

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****APRIL 9, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April 9, 2019, with Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro was absent due to personal business.

Member of the public George Thornton taking hand written notes.

Staff Meeting

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

Mr. Gecas stated he drafted a letter to Mr. Creveling regarding the collectible funds Mr. Creveling previously discussed with the board several weeks ago. Mr. Gecas explained the funds were from timber taxes that were collected on the sale of timber. He checked with the Assessor's and Treasurer's offices to learn more about how the funds were receipted and disbursed then discussed his findings with the board.

Mr. Gecas requested an AGO opinion to clarify some language in the public records act.

The contract between Okanogan County and the town of Twisp for Building Inspection services was discussed. The town's attorney was consulted and he recommended the signature lines of the town council be deleted from the document, so only the Mayor's and the county's signature lines are in place. Mr. Gecas was thinking it could be different for different types of agreements whether or not actual signatures were necessary. Commissioner Hover asked that the council's signature lines be removed, leaving only the town Mayor's signature line in place along with the county's.

Ms. Columbia updated the board on fairground leases. She met with the Vintage Faire ladies and they were very happy with the set up. Ms. Columbia asked the Board if they had a problem with bringing the

The DOT will be getting back to Ms. Columbia on the signs. She provided the board with a sample. The sign will capture those coming from Canada. Commissioner Branch thought additional signage in Omak might be good and suggested the old village sign spot as that may be grandfathered in by the city.

Additional ribbons may need to be ordered, but she is still waiting on verifications from the FAC. The rule book is about ready and will be disbursed to the schools to hopefully encourage students to enter.

Mr. Poulin updated the board on a needed budget supplemental for the requested temp Maintenance Tech.

The slide in spray tank used for spraying weeds uses the big truck bed making the big truck unusable during times of spraying, so he is requesting a boom to tow the sprayer tank around. The quotes obtained were from: FIMCO at \$1496 for a 60 gallon; Global Industrial \$4141 for 100 gallon; and Amazon at \$1,349 for a 55 gallon.

Commissioner Hover asked about using the tank for spraying the mosquitos on the fairgrounds and whether it can be used for that. The biggest complaint, said Ms. Columbia are the hornets and bees.

Commissioners want to know if one can be rented for this year and how much that would cost since this item was not budgeted for purchase.

The need for fairgrounds irrigation system was discussed and Commissioner Hover considered the Lodging Tax revenue for the improvement. Commissioner Branch is concerned about subsidizing the RV Park using these if we are competing with other RV parks and using funds to make improvements that private RV parks cannot use. Commissioner Hover replied that LTAC funds requested would be specific to the RV campground improvement.

Mr. Huston updated the board on enforcements he is handling. Letters went out calling for project for the Capital Facilities Plan. The meeting regarding the M-tank ceiling is tomorrow. Joe Poulin was requested to attend as he will be the project manager for the M-Tank.

Commissioner Hover discussed the installation of the new arena. There will be a meeting to discuss the plan at 9:00 a.m. this Friday.

Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session for 15 minutes at 9:50 inviting David Gecas and Perry Huston to discuss legal matters to which the county may be or may become a party. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners extended executive session at 10:05 a.m. for another 5 minutes.

Commissioners extended executive session at 10:10 a.m. for another 5 minutes.

Executive session ended at 10:15 a.m. no decisions were made.

Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 10:20 a.m. for 10 minutes inviting Engineer Josh Thomson and Planning Director Perry Huston to discuss legal matters to which the county may be or may become a party. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Perry Huston extended executive session at 10:30 for another 10 minutes.

Perry Huston extended executive session at 10:40 for another 5 minutes.

Executive session ended at 10:45 a.m. no decisions were made.

Update Risk Management & Human Resources

Commissioners were updated on items the Risk Manager is handling.

Update – County Auditor’s Office – Auditor Cari Hall

Auditor Cari Hall and Jamie Groomes were present.

Auditor Hall commented on the voter registration bill. It has been excused out of the house so we don't have to worry about that one passing. The ballot drop box placement bill has made it through the senate and the law will not be amended so the ballot boxes will need to be placed. Good thing we already purchased the ballot boxes. The decision on how to address the voter envelopes will continue as that bill is most likely going to pass.

