

1 **RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

2  
3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

4  
5 **AUGUST 3, 2021**  
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7  
8 **9:00 AM Commissioners' Staff Meeting**  
9 **10:30 AM Update Communications/Dispute Mike Warden**  
10 **11:00 AM Update Public Works- Engineer- Josh Thomson**  
11 **1:30 PM Public Comment Period**  
12 **2:00 PM Public Hearing Supplemental Appropriation Vehicle Reserve Assessor**  
13 **2:05 PM Public Hearing Budget Supplement Appropriation MARC**  
14 **2:30 PM Approve Commissioners Proceedings July 26<sup>th</sup> & July 27th, 2021**  
15 **4:00 PM Approve Consent Agenda**  
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17 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North,  
18 Okanogan, Washington on August 3, 2021, with Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member,  
19 Commissioner Jim DeTro and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.  
20

21 AV Capture provided audio and video of the meetings held today, while ZOOM provided best  
22 audio accessibility and public interaction.  
23

24 Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover was available via zoom.  
25

26 **Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

27 Pete Palmer, Naomie Peasley, Lanie Johns  
28

29 Planning Director Palmer provided her staff report. She discussed transitioning of GIS employee  
30 on a one-year training plan. He hasn't done much with the assessor's website so will train for that  
31 too. Technician position is hopeful to remain in the budget for this year and will hire in 2021 to fill.  
32 The Sheriff pays the training from \$75,000 E911 support contract funding with 15,000 towards  
33 admin and the GIS training.  
34

35 Owners and Jockey group had horse races at the fairgrounds over the weekend and they gave  
36 kudos to staff down there always visible and have the grounds and track looking real nice. In  
37 August, the Planning Department will be short staffed due to Sturgis. Got the email from Clerk of  
38 the Board for file retention and she is in support of it. They still have Marty from Modus Technology  
39 who gave a quote to take the boxes to scan and make available. They are still able to take on the  
40 project either all at once or piece by piece. There is nothing in the budget for the scanning.  
41 Commissioner Hover said the Planning has brought in more revenue \$50,000 already and a  
42 budget supplemental would be needed to spend the funds. An estimate to scan the 385 boxes  
43 was about \$42,000. Commissioner Hover said if we want to get it out of the way we could do it all  
44 at once. Commissioner Branch said it would be good to get it out of the way. Double check  
45

46 Offering \$82,0000 need to let them know periodic up0date on shoreline master plan that isn't due  
47 until 2023 but suggested we get started. Try to hire a consultant to do the periodic review because  
48 the staff is too busy. It would go smoother. It is a no match grant. Commissioner Hover notice in  
49 all the updates they never have a good timeline to start with the preplanning doesn't provide.  
50 Would Pete develop a timeline and what is happened whether an EIS is need, comment period,

51 etc.. start to finish how long the process will take. Commissioner Branch suggested looking into  
52 leverages.

53  
54 The Clerk of the Board provided wage information to the board as requested. (attached) The  
55 information included unrestricted funding sources as a source to pay for the Clerk III position  
56 being considered in the commissioners' office.

57  
58 **Motion**

59 Commissioner Hover moved to direct Human Resources to move forward with the advertisement  
60 for the full-time Clerk III position in the Commissioners' office. Motion was seconded, all were in  
61 favor, motion carried.

62  
63 **Motion**

64 Commissioner DeTro moved to direct the Clerk of the Board to complete the draft resolution for  
65 full time Clerk III. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. .

66  
67 Commissioner Hover suggested working with Pete Palmer to learn how the Clerk III position can  
68 help with Planning Records.

69  
70 Ms. Peasley provided the Class B Designates points map of the fairgrounds showing where the  
71 most problematic Class B weeds are located. Working with the weed board on a plan for the  
72 weeds and plan to prevent it from spreading.

73  
74 Funding contracts for acknowledgment were provided. She plans to gather the contracts on a  
75 monthly basis and turning them in for acknowledgement by the board.

76  
77 The Barrel Club out of Tonasket is scheduled to use the fairgrounds now.

78  
79 The Fair count down has started. Safety issues were discussed with Kyle for the Safety grant and  
80 a timeline for fixing the issue was laid out the grant application is due in October. Fair prep is  
81 happening right now.

82  
83 Commissioners discussed how the fairgrounds maintenance bills would continue to be paid  
84 through this budget period instead of switching the budget around now. Peasley said the salary  
85 and wages line items were already moved over.

86  
87 A quote was obtained to locate all utilities underground on the fairgrounds. A surveyor can map  
88 out everything underground. Commissioner DeTro stated we have started a file in GIS for the as-  
89 built on the grounds but the map is not complete. Ms. Peasley stated they will use ground  
90 penetrating radar and the quote was \$5,500. Commissioner DeTro stated the electrical lines get  
91 abandoned when new telephone lines are installed the old ones are left in the ground.  
92 Commissioner Branch urged Ms. Peasley to establish a good base map for the system. There  
93 are some parts that really play into safety like cross connections. Commissioner Hover suggested  
94 we no longer patch irrigation pipes with a mishmash of different pipes.

