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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

AUGUST 2, 2022

9 **9:00 AM** **Briefing Among Commissioners**
10 **9:15 AM** **Public Comment Period**
11 **9:30 AM** **Review Commissioners Meeting Minutes July 25 & 26, 2022**
12 **10:00 AM** **Commissioners to set Wednesday's Agenda**
13 **10:15 AM** **Approve Commissioners Proceedings- July 18 & 19, 2022**
14 **10:25 AM** **Approve Consent Agenda**
15 **10:30 AM** **Update-Communications/Dispatch-Mike Worden**
16 **11:00 AM** **Update -Public Works Engineer Josh Thomson**
17 **1:30 PM** **Discussion 20-Year Master Plan Option #2-Architect Michael Beaman-Department Heads**

19 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a Public Hearing at 123 5th Avenue North,
20 Okanogan, Washington on August 2, 2022 with Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Vice-
21 Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro; and the Clerk of the
22 Board, Laleña Johns, present.

23
24 AV Capture and Zoom provided audio and video accessibility for public interaction.

25
26 The pledge of allegiance was stated.

27
28 **Briefing Among Commissioners**

29 Commissioner Hover stated after speaking with Ms. Keitzman the county's medical insurance
30 rates are going to sky rocket. Commissioner Hover mentioned a meeting was arranged between
31 himself the Sheriff's office, and the city of Tonasket to discuss Law Enforcement Services.

32
33 **Public Comment Period**

34 Ruth Hall had no public comment.

35
36 Deputy Treasurer Pam Johnson, as a private person and for treasurer's office said she was
37 contacted by Diana Hartvig regarding communication from the board about the Lake Management
38 District Assessment. Ms. Johnson said Ms. Hartvig's information and her most current year
39 assessment was received. Commissioner Hover said he would talk to Planning about the
40 assessment timeline. Ms. Johnson told her the commissioners' office is handling it. Commissioner
41 Hover said no public hearing has been published asking for comment from those who believe
42 they should not be included in the roles.

43
44 Commissioner Branch asked her about fair revenue. Ms. Johnson said she has it worked out and
45 will be able to help handle the funds. The treasurer's office has decided to step out of it, but she
46 will be on vacation during the fair and will be able to step in and help with some assistance.

47
48 Commissioner Hover said the auditor's office needs a resolution stating the county is not charging
49 the fair a rental fee this year. Declaration of public interest language was read. He will draft the
50 resolution. Attendance is down and to try and bring it back up the county commissioners will not
51 charge the fair rent.

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Review Commissioners Meeting Minutes July 25 & 26, 2022

Commissioners reviewed their meeting minutes.

Commissioners to set Wednesday’s Agenda

Commissioners discussed and no meeting was scheduled.

Motion Approve Commissioners Proceedings- July 25, 2022

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve proceedings of July 25, 2022. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch made some clarifications of July 26, 2022 proceedings.

Motion Approve Commissioners Proceedings July 26, 2022

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve July 26, 2022 Commissioners Proceedings. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

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

- 1. **Agreement Supplemental #1 County Wide Speed Limit and & Striping Study Federal Highways**
- 2. **Resolution 108-2022 Temporary Help Treasurer’s Office**
- 3. **Resolution 109-2022 Annual Road Log Update 2021**

Update-Communications/Dispatch-Mike Worden

Shelley Keitzman

Mr. Worden briefly explained the use of reserve deputies to fill a staffing gap The Association was good with it, but having reserves not displace others applying to fill the positions and allowing others to sign up for the shift was important. One left in July and two in August so reserves would be utilized in September. Interviews are happening and some in training.

Interview process was discussed by Ms. Keitzman. The \$1000 referral incentive was discussed as a payroll change notice would come from the chief. Commissioner Hover wants to make sure that information gets out. Application cover sheet might ask the question, suggested Mr. Worden. For Public Safety positions that might be handled differently.

Radio projects still ongoing, August 25 budget 5.8% increase with trimming yet still consider inflation. Targeting coverages are predicted in certain areas to verify boundaries of what is predicted. Predicted coverages are conservative. Specific areas receiving coverages were discussed. Commissioner Branch said Public Works reported they found they were receiving better coverages than what we have already.

Courthouse generator final corrective work is scheduled for August 6. Emailed departments regarding the scheduled outage. First test did what it was supposed to do, we just had conductors in the wrong place. Vendor is paying for this work.

