

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS****OKANOGAN COUNTY****APRIL 23, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April , 2019, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

8:40 a.m. George Thornton, member of Okanogan Watch taking hand written notes.

**Discussion - Therapeutic Courts – Judge Rawson, Judge Culp & Dennis Rabidou**  
Risk Manager Tanya Craig was present.

Judge Rawson explained the courts staffing request because Mr. Rick Skilwal has left a vacancy in the Juvenile Department. With the vacancy the courts have been thinking about the current arrangement between OBHC and the courts for coordination of Therapeutic Courts.

Judge Rawson explained the need to discuss Therapeutic Courts. Mr. Rick Skilwahl is no longer in the Juvenile department but this situation has given the court some time to think about the services provided and the current arrangements between the county and OBHC. They would like to discuss the relations between treatment and court in order to better resolve some concerns. The Judges would like to restructure the therapeutic court. Commissioner Hover asked if the Prosecutor was involved. Judge Rawson explained Felicia Chandler has been consulted but not Prosecutor Noma. Commissioner Hover thought the prosecutor would reach out with some thoughts on this matter to the Judges. Mr. Rabidou said part of what they are talking about today is making their court more efficient. The family treatment program, but with treatment service manager leaving the opportunity came up to address the growing need for more capacity of court staff overseeing the programs. Looking at the position that is normally grade 29 but with the additional responsibility he would like it to be an administrative position at grade 31. The position isn't funded from Current Expense, so there would be no impact there. Fund 143 would pay for the staffing changes.

He suggested filling two positions using sales tax money with one being therapeutic courts coordinator overseeing those functions. Sales Tax Oversight Committee (STOC) statute that authorized collection of the tax we must have a family treatment court, which we do have in a sense. The truth is it isn't functioning as is and needs to be more robust. This is an opportunity to expand this function. Fill Therapeutic Court Coordinator position using the funds currently funded. It will increase accountability, and have the position in therapeutic courts. Judge Culp feels responsible for having someone in the coordinator position when previous OBHC executive made that suggestion, he recognizes now that a court staff coordinator person is needed.

Judge Rawson said there were ongoing discussions with Skip Rosenthal, previous OBHC executive. At that time the courts wanted to oversee the program, but did not have the capacity. He explained how this evolved at the time. It gives the court an employee who can gather information needed by the court that wouldn't otherwise have been provided.

There are two employees funded by sales tax dollars but there is frustration about what they exactly do. Judge Rawson would like someone outside of OBHC who can work with community, law enforcement, and participate in searches. Judge Rawson said the courts is operating on a lack of information and is very frustrated.

When Roger Bauer was OBHC executive there was more coordination between OBHC and the courts to address these concerns, but he retired and things have been handled differently. The courts should

also have a case manager too.

Tanya Craig asked about the coordinator, and a concern about reviewing OBHC invoices to ensure the costs are appropriate and in alignment with services under the listed RCW uses. Commissioner Hover asked which programs the coordinator would be responsible for. Mr. Rabidou had a draft job description which he read from.

CJTA funds are State money that is used for treatment services that in the past OBHC received. Now the county is administering the funds to OBHC. Judge Culp believed OBHC should share those funds. Commissioner Branch asked how that would change the effects of treatment and wondered if we shift it away from OBHC putting that shift on Therapeutic Courts. Mr. Rabidou did not believe there would be much of a shift. Ms. Craig said she has an issue where UA's are charged to CJTA but she doesn't know if the same UA's are being charged to Therapeutic Courts.

The contract between the county and OBHC should provide for the type of oversight the county needs to ensure proper use of the funds. Judge Culp said in the past the contract rubber stamped the contract. The board is now more involved, asking questions and it is a new day and he feels there will be an increase in accountability.

Mr. Rabidou said they are here today to figure out if the Therapeutic Court Coordinator role can be filled by one person for the. Having one person right now would be a really good start. This would increase the county's accountability too. Judge Rawson discussed the grant opportunities that the coordinator would work on. What is the end result on OBHC's end, what is measurable? Commissioners asked that the job description and resolution for the coordinator be run through HR.

#### **Update – Commissioners' Staff**

David Gecas, Stella Columbia and Perry Huston were present.

Attorney Gecas explained some land use issues he is handling. He said the easement issue was discussed as a resolve of the issue by the land owners Engineer Thomson and Attorney Gecas.

Ms. Columbia introduced her new temporary office person, Scott. She said the billboard she has been working on would be within the city limits, so a permit may be needed.

Now that the trees are leafing out the fairgrounds internet has not been working well. She contacted Central Services about what can be done. She was told it would cost around \$3,000 to resolve without cutting the trees down.

The inside racetrack railing is out and work will begin on the installation. Vintage Faire is this weekend and that group was very happy with the venue.

Director Huston said the Planning Commission met last night and they are looking at the comp plan to outline the issues. The nightly rental letters went out are getting some responses. Coordination and timing with Public Health still needs to be worked out.

