

1 **RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

2
3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

4
5 **DECEMBER 11, 2017**

6

7 9:00 AM	Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda
8 9:30 AM	Emergency Management – Maurice Goodall
9 10:00 AM	Briefing Among Commissioners
10 11:30 AM	Update – Quarterly Economic Alliance – Roni Holder Deifenbach
11 1:30 PM	Update – Planning – Perry Huston
12 3:00 PM	Public Hearing – Cannabis Operations Moratorium to Consider Extension of Moratorium
13 4:30 PM	Review Meeting Minutes

14

15 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on December 11,
16 2017, Chairman Commissioner Jim DeTro, Commissioner Andy Hover, Commissioner Chris
17 Branch, and Clerk of the Board Laleña Johns, present.

18
19 Commissioners convened at 9:00 a.m.

20
21 Emily Sisson, member of the public, taking hand written notes arrived at 9:40 a.m.

22
23 **Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda**

24
25 **Emergency Management – Maurice Goodall**

26 Emergency Manager Maurice Goodall updated the board on several items. He explained he
27 would like the board to consider paying retirement that would otherwise be due to him if he
28 weren't already retired. He feels it is unfair practice to not receive the retirement funds, he
29 believes the county portion is \$4,900. He believes the previous manager was getting
30 additional consideration. Commissioner Branch replied because he is in the retirement
31 system he doesn't get compensation from the county. He could have those funds put into
32 another program separate from the state. Chief Criminal Deputy wages jumped up to
33 \$68,000 and he believes the board should put retirement funds into another account as
34 compensation due to him. He sees it as an increase in pay or a stipend. Normally the
35 county would pay 12.7% as its portion towards the employee retirement, but since he is
36 already retired he believes that should be provided as part of his compensation.
37 Commissioner Hover stated in PERS 2 our contribution is 12.7% of gross pay. The
38 employee's portion is 7.8%. The employee must participate in the retirement program and
39 the position must work 70 hours or more per month for over five months and that is
40 mandatory retirement therefore the employee must pay into the system. Commissioner
41 Hover stated 7.8% would be the employee's portion paid into the system. Mr. Goodall is
42 asking for 12.7% to be added to his pay because he doesn't get the retirement benefit
43 because he is already retired from the state. Commissioner Branch stated other employees
44 receive the benefit but they are also paying 7.8% and it is taken out of their check. The

45 commissioners discussed the request. The benefit is not a piece of the wage compensation
46 and if the employee chooses not to take the benefit then that is their choice.

47
48 Commissioners discussed the Mazama and Elmway levees as the Corp of Engineer's are
49 meeting tomorrow and Engineer Thomson would like a commissioner to attend.
50 Commissioner Branch will attend.

51
52 **Briefing Among Commissioners**

53 Commissioners discussed their weekly plans.

54
55 Commissioners discussed the well situation at the fairgrounds and suggested that the work
56 be scheduled before February. Underground automatic irrigation sprinklers were discussed
57 as well. The Board would like to put together two separate projects for bid for both the repair
58 of the well and sprinkler system. Commissioner Hover believes a new irrigation system
59 would be much more efficient and would save power and water costs.

60
61 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g)**

62 Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 11:10 a.m. for 20 minutes
63 inviting HR Debi Hilts to discuss the performance of a public employee. Motion was
64 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

65
66 **Update – Quarterly Economic Alliance – Roni Holder Deifenbach**

67 Kurt Danison

68
69 Ms. Holder-Deifenbach provided her quarterly update to the board. (attached)

70
71 January 11 there will be a meeting about what community needs are and connecting
72 farmers and business to retail food chains, government contracting, and co ops. The
73 meetings will be independent meetings with businesses. Economic Alliance will help
74 coordinate those meetings. There are five or six businesses that have registered.

75
76 The 2018 executive committee was voted in during the last Economic Alliance Meeting. Mr.
77 Danison will still participate and represent the cities. George Brady, Cascade Biologicals,
78 was voted in as board chair and Lalena Johns as vice chair.