95  
96 The contract with Public Health to use the Fairgrounds is about \$207,000 and from the Superior  
97 Court about \$54,000. Please list out the projects to be done on the grounds that is prioritized.  
98 The Clerk of the Board discussed the Courthouse Exterior Envelope RFQ and provided an  
99 update.

100

101 She discussed the Pest Control invoices from Will Carpenter. The board reviewed the Tri-county  
102 Agreement to understand the enforcement sections.

103  
104 Mr. Carpenter is our pest agent and he should apprise the commissioners of the enforcement  
105 actions being conducted in Okanogan County. Commissioner Hover wanted to ensure  
106 enforcement costs the county pays is being reimbursed by the land owner to Okanogan County.

107  
108 Pest board will do removal if the land owner doesn't have the funds. The land owner is sent a bill  
109 and have 60 days to pay. The budget will need to allow payment of the bill and expend. Parcel  
110 numbers must be noted on the enforcement invoice. Commissioners want to ensure provisions  
111 for enforcements are in place. The county is responsible for recovery of the costs. The Pest Board  
112 meets and votes on taking the enforcement action.

113  
114 **Update Communications/Dispatch Mike Worden**

115 Chief Communications Deputy Worden provided his communications update. There are normal  
116 challenges with brining in so many agencies and are pretty much preplanned for mobile  
117 operations. From his prospective we are doing okay, but there are blindsides that do crop up.

118  
119 There are a number of projects happening to communications sites to refresh equipment at end  
120 of life. Waiting on vendors for those project materials. Still waiting for the needed transfer switch  
121 for the courthouse generator with an end of September timeline.

122  
123 Two things of interest is the Broad band action team is to apply for funding to place Broadband in  
124 the Pine Creek Area Lemonansky area. Another building will be needed to serve the areas. Mr.  
125 Worden said ARPA funds could be applied to the building expense to host broadband equipment.  
126 Please consider the cost when planning expenditures of ARPA funds. Where are things at with  
127 the ARPA Funds in assessing projects and expenditures. Commissioner Branch explained the  
128 start of the ARPA funds plan and the percentages of allocation based on the five eligible  
129 categories.

130  
131 The Colville Tribe also has a parallel program they are working on to provide broad band in the  
132 modified area near Grand Coulee.

133  
134 Spoke to Engineer Josh Thomson about Conconully's sewer system. Wewer systems and  
135 communications projects in Conconully is of interest for ARPA funds Alarms are needed for the  
136 sewer system and communications in Conconully is also needed.

137  
138 Within the 911 structure in the state Okanogan county gest operational support from the state,  
139 because the basic level of service we need to provide is more than what our tax can cover. The  
140 larger counties with larger tax base do not qualify for the contract and some of those funds come  
141 over to us. There is more pressure from the large counties to consolidate centers. It is a county  
142 decision of where it is. The trouble is it hasn't been proven that consolidation is less expensive.  
143 He is putting his heels in. It is a county choice and decision and he is pushing back from the state  
144 and larger counties. The rub is state wide services for all dispatch centers for 911 phone network,  
145 then there are dollars that support smaller counties. What isn't looked at is the network cost to  
146 support large counties or because we are out there we have more mileage to get here. It is a  
147 matter of perspective. If we were consolidated with an outside agency how do they talk resources.  
148 It is another disconnect in the thinking. It is a conversation that is going on.

149  
150  
151

152 **Approve Commissioners Proceedings July 26<sup>th</sup> & July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

153 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the meeting minutes of July 26 & July 27, 2021. Motion  
154 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

155  
156 **Update Public Works- Engineer- Josh Thomson**

157 Engineer Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the topics listed there.

158  
159 *Maintenance & Road Conditions*

160 Engineer Thomson provided an update on the fire damaged county guardrails in the Cash Creek  
161 area. There are still supply issues and costs are considered. He would like to address the burnt  
162 rails this year.

163  
164 Fires assessments have not been completed on fire impacts. One smaller culvert on Cash Creek  
165 may need to be replaced with a 54 in culvert, but it is buried deep.

166  
167 Chip seal is moving along this week heading up towards Chiwilican, Tunk, Crumbacher and next  
168 week near Nespelem.

169  
170 *STBG Applications*

171 These applications three were due last Friday and several cities submitted apps as well.

172  
173 *Construction Projects*

174 2023 and 2024 will be a very busy construction schedule. Engineer Thomson explained our  
175 funding obligations and timeline.

176  
177 Twisp River Road reconstruction in 2024 and CRAB Whitestone Creek culvert replacement in  
178 2026. We find out which public safety project will be funded.

179  
180 On the projects around the county could we capture those on a map in GIS as it will be helpful to  
181 the commissioners when answering public inquiries and conversations at the state level. It would  
182 be great to show the projects on a map with associated funding. Engineer will work on that.

183  
184 Listed projects were discussed.