#### **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)**

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:40 a.m. for 20 minutes inviting David Gecas and Perry Huston to discuss pending litigation which the county is involved in. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners extended executive session at 10:00 a.m. for another 10 minutes.

Commissioners extended executive session at 10:10 a.m. for another 10 minutes.

Commissioners extended executive session at 10:20 a.m. for another 10 minutes.

Executive session ended at 10:30 a.m. no decisions were made.

### **Update Potts and Associates Legislative**

Continued from yesterday due to telephone issues.

Mr. Kennedy provided the legislative update. The legislators are having trouble making ends meets is on the revenue package, so for now there is very little to report on. Most of discussions happening now are behind closed doors. It comes down to how implementation of taxes will be handled. There is a lot of pressure from the Governor on carbon tax, cap and trade initiative because he is running for president on the clean energy ticket. We just don't know what clean will look like right now. It will be an interesting week. Mr. Kennedy said they are supporting the WSAC agenda to raise awareness of the financial position of smaller counties.

Commissioners did not have specific issues to be questioned. Commissioner DeTro discussed the Wildfire meeting he will attend in Olympia tomorrow at 10:00. The lobbyists will meet with him before that time.

### **Update - Human Resources/Risk Management – Tanya Craig and/or Debi Hilts**

Central Services Director Randy Clough joined this update to inform the commissioners about the internet issues at the fairgrounds. Ms. Craig invited him to discuss his retirement transition within the Central Services Dept. as well.

Mr. Clough explained his plan because his house here in Okanogan County sold. He has already moved everything to his new residence in Goldendale. He is trying to figure out how to transition from here to there during this time. He has a lot of vacation time built up that can be used up or paid out. He is also trying to use up all his exempt leave so there will only be about 40 days of leave to be used. He is thinking December 5 will be his last official day, but he does intend to use up his annual leave.

It will take time to recruit for his position. Someone is needed by August 1 for training and orientation so Mr. Clough's last day would most likely at the end of September. There are options for filling the position, said Ms. Craig. She explained the specialties the current staff is best at. We will need a network person to fill the role of the staff person leaving. Ms. Beaty is interested in the director position and is capable of handling the responsibilities. Ms. Craig explained the process taken by the county when the previous director was hired in another town. Central Services is also involved with all the wireless connectivity to outside agencies for subrogating networks to avoid collision. So someone with that knowledge would be desirable.

Commissioner Hover thought we would advertise for the network person, then advertise the director position in-house. Commissioner Branch wondered if internally the director position would also perform duties according to their skill level in addition to the director position responsibilities. He agreed with that approach suggested by Commissioner Hover.

Because he will be required to travel a great distance between his job here and his house in Goldendale, he requested the commissioners consider leaving on Thursday's and returning Monday. He can still cover most things remotely. Commissioners reminded him he is an exempt employee. Commissioners were "okay" with rearranging his schedule.

Director Clough provided his resignation to Tanya Craig.

### **Update Public Works – Engineer Josh Thomson**

Tanya Craig was present.

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

Commissioner DeTro discussed the M-2 truck driver that recently resigned. He knows the person that left and he is one of the most qualified truck driver person for the job and he had a conversation with him about leaving. Commissioner DeTro feels that whomever is hired in the position should also be able to operate a manual transmission. Engineer Thomson replied that most trucks are automatic now, but the M-2 position has more duties assigned to it besides driving that the person filling that position is responsible for. Commissioner DeTro said in the past we would get 40 applications for a truck driver and now we get less than half. He suggested using a pool to select the person from in order to improve the process and ensure the person hired can operate both a manual and an automatic transmission. Commissioner Hover explained that in order to receive a CDL you do not have to show you can drive a manual transmission. It is a preferred skill.

Engineer Thomson explained a training program established by another county in order to train the drivers with the requirement they work no less than three years for the county. He would like to move in that direction. Right now we have the training program, but not for temps. The program of Adams County meets the training requirements for this type of work.

#### *Maintenance & Road Conditions*

Green Lake Rd still has water over the road so it is closed.

GH Green Rd is still closed.

Part of Paradise Hill

Additional road restrictions were relayed.

#### *Network connection*

It looks like the contract is moving forward, but it has not been fully executed yet. The temporary internet solution has been working well.

#### *Office Manger position status*

Additional interviews will be held for this position.

#### *WATV Routes*

The Bill was not passed. Commissioner DeTro said they were trying to change the definition of "rural". Move forward with the delineators.

#### *Edelweiss Sewer System*

Force main needs to be replaced. The money for this won't be transferred. The county tried in the past to transfer the system to the home owners. Public Works Trust Fund loan is being reviewed for application in July. A tight timeline is involved to get it done by fall. Emergency declaration would be needed otherwise and the commissioners were not in favor of that with this type of issue. There is appears to be no evidence of leaking or cracking, said Engineer Thomson.

