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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

DECEMBER 5, 2022

9:00 AM Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda
9:05 AM Briefing Among Commissioners – Discuss Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedule
9:15 AM Public Comment Period
9:30 AM Commissioners Staff Meeting
10:30 AM Public Hearing 2023 County Budget – County Commissioners

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a regular meeting at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on December 5, 2022 with Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro; and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

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

Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda

Commissioners reviewed Fire District #6 request for additional ARPA funds to pay for fire station and training center project cost overruns in the amount of \$251,073.58. (attached) The interlocal agreement for the Mazama Hydrant project (\$75,000) is on the commissioners' consent agenda.

Briefing Among Commissioners – Discuss Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedule

Commissioners discussed their individual meetings attended.

Public Comment Period

Emily Sisson explained her concern about Commissioner Hover's possible wavering about the amount of funds to allocate to Fire District #6 for fire hall cost over runs. She felt his comment was upsetting to those served by the district. She stated the ARPA funds request are meant for this type of cost.

Miles Milliken with OCFD6LT commented that this has been a topic of a lot of discussion by those the station serves and by all fire fighters in the county. 69% of the voters voted to approve the levy lift and all funds were in place at the time. Due to COVID the project costs nearly doubled. What information is needed and why has it taken so long to be funded. Urged the BOCC to approve the. Paul Sisson urged commissioners to read the letter he sent regarding the ARPA fund request by Fire District #6. (attached) He was highly in favor of the county using its ARPA funds on the cost overruns.

Commissioner Hover discussed the request of fire district #6. The fire hall is important to the community. It protects a lot of assets. The other thing is as commissioners for the whole county and its hard when there are other fire districts that don't have what they need. Could a county take its general fund and spend it on a capital expenditure that isn't owned by the county? We've taken the ARPA fund and said we are taking it for general government services.

Commissioners hope to discuss further once the board reviews their spreadsheet. Commissioner Hover will discuss with the Auditor.

52 **Commissioners Staff Meeting**

53 Planning Direct Pete Palmer provided her staff report. She reported on the meeting with Oneza,
54 the consultant. She would like to share what comes out of the stipulation order as far as what the
55 Yakama's are proposing, and in addition to that send comments the Yakama had sent in the past.
56 In moving forward Yakama will provide Oneza what they proposed on water uses. They agreed
57 to submit by February 1. Stipulate that this is a public process and who would be invited to the
58 process. Comments would be taken into consideration with BOCC having the final.

59
60 Methow Watershed Foundation is asking to purchase a new computer for Sara. Adjustment to
61 the contract for 90% cost reimbursement for the computer. There was about \$1280 unspent and
62 have a remaining balance that shows unused.

63
64 Fairgrounds manager, Naomie Peasley provided her staff report. Issues with leakage in the
65 Agriplex as well as frozen doors. She is concerned about the insulation and drywall damage from
66 the years of water damage. Recently had heaters go out, cascade Mechanical was called to fix
67 both heater coils and motors and now running well. Not open in January due to floor replacement
68 projects.

69
70 Commissioner Hover asked if quarterly report was getting completed. Yes.

71
72 Emergency Manager, Maurice Goodall provided a staff report. He explained some items he
73 needed clarification of in his budget. He discussed overtime hours on a daily basis when work is
74 over 8 hours per day. A resolution would be needed to memorialize. Commissioner Hover asked
75 him to work with HR on the resolution. Mr. Goodall said he would like to see a sign or light that
76 shows AV Capture recording is on. Commissioner Hover responded that the only time it is on is
77 during a regular or special meeting and it is turned off for recess and adjournment. An automatic
78 light would be helpful whenever the system is recording.

79
80 A sign will be posted stating Anytime commissioners are in session, the system is recording.
81 Commissioner Hover stated his preference is to continue using Zoom over TEAMS once the
82 county goes to Windows 365.

83
84 **Public Hearing 2023 County Budget – County Commissioners**

85 Auditor Cari Hall, Finance Manager Lisa Schreckengost, Maurice Goodall, several attending via
86 zoom

87
88 Commissioner Hover opened up the hearing. He went over the funds spreadsheet noting the
89 completed green tabs. The budget is good for those funds and when it comes time to approve the
90 budget those will be the numbers adopted unless in the midst of the hearing a department head
91 asks for a change the board wants to do.

92
93 Mr. Goodall requested an adjustment to his draft budget within Fund 121. The group discussed
94 and made the changes to the grant section and added some line items for wages and benefits.

95
96 Commissioners added \$5000 for Fairgrounds request for de-thatcher, dumpsters, garbage cans,
97 irrigation system for trees and around track, and new door locks for RV park bathrooms.
98 Commissioners reviewed the fair budget, with Commissioner Branch wanting to discuss fair
99 management further at a later date.

100
101 The Capital Improvement fund was reviewed and final adjustments considered. The section with
102 the GO bond budget was adjusted to place the budget in the GO Bond fund.

103 The group discussed vehicle transfers for the various departments.
104
105 The group recessed for lunch and will return at 1:34 p.m.
106 Commissioner DeTro did not return for the afternoon discussion.
107
108 The group continued going through the draft 2023 budget adjusting along the way.
109
110 The board adjourned at 2:51 p.m.
111