

1 **RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

2
3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

4
5 **DECEMBER 18, 2018**
6

7
8 9:00 AM Staff Meeting
9 10:00 AM Finance Committee Meeting – Treasurer Leah McCormack
10 11:00 AM Luncheon–Will Keller County Homeless Shelter–Okanogan Will Keller Church, 504 4th
11 Ave S Okanogan
12 1:30 PM Citizens Comment Period
13 2:00 PM Update Public Works-Engineer Thomson, Admin Officer Rough
14 3:00 PM Update Human Resources/Risk Management - Debi Hilts, Tanya Craig
15 3:30 PM Discussion – Youth Homelessness – Caitlin Cordell, Adrienne Moore, Room One
16 4:30 PM Approve Consent Agenda
17

18 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners’ met for its regular session on December
19 18, 2018, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chair Commissioner Chris
20 Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover; and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board,
21 present.

22
23 George Thornton, member of the public, took handwritten notes for Okanogan Watch
24 Group.

25
26 George Thornton provided letters of interest from Ernie Rasmussen, Okanogan; and
27 Marcus Alden, Oroville to serve TV District #1 board of directors.
28

29 **Staff Meeting**

30 David Gecas, Joe Poulin, Perry Huston and Stella Columbia were present
31

32 Attorney Gecas updated the board on cases and legal matters he is attending to. He is
33 assisting Public Works Admin Officer Ben Rough on some delinquent policy issues he is
34 considering for Solid Waste. There is an RCW that gives the commissioners’ authority over
35 that so it will need to run through the board.
36

37 Public Works wishes to provide/rent some small space to the state auditor office, so
38 Attorney Gecas and Public Works staff is working on the details.
39

40 Attorney Gecas mentioned he has helped with the discussion on exempt employee
41 changes. He said the meeting helped clear some confusion up because what was
42 discussed in the meeting minutes was a bit different than what actually happened so the
43 meeting helped clear that up.
44

45 Stella Columbia said she invited Wenatchee Valley College employees to the county’s staff
46 meeting as they wish to request a waiver for an event in the Agriplex January 26th to put on
47 a roller skating derby event to include bouncy houses that will be open to students, friends
48 and family. There would be a \$3 charge which some goes to the homeless shelter and

49 some to offset the cost of the event. Additionally the group is collecting canned food goods
50 for the food bank. Attorney Gecas will look into how this event can be done.

51
52 Director Huston explained his concern about charging people to attend the event. Alivia
53 Mallard explained the rules of the college and the requirement to charge for events, but the
54 main focus is the homeless shelter. He asked if all the money collected goes to Homeless.
55 The college cannot use all the funds collected for homeless some funds are kept to offset
56 the cost of the event. The group will need to carry liability insurance and will need to turn in
57 proof with contract. The spokesman stated people also sign a liability waiver. The
58 commissioners' will have an answer by Monday, December 24. Email addresses were
59 collected for the answer.

60
61 Joe Poulin updated the board the Facility Dude program presentation planned for the
62 Department Head meeting. He said there are only a couple people who do not like using the
63 maintenance request form, yet they expect their request to be answered quickly. Requests
64 are attended to more quickly when the Dude is used. The Dude creates significant
65 efficiencies within the department.

66
67 Commissioner Hover explained his need for additional reasons and value for making the
68 changes to the department in terms of promoting staff. Commissioner Branch said there is a
69 need to justify the decision so when the board is questioned about it they can give the
70 reasons and avoid a headache later. The commissioners' see value in the employee
71 attending the training but would like to consider fully funding either the training or the
72 promotion one or the other not both. Mr. Poulin will complete the draft resolution for
73 commissioners' consideration.