#### *STP Funding meeting 4/18*

Engineer Thomson attended the STP funding meeting last week. There are lots of projects in the works. Discussed changing the types of projects allowed, because as it is they do not progress. There are many steps to be accomplished. Overlays and simple projects is what we'll have to do.

#### *Consent Agenda*

Engineer Thomson asked if the board had questions about the listed action items shown on the consent agenda. He explained each item listed and provided details of the action needed.

Commissioner Hover asked how much the rental fee would be for the county Public Works rock screen if it were used for the track and arena material. It would be nice to go down 4-6 inches and run the dirt through the screen and then add the additional sand to be laid down.

Commissioner DeTro was absent for the afternoon meeting, due to attending county business.

**Citizens Comment Period** - May call-in 509-422-7100 -Time may be limited, Calls taken in order received.

Ms. Levine and George Thornton, member of Okanogan Watch taking hand written notes were present.

### **Discussion – Noxious Weed Code Revisions OCC 8.24 & 8.26 – Anna Lyon**

Anna Lyon provided her noxious weed agenda and discussed the items listed there.

Two summer hires have started with another starting tomorrow. These employees are short term summer work. She is happy about her staffing situation. A field safety training is scheduled with the Sheriff's office on May 6 and will help staff know what to do regarding people interactions that happen. She is looking into basic first aid classes for her staff. Commissioner Hover would like to know if other county staff could also receive the training. Ms. Lyon is looking into the costs and will send an email out to users if they wish to attend.

Field day happened last week and about 10 public showed up to learn about identification of weeds. An application was turned into the RAC for title II funds. If title II funds are allocated then the participating agreement will include more work for Noxious Weed.

Commissioner Hover asked about lake treatments for aquatic weeds. At what point do irrigation companies for entities like Sun Mt. Lodge drive what the aquatic weed does. How does her office know? Ms. Lyon explained the initial reaction to do aquatics was hands off, but now with the push for Palmer and Osoyoos lakes to receive aquatic treatments has changed to hands on. Palmer Lake took three months to treat. Lake Osoyoos took about nine months to treat because of the proximity to international border and some negative comments from those without a vested interest in the lake. It would vary.

Ms. Lyon provided two pertinent sections with county code, (located obscurely in Health & Safety) and suggested some amendments to OCC 8.24 and OCC 8.26. She would like to delete section 8.24 regarding the Weed Districts. We do not have any weed districts in the county and those are addressed in RCW 17.04 and 17.06. Those RCW's could easily be addressed in Section 8.26 along with RCW 17.10 and WAC 16-750 and 752. She suggested OCC 8.26 code be brought up to date to be consistent with the State Weed laws.

Ms. Lyon discussed the old noxious weed list. Commissioner Hover asked the weeds listed there. Ms. Lyon talked about Baby's Breath as problematic as she does not have a means to control it and it is considered a cash crop. Ms. Lyon said hay is also a big problem and we have a lot of hay being transported between counties that does not require the same controls as Okanogan County.

### **Motion Staff Direction-Planning**

Commissioner Hover moved to direct Noxious Weed Board staff to work with Planning and Legal staff to redraft the language in the county noxious weed code OCC 8.24 and 8.26 for consideration for adoption. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Motion Resolution 51-2019 Signing Authority Finance Manager**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 51-2019 approving signing authority for Lisa Schreckengost who is the Finance Manager/Supervisor in the Auditor's Office. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners discussed the Credit Application from Nutrien. The credit is necessary for the fertilizer

needed for the fairgrounds.

### **Motion Nutrien Credit Application**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Nutrien credit application for fairgrounds fertilizer and authorized the vice-chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Motion Special Occasion Liquor License Commoncheros**

Motion WSLCB Notice of Special Occasion for Tonasket Commoncheros event May 31 to June 1. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners discussed the draft contract with NCI Datacom that would provide for the installation of the fiber line to the Public Works building. We are not holding up the process.

### **Approve Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-8, and the amendments to the commissioners' proceedings of April 15 and 16, 2019. Commissioners discussed the proceedings being approved outside the consent agenda process and asked that from now on they be approved outside the consent agenda. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. CDBG – Project Rehab Grant Request #22 - \$42,147.42
2. Contract Award Recommendation CRP No. 9437-07 Hwy 7 (Bridge North)–Selland Construction,
3. Contract Award Twisp Transfer Station Truck Scale–R.B. Pugh, LLC dba Correll's Scale Services
4. Authorization – Call for bids for CRP No. 9140-07 Lost River Road WFLAP
5. Approve the Purchase of Weed Spraying Materials – Washington State Bid - #20917
6. Approve the Purchase of Traffic Striping Materials - Alpine Products, Inc.
7. Resolution 49-2019 – Seasonal Increase of Clerk's hours in the Building Department
8. Resolution 51-2019 – Creating an Additional Operator/Mechanic Position in Solid Waste

The board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.