Motion Resolution 107-2022 911 Dispatch Use of Reserve Deputies

Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 107-2022 regarding staffing in 911 Communications Dispatch with reserve deputies. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners

Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$604,596.19 and Payroll vouchers in the amount of \$1,164,319.63. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion Public Health Voucher

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers in the amount of \$13,485.96 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$55,561.24. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Resolution 110-2022 Fairgrounds Clerk

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 110-2022 approving Fairgrounds part time clerk to work full time from July 1 through September 30 each year. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Update -Public Works Engineer Josh Thomson

Commissioner DeTro said John Hubbard contacted him as he is booked out at least one year and wouldn't be able to bid on the land fill well.

Engineer Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there.

Planning Rec Trails, OCOG Support Position

Engineer Thomson is working with the county attorney to draft a memorandum to lay out expectations for the arrangement. The position budget would be divided 50% recreation, 25% roads and 25% OCOG with the idea to bill the time to the various funds and figure out leave which would be charged per quarter. The type of arrangement was discussed that would allow the county to charge various funds for the work. A resolution may be the mechanism outlining the arrangement if the MOU is not quite appropriate since the county is the fiscal and administrative agent of OCOG.

Engineer Thomson said Cari Hall was able to be present due to elections but she wanted to know more about the position to understand which budgets it should fall under.

Maintenance and Road Conditions

Chip Seal projects are finishing in Chesaw then moving to Methow tomorrow. Next week some city work.

Methow Watershed Project Fund 406 budget is about the same amount as this year and will be used for 2023.

Federal Forest Yield Revenue projection-is this tapering off or going up in 2023 like it did in 2022. Maybe it was a two-year thing. Commissioner Branch reviewed some information regarding the matter. Budget for the full amount.

154 *Oroville Shop Roof*
155 Engineer Thomson explained the Oroville Shop roof has some leaking issues on membrane of
156 the 30-year tongue and groove deck roof. It is a flat roof. A roofer was contacted and a
157 recommendation was given to re-sheet the whole thing with some insulation. Engineer Thomson
158 said this is something that should be done this year. A cost estimate will be brought forward. It
159 was not budgeted for.

160
161 Appraisal for property should be any day.

162
163 *6-Year TIP Development*

164 Engineer Thomson asked about including the Pearrygin Lake to town section of East Chewuch.
165 Commissioner Hover suggested a public meeting with the Town of Winthrop to get public
166 feedback.

167
168 *Salmon creek Drainage Project*

169 Engineer Thomson said they are moving toward contract but ecology is requiring wetland
170 mitigation if it is determined a wetland. Someone has been hired and we can work through it.
171 Ecology will help us through the process.

172
173 *Cameron Lake Road Project*

174 Engineer Thomson stated BIA rights of way are being negotiated for the 25 year and it was
175 determined it should be permanent so they are considering a 99 year. Their rules are really set
176 up for utility easements not roads.

177
178 Consent agenda items were discussed.

179
180 Commissioners recessed at 11:41 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

181
182 Before the afternoon meeting stated Maurice Goodall discussed the Fire Chiefs meeting regarding
183 burn ban process. DNR is still saying they are good, but he isn't sure if a ban should be signed
184 this week or next due to 100+ degree weather. He'll know Tuesday.

185
186 **Discussion 20-Year Master Plan Option #2-Architect Michael Beaman-Department Heads**

187 Judge Chauncy Crowell, Susan Speiker, Pam Johnson, Leah McCormack, Sheriff Tony Hawley,
188 Darla Schreckengost, Dennis Rabidou, Josh Thomson, Karen Beatty, Larry Gilman, Aaron Culp,
189 Judge Robert Grim, and member of the public Ruth Hall

190
191 Architect Michael Beaman explained some history of the courthouse and different ideas he had
192 made plans for. The last rendition was not implemented to separate courts and staff and inmate
193 circulation.

194
195 A Jail study/assessment is planned to help determine adequacy. New buildings are going to be
196 required to fully build out the plan such as for communications and emergency management.

197
198 Mr. Beaman showed drawing boards with the proposed levels for the various buildings. He
199 discussed reasons why the proposals work within the designed plan. There is no hierarchy within
200 any department. He discussed ADA access improvements to the courthouse as well as security.

201
202 Mr. Beaman said the way the courthouse is set up now doesn't work, unless a new entry is built
203 on and as long it can be torn out in the future and the historic part stays intact.

204 Commissioner Hover said these are plans to work towards for the next 20-years. We have to
205 have a plan.

206
207 Larry Gilman asked about load bearing walls and wondered what the structural limitations are.
208 Will some of the areas hindering the flow be able to be removed. Mr. Beaman said it is a matter
209 of mystery in some areas for us to know what the real options are. Commissioner Hover said the
210 building serves its purpose right now but not for 21st century communications. Choices need to
211 be made whether we put effort towards something that fits, or will we say the building doesn't
212 function well enough for the public function. Mr. Beaman said it is workable.