79
80 Ms. Deifenbach explained the North Central Washington Business fund was absorbed into
81 Craft 3. The state used to do lending through USDA and Commerce with regional contacts
82 for small business lending. What they did was go into partnership with Craft 3 to provide
83 nontraditional loan funds. Merging with Craft 3 opened the door for larger resources to be
84 available. Craft 3 has 22 million available to deliver community facilities loans. Craft 3 'at a
85 GLANCE' issue 2 was provided with Craft 3 information. Economic Alliance uses Craft 3 as

86 a secondary lending choice when traditional funding is not available to them. The interest
87 rates are a bit higher due to being a higher risk.

88
89 Ms. Holder Deifenbach discussed the cannabis industry and the need for more information
90 about how many work at each farm, what products stay here, what products are shipped,
91 worker wages, does the company lease or own property, and what are the facts that impact
92 our local industry etc..... She hopes to put together a survey to pull all the information
93 together. She will share the data with the board and marijuana advisory committee.

94
95 Shopping locally and providing good customer service to those who come to your business.

96
97 Ms. Deifenbach explained a meeting about apprenticeship programs which generated a lot
98 of interest. The Governor opened up some funding and North Central Region Okanogan
99 County Skill Source area received \$854,000 which will go into apprenticeship programs and
100 career and technical programs with contacts in the school that help identify student's
101 interests. In January, the committee will convene to discuss what programs occupations it
102 has identified that Okanogan County will go with.

103
104 **Update – Planning – Perry Huston**

105 DPA David Gecas,
106 Members of the public Lorah Super, Emily Sisson

107
108 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)**

109 Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 1:40 p.m. for 30 minutes
110 inviting attorney David Gecas and Planning Director Perry Huston to discuss legal matters
111 to which the county may be a party. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

112
113 Executive session ended at 2:10 p.m. no decisions were made.

114
115 Commissioners discussed the open Planning Commission positions.

116
117 **Motion Planning Commission Appointment At Large**

118 Commissioner Branch moved to appoint George Thornton to the At Large position on the
119 Planning Commission filling the open position. Commissioner Hover asked why George
120 over James? Commissioner Branch believes he is well respected, knowledgeable about the
121 topics, and comes to meetings. Commissioner Hover asked if he is the best candidate?
122 Yes, replied Commissioner Branch said he has worked with him on several projects,
123 knowledge of forest and north county issues. Commissioner DeTro said Mr. Thornton had a
124 separate discussion with him about the administrative action. Motion was seconded, all
125 were in favor, motion carried. The Clerk of the Board will prepare the appointment letter for
126 subsequent approval.

127

128 David Gecas came in at 2:25 p.m. and he provided the agreement with Ms. Voelkers
129 schedule works today.

130

131 **Motion Settlement Agreement Yakama Nations Hume Water Availability**

132 Commissioner Hover moved to sign the settlement agreement with the Yakama Nation
133 regarding the Hume water availability certificate. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
134 motion carried.

135

136 Director Huston discussed the Comprehensive Plan section to be revised.

137

138 *OCC 20*

139 Director Huston discussed the parcel data within closed basins and the comments received.
140 We were not creating a study area. The Planning Commission did review the Capital
141 Improvement plan. The dike repairs in the plan should have expanded effort to look at all
142 the dikes. The commission supported all the projects on the plan.

143

144 Director Huston explained the areas used for the basis of a decision. He showed how a
145 determination would be tied to a tributary. Commissioners discussed the various issues they
146 would like to look at. The county chief deputy prosecutor would need to be consulted.

147

148

149 **Public Hearing – Cannabis Operations Moratorium to Consider Extension of**
150 **Moratorium**

151 Rocky King

152 Ten members of the public. A sign in sheet was at the door.

153

154 The Clerk turned the audio recorder on.

155

156 Commissioner DeTro opened the hearing up stating this is a continued hearing from June
157 26, 2017 for consideration of the Cannabis Operations Moratorium. He opened up to staff.