74
75 Director Huston explained some complication within the county itself in terms of getting the
76 CERB grants for Broadband Infrastructure. He suggested subbing it out. Director Huston
77 talked with Janae about the CERB grant projects, she told him what they are looking for.
78 Shovel ready projects, job creation and job retention are a couple things they are looking
79 for. Commissioner Hover explained many schools provide parent access to their child's
80 school account, many require Chromebooks to be able to access the internet at home and
81 at school in order to complete homework, submit homework, get assignments, and see
82 grade status and are interrelated. Commissioner Branch said what has been discussed is
83 still being looked at. The needs of the people in the area to be served, getting information
84 out to people about things that affect them, ability to work from home using computer, and
85 any planning grant would be need based and application should articulate the details of the
86 need. CERB wants to fund the applications, but we cannot get there because we cannot
87 produce the documents to get us there. Economic Development Zones are part of the
88 bigger picture. Commissioner Hover will discuss the issues further with the group, but if we
89 do it, it will be a county wide effort with the whole system to be considered.

90
91 George Thornton explained the difficulties in alluring good quality workforce and keeping
92 them here. The schools and medical communities struggle to keep quality workers. Growing
93 telemedicine is a growing product. Commissioner Hover replied it would be interesting to
94 know who provides the internet services for the Hospitals, then find out what the limiting
95 factors are. Mobile health units will need internet access in the rural areas of the county.

96
97 Director Huston mentioned that Mike Worden contacted him about the EMS districts.

98 **CANCELLED Finance Committee Meeting – Treasurer Leah McCormack**

99 Cari Hall came to this meeting instead of the finance committee because Treasurer
100 McCormack was absent today. She asked if the board had any questions. She explained
101 the carry over may be close to projected. The
102

103 Cari Hall explained the last items to be finalized will be in hand either this week or next. She
104 requested a commissioner sit on her interview panel for her position and for another. She
105 updated the board on other recruitments for vacancies.
106

107 Commissioners' adjourned for the luncheon at 10:35 a.m. at the Will Keller Church
108 Homeless Shelter.
109

110 **Luncheon–Will Keller County Homeless Shelter–Okanogan**

111 Commissioners' attended the luncheon at the Will Keller Church, 504 4th Ave S Okanogan.
112

113 **Citizens Comment Period**

114 George Thornton, representing TV District #1 updated the commissioner about the district.
115 Commissioner Hover stated the board is in favor of keeping the TV District in tact that
116 actually serves the district. The other two director feel strongly about the ownership of the
117 Pickens site. They understand the district may become a shell only passing through the
118 resources to a sub-contractor. He doesn't feel Pickens is fully worked out yet and should be
119 discussed further. The second item is there is a level of concern over being taken
120 advantage of and is probably something that can be worked out. Serving the public is a
121 huge concern. There is also potential opportunity to expand the services.
122

123 The District had the position there was a second FCC broadcast license but perhaps it was
124 picked up by KSPS for Chelan. They are looking for documentation and back records to
125 confirm. Commissioner Hover said Mike Worden might be a good resource to help figure
126 out the history and pieces. If the county owned the site we could put some funds into the
127 infrastructure there, TV would keep the revenue from their deal, and the county could keep
128 the revenue for its deal separate from the district.
129

130 Mr. Thornton said the two requesting appointment Ernie Rasmussen and Marcus Allen
131 attended the last TV District meeting.
132

133 Commissioner Hover left at 2:05 p.m. to attend union negotiations.
134

135 **Update Public Works-Engineer Thomson, Admin Officer Rough**

136
137 Admin Officer Ben Rough provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there.
138

139 Mr. Rough discussed SWAC appointment letters and letters of interest. Joaquin was
140 contacted and the appointment SWAC process described. He was told a formal letter from
141 the tribe would be needed to consider appointment. Mr. Rough explained the SWAC by-
142 laws state the SWAC appointments are to be three year terms. Right now the terms are not
143 three year terms. In order to create staggering of the appointments members would need to
144 be reappointed to the three year term, but SWAC Brady would be two year. Commissioner
145 Branch is in favor of considering the staggering needed to come into compliance with the
146 three year terms.