Auditor Hall explained training arrangements that have been made that will save money. Right now the Auditor's online link is being hosted by the state. She reached out to the state about revamping the website and find out what we can do in terms of providing the public a link from her page. There

are some other options as well but may a short delays in posting the results.

The budget adjustment and supplemental appropriation request form was redrafted. The commissioners felt the new arrangement would provide department heads a clearer way to request a budget adjustment or budget supplemental. Commissioner Hover asked that the form include the department head's name and phone number should the department head not be able to attend the meeting and the board wished to contact the person.

Auditor Hall explained her concerns about the ID cards being signed digitally by the department for theirs and their employee ID cards. She would like to know where her signature would be kept as her signature is used for accounts payable and financial functions. The more control we have over the signature the better. Judges, Treasurer, Auditor and Commissioners signatures may be handled differently for the IDs.

Auditor Hall explained checks are going away and many entities do ACH or electronic payments, but Okanogan County has not moved in that direction. Commissioner Branch asked for suggestions on how to address this. Auditor Hall will keep looking into transitioning from paper check payments to electronic payments.

Auditor Hall and Ms. Groomes will be attending a Tribal Council meeting on April 18, 2019 to discuss the ballot boxes. She is really excited to meet with them.

Update Public Works – Engineer Josh Thomson

Maintenance & Road Conditions

Things are starting to dry out in some places. The supervisors are keeping a list of old issues and new issues so the reoccurring issues can be addressed. There seemed to be quite a few new issues this year in different places. Some roads that haven't been chip sealed in a long time have been deteriorating badly. With the lack of pits the county can't chip seal as much as it has been in the past. Commissioner Hover stated since the laws changed we can no longer put a pit where we need one. There is a lot of ditch clean up.

Network Connection to PW

The temp solution for providing internet to public works is working well in the interim

Potential Pits

Moving forward with pit arrangements in the Methow. Still need to find out if it is viable. More meetings will be arranged to discuss.

Duffy Pit on Fancher Road has great shale and it ran out of materials, but the adjacent property owner is amiable to the county to use the materials. Engineer Thomson will work on that.

WATV Signs and Routes

A map is being created for the website. Critical areas will be addressed by Planning.

Drone for Topo

Looking at purchasing a drone which will help and will convert to 3D model. The drone can look straight down and has upgraded software that could be free or on a trial period. The cost will be around \$2,000.

Commissioner Branch requested a policy be created to address the use of the Drone that is specific to Public Works. Engineer Thomson stated there are other county policies that could be used.

Twisp Carlton Rd Speed Reduction Petition MP 9.04-10.19 city limits.

There is .14 of a mile within the city limits, so that will need to be addressed.

Similkameen Trail

Commissioner Hover would like to know cost figures for the project. Engineer Thomson will come up with an estimate.

Consent Agenda

Engineer Thomson said the OCOG primitive roads study consultant agreement was approved last night by OCOG. It will be approved today by the commissioners via consent agenda. OCOG budget logistics were discussed. Commissioner Branch explained why the budget analysis is so important to the Council of Governments. There are other issues coming up that have to do with city and town budgets and how they contribute. It would be great to get everyone to meet and discuss as it has been us and them rather than us all working together. With cities and towns there are a whole bunch of things pitted against each other especially grant dollars. He is looking for COG to be more like that in the future, centralized government thing and a way to work more efficiently.

Motion Food Purchase Request

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the request to purchase food items on the county credit card for the county NEWC meeting on April 19, 2019 and authorized the acting chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Methow Valley EMS District

Commissioner Hover moved to adjourn as the BOCC and reconvene as the Methow Valley EMS District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the T Methow Valley EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$56,797.83. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch moved to adjourn as the Methow Valley and Reconvene as the BOCC Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Adjourned for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

Board of Health Meeting – 1234 S 2nd Ave, Okanogan

Commissioners attended the Board of Health and returned at 2:40 p.m.

Motion NW Wholesale Credit Application

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the credit application for Northwest Wholesale for the county complex weed spray materials and authorized the acting chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Discussion Communications ESSB 5272

PUD contacted Mr. Worden about a power outage that is scheduled at midnight Thursday April 18. Power will be out for about 6 hours.