213
214 Treasurer McCormack said most of the renovation would be cosmetic. Commissioner Hover said
215 it would need to be gutted open it up as far as possible then make it work for the best needs of
216 the office whose space it would be.

217
218 Sheriff Hawley commented on the way it is now inmate having one way in and one way out to the
219 new building he does not like that. It is unacceptable. Mr. Beaman replied the road goes all the
220 way around the building with a drive through sally port. Sheriff Hawley also said a staffing issue
221 would exist to staff all the buildings.

222
223 Leah McCormack said we have already bonded the money for the superior court building and it
224 was listed in the bond.

225
226 Commissioner Hover explained the feeling about purchasing the forest service building, it was a
227 good deal. Remember this is a 20-year plan and some of us won't be here this is our road map
228 for future commissioners. Commissioner DeTro said we need to move forward and we have bond
229 obligations. Other counties are a lot more flush than we are.

230
231 Judge Short asked what it was about the courthouse that is not working for the courts. Mr. Beaman
232 explained circulation issues, inmates are separated, public and victim's circulation, victims don't
233 have their own waiting areas or path to the courtroom. Separate entries for judges to courtrooms,
234 staff and public entries that come in from the public. Judge Short said separate waiting areas for
235 civil and separate entries for judges are there and with minor tweaks the issues could be resolved.

236
237 Judge Crowell said it is obvious that superior court has more pressing needs and currently without
238 a prosecutor for district court, district court tries more cases then superior court is across the state.
239 Shoving into small spaces isn't going to help. Walking from one building to another to get to the
240 courtrooms isn't safe. Mr. Beaman explained the ultimate plan wouldn't have the judges walking
241 outside of the building. Judge Crowell wants a safe place for the future and those involved aren't
242 driving all over the place. Commissioner Hover asked how often do people getting out of jail go
243 to court. Judge Short said every day, and these plans will make justice less access and create a
244 less safe environment by removing from where law enforcement is. We need more access to
245 justice not less and more access to safety not less. Judge Short said by removing the courts from
246 where law enforcement is and separating the courts from where safety is. The more good guys
247 the safer everyone is. It seems like we are creating what is a simple process right now to a difficult
248 process for the public and safety. Use of the bus system will be needed to go back and forth. One
249 problem is a miss understanding about what actually goes on in District Court. They have criminal
250 cases and higher number of them and high numbers of people going to those hearings, it isn't
251 just civil cases District Court deals with. Some will need to be at the jail and then at District Court.
252 Mr. Beaman asked about remote hearings, if that is the case why can't that be done in the in-
253 custody courtroom where there is space for the public. He asked Judge Short to write down his
254 concerns. (Commissioner Hover left the meeting at 2:30 p.m. for law enforcement discussions

255 with the City of Tonasket) During the previous survey meeting Judge Short said his offer to show
256 Mr. Beaman what the issues are was refused. Judge Short said he already put some of his
257 concerns in writing. Mr. Beaman suggested that most District Courts are not right next to Jails in
258 most situations because of the hidden realities. Commissioner Branch said what the judge has
259 said is relevant. He asked if another visit to see what the judge is talking about might help. There
260 are other issues that enter into the picture and law enforcement isn't entirely sure how they will
261 be able to provide security. He feels this could be discussed some more. Mr. Beaman said by
262 creating a new courthouse the county will have to provide full time security. The courthouse right
263 now doesn't have that. Commissioner Branch spoke to the security and safety and the need to
264 speak further on these issues. Treasurer McCormack said she thought the commissioners already
265 approved the Option #2 and department didn't have the option to explore it further. Commissioner
266 Branch said the board heard dialogue and still need to discuss whether it makes sense now after
267 reviewing schematics and discuss further if things fit into that and resolve if not there will be
268 alternatives in the path to explore. Mr. Beaman said he cannot move forward unless the board
269 tells him to move forward. He needs concrete reasons for why, but he will move forward once he
270 receives direction from the board. Commissioner Branch said the commissioners will discuss the
271 issues and provide direction.

272
273 Susan Speiker said the Clerk's Office is the largest department in the courthouse and she thought
274 the diagrams would show more space for staff and storage. The Clerks Office also requires the
275 most storage space out of all departments and she worried that space was not identified in the
276 design. The feasibility study was not shared with her, so she didn't know if it included storage.
277 She wanted to ensure space is included not only for staff but for the storage needs. Commissioner
278 Branch said there may be other options for storage space.

279
280 Assessor Larry Gilman asked why not make fourth street from Oak to Maple street one way.

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283 The board adjourned at 3:10 p.m.
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