147 *SWAC Expenses*
148 SWAC expenses were discussed. Mr. Rough said travel costs for SWAC, mileage for
149 SWAC business which is different from meeting costs, under SWAC business mileage,
150 registrations, etc.... but he wants to know from the Board which costs should be updated in
151 the by-laws and would be reimbursed. Commissioner Branch discussed staff support costs
152 and asked if those were established in the by-laws.

153
154 *Apple maggot update*
155 Not much green waste has been received, only half a bin. There has been no need to
156 transport right now. It will pick up in the spring. Education is going to be necessary to help
157 people know what to do with it.

158
159 *Leachate Pond update*
160 This has been the best result ever seen. He updated the board on the levels of each
161 leachate pond. This time last year we had to pump it out of the really full ponds. The
162 evaporation and hauling of leachate last year made a lot of progress in reducing the pond
163 which was a surprise since there was so much smoke.

164
165 *Solid Waste Conditional Use Permit*
166 Mr. Rough discussed the Solid Waste Conditional Use Permit. He stated it was good to
167 hear how others handle it. The tipping fees, discovery of hauling to and from another
168 county, tribe knows we are working on the issues. No one has heard anything recently on
169 the tipping fees. The next meeting will be after the first, and Commissioner Branch said he
170 has yet to learn the date.

171
172 Public Works Engineer Josh Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the items listed
173 there.

174
175 *Computer Network*
176 Mr. Rough stated NCI and Central Services is working on internet for the public works
177 building. Tenants will need to pay their portion of the costs. Does the board want to consider
178 how WSU extension office would pay their portion and how the commissioners' would like to
179 address that since the county pays WSU rent per the agreement.

180
181 *Maintenance & Road Conditions*
182 Snow and the Sinlahekin Rd Culvert were the bulk of the overtime.

183
184 A cattle guard removal was discussed. Maintenance of a cattle guard on Hardy Road was
185 discussed to solve the issue Albert Wilson brought up.

186
187 Engineer Thomson asked how the board wished to handle his office closing at 2:00 p.m. on
188 Christmas Eve.

189
190 **Motion Public Works Closing Early December 24, 2018**
191 Commissioner Branch moved to allow the Public Works Department to close at 2:00 p.m.
192 on Christmas Eve, employees can use their leave if they wish to leave early. Motion was
193 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

194

195 Engineer Thomson explained the Similkameen trail should be inspected again after last
196 year's issue. The PUD has asked that that bridge be added to the inspection schedule. The
197 collection of .5% motor fuel tax goes into the Paths & Trails fund which is then transferred to
198 the road fund for compensate grooming shoulders on the transportation trails.

199
200 **CANCELLED Update Human Resources/Risk Management – Debi Hilts, Tanya Craig**
201 Ms. Hilts cancelled the meeting via email today due to other business that needed to be
202 attended to.

203

204 **Approve Consent Agenda**

205 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the consent agenda items 2-8 excluding
206 item #1. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

207 ~~1. Commissioners' Proceedings December 10 and 11, 2018~~

- 208 2. Appointment Letter – SWAC – Darby McNeil
- 209 3. Reappointment Letter – SWAC – Stan Carter
- 210 4. Bib Award – Public Works - Supply of Motor Fuel – CO-Energy
- 211 5. Bib Award – Public Works - Supply of Motor Fuel – Coleman Oil
- 212 6. Bib Award – Public Works - Supply of Motor Fuel – Whitley Fuel
- 213 7. Bid Award – Public Works – Supply of Lubricants – CO-Energy
- 214 8. CDBG Public Services Grant Request #3-Community Action Council

215

216 **Motion 2019 Lobbyist Contract Robert Weidner**

217 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the 2019 lobbyist agreement with the Evergreen
218 Forest County Group, Robert Weidner, for his lobby services in the amount of \$7500.
219 Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

220

221 **Motion Resolution 148-2018 Creation of Systems Administrator Position**

222 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 148-2018 which creates a Systems
223 Administrator position in the non-bargaining pay scale and reclassifies Steve Rowe to the
224 Systems Administrator position effective January 1, 2019. Motion was seconded, all were in
225 favor, motion carried.