Mike Worden explained the ESSB 5272 regarding the Emergency Communications Sales/Use Tax possibly being modified. Rules committee didn't pull the bill at their meeting, so we need to reach out to our legislators to pull the bill to the floor. Sheriff Hawley sent a letter to the district legislators to urge them to pull the bill to the floor for vote. Commissioner Branch stated he wants to see where everything is at when he goes to LSC tomorrow. He said he'd like to discuss this with Jim Potts. Commissioner Hover stated Rep. Maycumber has experience with communications.

Citizens Comment Period

Dave Mullins

Mr. Mullins commented on the 2018 Oroville Rural EMS levy failure because he wants to start another EMS service under the fire department and utilize the manpower there. Mr. Mullins asked questions regarding the reason that the levy didn't pass for the Oroville EMS. Commissioner Branch asked Mr. Mullin what his objective was in his questioning. Mr. Mullins asked what he can do to reduce response times of Life Line while operating under a reduced service.

Commissioner Hover said people need to know the levy is a replacement levy and the additional funding covers the rising costs of the service provider. When we talk about 50% reimbursement rates for Medicaid and Medicare there is going to be a shortfall because folks cannot make up the difference individually.

In 2019, the Oroville Rural EMS district is operating from its residual funds because the levy failed in 2018 for collections in 2019.

Mr. Mullins explained the death that happened in the area and asked if the outcome would have been different if there was quicker service. Commissioner Branch said he doesn't know if the service delay was the reason for the death. It was because the AED wasn't on the first vehicle nor was it on the second. Mr. Mullins explained reduced service is adequate, and even with a full service being provided the same kind of situation could exist. Mr. Mullins is interested in supplementing the current service but wanted to know if there were dollars to provide EMT training. Commissioner Hover explained the remaining funds in the district account is currently being used for the current reduced service. Service was reduced because the levy failed.

Mr. Mullins would like to bring EMS under the fire department and redirect fees. They have people there and manpower in order to build the comradery and interest. He referred to the Aeneas Valley fire district responding to EMS calls. He would like to provide support earlier while the ambulance is arriving. Commissioner Hover appreciated the experience Mr. Mullins has. Commissioners intend to put it on the August 6th Primary with May 6th being the deadline for providing the resolution to the Auditor for the ballot publication. Mr. Mullins stated he is in favor of discussing the levy information with the public to generate interest in getting it passed.

George Thornton commented that people should use Life Flight insurance and pay the \$60 per year per family. Mr. Mullins stated that is a great service.

Director Huston was requested to come discuss some direction the board wishes to relay regarding the Oroville Rural EMS District. Commissioner Branch discussed arranging a meeting with the City of Oroville regarding their levy. Director Huston said it is on his list of things to do. Director Huston said he and Wayne is building on the presentation for Oroville which will be the foundation for the public hearing that may be a joint public hearing with the city of Oroville. It will give us a public document to handout with all the information folks need to know. Commissioner Branch explained Mr. Mullins is wanting to help with the public information disbursement and in any way he can.

Commissioner Hover stated the sales tax communications ballot issue is planned for the August 6 ballot and he thought it might be too much for the public to digest on one ballot.

The commissioners discussed and were in agreement with the timing of the sales tax communications ballot issue going on the General in November. Commissioner Branch said we will need have that conversation with the Chief Communications Deputy.

Director Huston will prepare some information regarding the Oroville Rural EMS public information and ballot language. Then get together after to go over the plan before placing the issue on the ballot.

Commissioners would like to discuss this with Life Line and the City of Oroville. Director Huston will

make arrangements.

Commissioners discussed protocol for when citizens wish to discuss an item rather than just comment on one. Commissioner Hover would like consistency. Commissioners also discussed their view about setting precedence.

Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-4. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. Commissioners' Proceedings April 1 & 2, 2019
2. Agreement for OCOG Primitive Roads Strategy
3. 911 – Military Department Contract E19-030 Amendment Communications
4. Superior Court - Pre-authorization to Purchase Food on County Credit Card

Motion County National Proclamation Month April

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the County National Proclamation Month as April and requested that all county elected officials participate in the celebration by wearing their "I Love Okanogan County" socks and engage to spread the "I heart" message. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Director Huston said he informed the city of Oroville of the wish to set a meeting on Monday, April 15. Commissioner Branch will double check with the mayor about his availability.

Commissioners would like the department heads to attend the public hearings for their department's request for budget supplemental appropriations so there is someone who can answer questions of the board.

The board adjourned at 5:00 p.m.