185  
186 Commissioner Hover suggested a meeting with Chris Johnson, Chris Fischer of CCT, Okanogan  
187 Irrigation District and Chuck Brushwood, to discuss the Bureau of Reclamation moving the  
188 systems and cabins to increase storage in the Conconully reservoirs. Commissioner DeTro  
189 thought the plan included taking out the earthen dam, go down the creek .25 mile where it is rock  
190 to rock then put in a dam for \$60 million price tag. Stream flow restoration project dollars, ARPA  
191 funding for sewer infrastructure, and benefit the fish in the irrigation by increasing storage.  
192 Commissioner Branch will get ahold of Chris Fischer to meeting with the board.

193  
194 *County Projects*

195 STP chip seal is part of our normal program.

196  
197 *Consent Agenda*

198 Engineer Thomson explained everything on the consent agenda that was Public Works.

199  
200 Postponed the meeting with Doug Ralston. Commissioner Hover would like to shoot for next  
201 Monday at noon to meet with him.

202 Fire meeting list on requirement to open Hwy 20 and it did not have a timeframe but it dependent  
203 on what the fire does. It looks like it could be open by next weekend. Mayor of Winthrop expressed  
204 that the road be closed for as long as possible because the services are not open to serve them.  
205 The logic was not understood. It is commerce coming in and out of the county it isn't just Twisp  
206 and Winthrop benefiting or having to deal with the people coming in. Commissioner DeTro stated  
207 fire equipment had to go all the way around because they would not open the highway for them  
208 to come over Hwy 20. Engineer Thomson read what the requirements stated.

### 209 **Approve Consent Agenda**

210 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-5 as presented. Motion was  
211 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 212 1. Cattleguard Renewals: USFS #6-98; Synergize LLC #124-73
- 213 2. Agreement Methow Trails Vaulted Toilet- Closeout
- 214 3. Agreement Reimbursable Work Town of Nespelem
- 215 4. Resolution 92-2021 Twisp River Road
- 216 5. Resolution 93-2021 Aeneas Valley Road

### 217 **Public Comment Period**

218 Karen Harris in person

219 Ms. Harris expressed an opinion about the treatment of Milfoil on Lake Osoyoos with chemicals.  
220 It was said that taking out milfoil is not good for wildlife and fish because of the chemical. There  
221 is a warning on the boat ramp that warned it can cause eye and skin irritation. She said, in Canada,  
222 they use a mechanical means on Milfoil as it does not interrupt the eco systems and aquatic life.  
223 She asked why Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control won't consider something like that to  
224 control Milfoil. Commissioner DeTro explained the mechanical machine breaks up the weed and  
225 it spreads even worse and is one reason the Okanogan County part of the lake has so much  
226 Milfoil. Ms. Harris said the mechanized machine keeps the Milfoil more under control.  
227 Commissioner Hover said the chemical dissipates quickly in the water making the concentration  
228 of the chemical much less irritating on the skin.

229 Commissioner Branch explained a study where he learned impacts to fish due to orchard  
230 chemicals in lakes and streams found that fish had less carcinogen levels than they expected. He  
231 discussed the Corp of Engineers most effective treatment was to go into the water and pull it out.  
232 Some biological means is a snail but there are multiple options however those do not satisfy  
233 people as quickly.

234 Commissioners discussed a letter of support that commits \$30,000 for the TREAD Map in 2022.

### 235 **Motion TREAD MAP Support Letter**

236 Commissioner Hover moved to authorize the support letter regarding TREAD Map and the  
237 county's commitment of \$30,000 for 2022. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### 238 **Public Hearing Supplemental Appropriation Vehicle Reserve Assessor**

239 Commissioner Branch opened up the hearing and asked for staff comment. Larry Gilman was  
240 present to comment. He stated these funds are to provide the needed budget for the purchase of  
241 another vehicle for his department. The bid was over what was budgeted to purchase the vehicle.

242 No public wished to comment. Commissioner Branch closed the hearing to public comment and  
243 opened up to commissioners' discussion.

244

253 **Motion Resolution 94-2021 Budget Supplemental Vehicle Reserve Fund**  
254 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 94-2021 a budget supplemental within the  
255 Vehicle Reserve fund 197 in the amount of \$. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion  
256 carried.

257  
258 **Public Hearing Budget Supplement Appropriation MARC**  
259 Commissioner Branch opened up the hearing asking for staff input. Commissioner Branch opened  
260 the hearing up to the public, hearing no one to comment he closed the hearing to comment and  
261 opened up to commissioners' discussion.

262  
263 Commissioner Hover asked the Clerk what the beginning fund balance was. The Clerk responded  
264 the fund received \$114,729.24 over what was budgeted.

265  
266 **Motion Resolution 95-2021 Budget Supplemental Appropriation**  
267 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 95-2021 a budget supplemental appropriation  
268 within MARC fund 504 in the amount of \$3,000. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion  
269 carried.

270  
271 Commissioners considered the resolution to reinstate the Clerk III position within the  
272 commissioners' office reviewing their requested changes.

273  
274 **Motion Resolution 86-2021 Reinstatement of Clerk III in Commissioners Office**  
275 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 86-2021 authorizing reinstatement of FTE  
276 Clerk III position within the commissioners' office. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion  
277 carried.

278  
279 Commissioners will not be meeting Wednesday, August 4, 2021.

280  
281 The board adjourned at 2:15 p.m.  
282