226

227 **Motion Resolution 149-2018 Reclassifying Network Analyst**

228 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 149-2018 reclassifying the position of
229 Network Analyst from grade 27 to grade 36. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion
230 carried.

231

232 **Motion Resolution 150-2018 Reclassifying Senior Communications Technician**

233 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 150-2018 reclassifying Senior
234 Communications Technician from grade 27 to grade 36 effective January 1, 2019. Motion
235 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

236

237 **Motion Resolution 151-2018 Reclassifying Systems Administrator to Exempt**

238 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 151-2018 reclassifying Systems
239 Administrator to exempt employee status. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion
240 carried.

241

242

243

244 **Motion Appointment Letter-Fair Advisory Committee Position #10 Williams**
245 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the appointment letter of Kirsten Williams to
246 position #10 on the Fair Advisory Committee. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
247 motion carried.

248
249 **Motion-Agreement Prosecutor's & District Court AFSME Union**
250 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the agreement by and between Okanogan County
251 Prosecutor's Office, District Court, and American Federation of State, County, and
252 Municipal Employees AFL-CIO beginning January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020.
253 Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

254
255 **Motion CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Request # 18 OCCAC**
256 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the OCCAC CDBG Housing Rehab request #18
257 and authorized the chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried
258

259 **Motion Resolution 153-2018 Requiring Employees to Back \$12.50 per Pay Period**
260 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 153-2018 requiring employees within
261 certain union groups to pay back the county \$12.50 per pay period for the preceding 9
262 months because the agreed upon medical cap amount was not adjusted to be paid
263 accordingly by the employees through payroll deductions. Motion was seconded, all were in
264 favor, motion carried

265
266 **Discussion – Youth Homelessness – Caitlin Cordell, Adrienne Moore, Room One**
267 Leann and Alana were also present. Sr. Clerk Kelly Ross for Lanie Johns, Clerk of the
268 Board.

269
270 Ms. Moore distributed an executive summary of findings and a recommendation for a
271 Proposed Okanogan County Youth Homelessness Action Plan.

272
273 Ms. Moore stated Room One is into the third year of a five year grant.

274
275 Commissioner Branch asked if you're under 18 do you have to get into trouble before there
276 is help. Where do they send them after getting into trouble? Ms. Caitlin stated Washington
277 State has the highest rate of juveniles in detention with crimes related to homeless. Leonne
278 said the older they are the harder it is to get them to stay put.

279
280 There are zero beds for kids under the age of 18 in Okanogan County. When all of the data
281 is added up there are 92 homeless minors per year, with 50-100 kids needing help a year.

282
283 Ethnic groups are more likely to be homeless. Men will go to a shelter where women go to a
284 friend or family member. Many are living in an unsafe place or couch surfing.

285
286 Ms. Cordell said there is a lot of financial support from the state. They meet monthly with
287 The Collation and Kittitas, Adams and Grant counties.

288
289
290
291

292 Okanogan County could stop homelessness with everything we are doing. There is over 23
293 million dollars available through HUD and we could get some of the money. We could get it
294 year after year as long as we are showing progress. This issue is nationwide not just
295 Okanogan County.

296
297 Ms. Moore said they have a donation to help build a shelter. A study will be done to see
298 where the best fit for a shelter is. She said they will need support from the county.
299 Commissioner Branch supports the effort, but the money is not there. We need a long term
300 plan and the money to carry it out.

301
302
303 The board adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

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305
306
307
308
309 Dated at Okanogan, Washington this 31 day of December 2018.

310 **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'**
311 **OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON**

312
313
314
315 _____
316 Jim DeTro, Chairman

317 _____
318 Chris Branch, Member

319 **ATTEST:**

320 _____
321 Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board

320 _____
321 Andy Hover, Member