158

159 Director Huston explained this is the six month review. The commissioners imposed
160 resolution 103-2017 imposing the moratorium. A Subsequent public hearing was held and
161 the board imposed resolution 145-2017 which continued the moratorium to December 26,
162 2017 and amended the terms of the moratorium with retail sales and definition of grow
163 operations language. The commissioners formed a marijuana advisory committee and they
164 met weekly for 8 weeks but have no proposal to present today.

165

166 Should the board extend the moratorium for another 6 months, direct staff to prepare a
167 resolution repealing the moratorium, direct staff to prepare a resolution extending the
168 moratorium, or prepare an ordinance adopting the interim controls.

169

170 Commissioner DeTro asked for public testimony calling from the sign in sheet.

171
172 John Rolette Is an investor of Lazy Bee in the Methow Valley. He thanked the board for
173 putting together the advisory committee. He stated he wants to make sure this is an
174 agricultural product like cows, orchard, and other agriculture product. He believes it just
175 smells for a couple weeks. He thanked the board for extending the grandfathered
176 businesses. Hemp can be a cross pollinator for marijuana and could cause problems if that
177 happens. He recommended separate between the hemp and marijuana. Thoughtful of the
178 businesses already happening so no business is harmed.

179
180 Terry Taylor owns a couple grows Okanogan Gold, and leases out property for other
181 operations. He was exempt from the first moratorium. If the county continues the
182 moratorium they will lose a sale for the land. The only time they burned was when they had
183 mites and the burn was authorized by the WSLCB. If the moratorium continues there will be
184 more growth. They will bring in 30 temp jobs, and about 10-15 permanent. They are willing
185 to mitigate the issues, and waiting for the county to lift it. There will be a trigger reaction to
186 the economy when they take their business elsewhere. There is more behind the
187 moratorium than just the things the county is working on.

188
189 Dave Sorenson Winthrop owns Processing Company Sun Industry Org, and Advisory
190 Panel. Include industry hemp to give time to address the interactions with marijuana. Do not
191 extend it out another 6 month, please extend it 2 months until recommendations are
192 submitted. The advisory committee believes they are very close to a recommendation.

193
194 Kurt Bail farm in Tonasket. He knows the moratorium was enacted. He is okay with the
195 moratorium as long as the county doesn't prohibit completely. The county wishes to create
196 guidelines. He is all for the guidelines as he wouldn't want to live or drive by some of the
197 grows currently in place and he would like to see the moratorium stay in place to provide
198 time to sort some of the concerns out.

199
200 Director Huston discussed the interim controls process and amendments. It is the advisory
201 committee's objective to come up with a package of interim controls which would be
202 considered by the board. Commissioner Hover explained he facilitated the advisory
203 committee meeting and he felt there was good discussions. There are a couple issues that
204 are coming down the pipe though. He believes the board could approve extending the
205 moratorium another six months and if the advisory committee comes up with a good
206 document with interim controls before then, the board can rescind the moratorium at that
207 time then adopt the controls.

208
209 Director Huston stated what would need to happen for the individual options and repeal.

210
211 **Motion Marijuana Operations Moratorium**

212 Commissioner Branch moved to continue the moratorium to March 5, 2017. Commissioner
213 Branch amended his motion to direct staff to prepare the resolution to adopt extension of
214 the moratorium to March 5, 2017. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

215

216 Director Huston provided the board with his application status report showing the number of
217 different applications processed from 2015-2017. Water availability certificates were
218 discussed.

219

220 **Review Meeting Minutes**

221

222 Commissioners discussed the two 2018 lobbyist agreements with Robert Weidner and Jim
223 Potts and Associates. The commissioners believe there is a good benefit to the services
224 they provide and the board does individually utilize them during legislative session.

225

226 Spence King came in to discuss the WATV routes the board recently considered opening.

227

228 The commissioners discussed maintenance employees plowing the three courthouse
229 complex parking lots once fairgrounds budget is under Current Expense so the plow and
230 plow truck can be utilized and maintenance crews can work both fairgrounds and complex
231 maintenance issues. .

232

233 Commissioners adjourned for the day at 4:30 p.m.

234