looks forward to the next meeting and hoped Zoom will be available.

Press Shoot-CGI-Commissioner Neal

Commissioner Neal was absent briefly to film the CGI press release for the county's video tour.

Update-Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson

Solid Waste Manager Kent Kovalenko

Mr. Kovalenko updated the board stating the Twisp summer hours usually change in June but they will open on Saturday. Winthrop requested the county's surplus Wood Chips to create compost at their plant, but we would have to pay her a tipping fee. Commissioner Hover was leery about giving someone our chips directly. Mr. Kovalenko stated we will be producing chips and would need to haul them somewhere. Commissioner Hover was looking at this overall to ensure the chips be available fairly to everyone.

51 Mr. Kovalenko was asked to speak at the Washington State Recycling Association and he will
52 speak on behalf of Okanogan County. There is a segment on the Apple Maggot. The equipment
53 training for the green waste will happen in May. Commissioner Branch asked about the
54 conservation district chipping events and asked if the chips were being hauled to landfill. Some
55 want their chips on their driveway but it depends on the neighborhood location and what they
56 want said Mr. Kovalenko.

57
58 Engineer Thomson provided his update of the use of pits

59
60 Engineer Thomson said the shops we are waiting for contractor to get back to us on the waste oil
61 and will need to switch out the heads on the pump to accommodate waste oil versus diesel. That
62 is the last piece for getting occupancy.

63
64 The Shops will be installed with snow breaks on the roof since the HVACs are located where the
65 snow will fall.

66
67 Wildlife Council access easement will discuss and update next week on the progress.

68
69 Open positions were discussed. Capital projects manager is moving to Alaska leaving that
70 position open. There could be trouble filling the other two vacancies. We might extend the
71 temporary contract since it is difficult to fill. Pay is an issue.

72
73 Parking lot does need to be repaved but he wasn't sure what the county was doing with the water
74 line. The board does need to decide who is going where. Commissioner Hover explained the last
75 idea was to see about a land swap with the church.

76
77 Commissioners suggested that the Clerk of the Board propose another idea to MJ Neal for a
78 design to remodel the courthouse putting in a fourth courtroom where the Assessor and Treasurer
79 is, single point entry and provide separation of the public from court staff, relocating the assessor,
80 auditor and treasurer down to Justice building.

81
82 Public Hearing for budget supplemental request for chip seal projects will be scheduled.

83
84 Dale Swedburg is involved with identifying a location of the LTAC signage in Loomis.

85
86 Culvert stock purchase approval is on the consent agenda/
87

88 **Approve Consent Agenda**

89 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-3, as presented. Motion was
90 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 91 1. Interagency Agreement-Molson Hill Site Lease-OK Co Fire Protection District #11
92 2. ARPA Req#3-Slope Stabilization-Town of Nespelem
93 3. Purchase Authorization Culvert Pacific Corrugated Pipe Company
94

95 **Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners**

96 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those
97 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a
98 list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to
99 approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$568,980.42. Warrant numbers as cited on the
100 attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.
101

102 Commissioner Branch discussed the Forest Collaborative letter of commitment that he would like
103 to sign. The reasons why it was important to sign the commitment letter were discussed.

104

105 **Motion Forest Collaborative Recommitment Letter.**

106 Commissioner Hover moved to authorize Commissioner Branch to sign the recommitment letter
107 for the Forest Collaborative. Commissioner Branch said in the future the commitment is part of
108 whoever takes over the position and then they decide how to approach it. The Forest Timber
109 Communities caucus is rescheduling their meeting that was in June. Motion was seconded, all
110 were in favor, motion carried.

111

112 **Motion SPAR Grant Agreement**

113 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize the chairman to sign the SPAR grant agreement for
114 July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

115

116 **Motion ARPA Request #3 Elmer City Fire District No 2**

117 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the ARPA request #3 in the amount of \$23,448.46 for
118 Fire District #2 Fire Station Improvement Project. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion
119 carried.

120

121 **Motion Methow Valley EMS District**

122 Commissioner Hover moved to adjourn as the BOCC and reconvene as the Methow Valley EMS
123 District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

124

125 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Methow Valley
126 EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$6.72. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
127 motion carried.

128

129 Commissioner Hover moved to adjourn as the Methow Valley EMS District and Reconvene as the
130 BOCC. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

131

132 **Discussion Follow up Grant Funded CORE Outreach Specialist-Ms. Keitzman**

133 HR Director Keitzman discussed the need to authorize a CORE Outreach Specialist position. The
134 specialist isn't a DCR but will work with the Sheriff's deputies when dealing with people in crisis.
135 There is no required certification for this position. Commissioner Branch wondered about the risk
136 involved if the person was not credentialed. Ms. Keitzman explained the situation is like the MOUD
137 situation and the specialist is more of a communication liaison type person to help get the people
138 in crisis to the right assistance. The City of Omak has a similar specialist and this position was
139 crafted like theirs. The position is a grant funded position with funds processed as a
140 reimbursement. The expense and revenue amounts will need to be supplemented within the
141 proper budget.

142

143 Ms. Keitzman also noted that the Risk Pool will pay for two additional AED machines that will be
144 located in the Admin Building.

145

146 **Motion Resolution 63-2024 Authorizing CORE Outreach Specialist**

147 Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 63-2024 authorizing the grant funded position
148 of CORE Specialist position. Commissioner Branch said the prosecutor has expressed concern
149 about qualifications of people dealing with people with crisis and the emphasis of another agency
150 determining the qualifications instead of the county. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
151 motion carried.

152

153 **Approve Commissioners Proceedings- April 15th, 16th, 2024**
154 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the corrected Commissioners Meeting minutes of April
155 15, 16, 2024. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

156
157 **Commissioners to set Wednesday's Agenda if Necessary**
158 No meeting was necessary.

159
160 Commissioners discussed TD&H civil engineer negotiation that will happen soon. The firm
161 indicated to the Clerk of the Board that the timeline for the design would be more like fall time
162 then construction of the system would happen in 2025 with the need to extend the DOA grant
163 agreement another 4-5 months. The Clerk is still waiting to hear when TD&H can meet to
164 negotiate a contract for the design scope of work.

165
166 Commissioner Branch discussed developing rules and guidelines for the Planning Commission.
167 There is a bit of misunderstanding amongst the Planning Commission members on what their job
168 is. People like to be heard, but if you out there discussing all the information rather than waiting
169 until the public comment period then there is real concern about that looking like ex parte
170 communication.

171
172 The board adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

173