

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****SEPTEMBER 17, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on September 17, 2019, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover, and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

Vice Chairman Commissioner Chris Branch was absent attending to the Transportation Commission and CERB Presentation in Olympia.

George Thornton, member of the public, taking hand written notes for Okanogan Watch group.
Jennifer Ward member of the public taking hand written notes.

Limited Schedule Due to Union Negotiations

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was done.

Commissioners' Staff Meeting

Angela Hubbard, David Gecas, Stella Columbia and Joe Poulin were present.

Ms. Hubbard provided her staff report. She stated she is working on a couple public records requests, one of them regarding Veranda Beach PD, and the other regarding a hillside slide area issue apparently caused by wetlands in the area of Oroville.

Mr. Thornton reported that he is also aware of that wet area and explained it was there when he was a little kid. Ms. Hubbard said the conversation between the previous Director and the land owners is still being researched.

Commissioner Hover discussed the State Auditor's report of the fairgrounds financial activities and what management issues need to be addressed to provide the needed financial oversight. Ms. Columbia said a new computer program would definitely help her keep track. She said some of the issues were from before she was hired such as the 2018 receipts when no one was physically on the grounds. Some issues will be resolved just by having a second person in the office. October through May there is only one staff person in the office. The Clerk of the Board suggested the Maintenance Coordinator as the second person to reconcile the deposits since he is the only other staff on the grounds every day.

Ms. Columbia presented the Taste of Two Valley's letter and security plan as the entity requested a waiver of the security requirement as they would like to provide their own event security. (request letter and security plan attached) A contract is not in place at this time.

Motion Loup Loup Ski Education Foundation Taste of Two Valley's

Based on the Loup Loup Ski Foundation letter and submittal of security plan detail, Commissioner Hover moved to waive the security requirement for the Loup Loup Ski Foundation's Taste of Two Valley's event in October of 2019. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Hover would like the state auditor to explain the Audit costs and what the additional costs are based on above and beyond their estimate. Commissioner DeTro explained a discussion with our state legislators about the increased costs, we have to have a balanced budget but because their numbers are off by \$4000 or more it is difficult to balance.

Ms. Columbia said due to lots of events scheduled in October and November she would like her current temporary staff person employment to be extended in order to help out for another few weeks. Commissioner Hover asked if that person could work over the weekends so someone is onsite for these weekend events. He requested some financial data that supports the request.

Mr. Poulin provided a rough draft of the after action report of this year's fair. (attached) Mr. Thornton asked for a copy. Commissioners reviewed the report and asked for some cost estimate for more one full time and two temp and two part time for shift work for additional staffing of the fair. That way permanent staff isn't working 16 hour days on the grounds. Commissioner Hover would like to know the cost to provide fair specific staff during fair time for fair. Ms. Columbia explained she would like some additional fair office temps too. Commissioner Hover asked for that cost too as it is a fair activity. Work Source could also be utilized for these positions and they pay a portion of the wage costs. Commissioners requested Noxious Weed Dept. discuss their enforcement issues with the Board at 10:00 a.m.

USDA grant opportunity for fairgrounds safety: roofing, electrical, grand stands-too much money but would like to see grand stands closer to the arena, what is the biggest safety issue over there. What kinds of tasks could we use our employees for as an in-kind contribution. The Grant application is due October 16. Joe and Stella were asked to submit prioritized safety projects for the fairgrounds and estimates of cost for the individual projects and Commissioner Hover will put together the grant application and submit it.

David Gecas provided his staff report. He explained he received and is working on public records request. The Oroville Rural EMS District Life Line agreement amendment should be completed next week.

Mr. Gecas provided an Interlocal Agreement for building inspection services with the city of Brewster for consideration.

Discussion Noxious Weed Enforcements

Anna Lyon and Larry Hudson were present.

Commissioner Hover explained a constituent in the Methow has complained to him about the Noxious Weed office enforcement action to spray weeds and if they do not pay the bill a lien on the subject property will be processed. The constituent is upset because of the amount of money it cost. Commissioner Hover said his concern is that there is access across their property to McClure Mt. that the county telecommunications, Fish & Wildlife, Forest Service and others use to get to the site. There are no weed wash stations for weeds that may be stuck on the vehicles used by these agencies. These folks have granted access to agencies over the years without any compensation. If there was no access across the property to outside sources, then perhaps a different discussion would happen. He said there were other areas not near the access that were sprayed too. The county through its communications department gets lease money from those other agencies to that site through the sub leases which allows them access.

Ms. Lyon stated she has repeatedly tried to work with the landowners. They were allowed to do treatment in the past. This has been an ongoing issue with this land owner. Title II funds might be used on the road, but when the majority of the areas sprayed were not near the road it is their responsibility to spray the weeds. It would be her preference to work with the landowner. The bill for commercial applicator was \$1800. They are only charged that amount, but if it takes more time to work with the land owner then additional administrative costs are incurred. Commissioners discussed a happy medium through communications. Commissioner DeTro said in the future have the county with our machinery go up there then split the bill among the agencies benefitting from the access.

Ms. Lyon explained the conversation that occurs with a landowner when weeds are found on their property. It is the same conversation she has when agencies are involved. The data points shown on the map are along the road system. We have to come up with something when these types of enforcements are done and make sure we are doing our point to meet state law. Commissioner Hover would like to see some numbers on this situation then the commissioners can consider resolving. Ms. Lyon asked if the agencies using the road should be contacted so they know the issue and the responsibility.

Commissioner Hover left the meeting to return to Union Negotiations.

Finance Committee Meeting

Leah McCormack and Lisa Schreckengost were present.

Treasurer McCormack provided her Finance Committee report explaining the Cash on Hand and areas of interest the commissioners may like to consider. This month is different as she did not provide the usual report because of time spent at fair.

Update – Public Works – County Engineer Josh Thomson

Kent Kovalenko was present.

Paint Product Stewardship

Mr. Kovalenko explained this was one of the better programs Ecology is putting out. An agreement would be necessary. They bring the containers and we separate, put into their containers, call them and they come and pick up. He will reach out to other i.e. Green Okanogan, CCT to try and get them on board. There is no cost, but there would be some labor. It will be a cost savings to the county. If we want the funding to ship oil based paints then we must be part of this program. Mr. Kovalenko believes this is a win win opportunity.

Washington Invasive species council

Mr. Kovalenko said they will be here next Thursday, September 26. They are having their annual meeting here and will view the steam equipment we use for the apple maggot debris.

Maintenance & Road Conditions

Still cleaning up shoulders after last week's weather.

Buzzard Lake Rd-Fence in ROW

There is a fence in the county right of way. It is a single one lane road. Someone built a fence in the middle of the county right of way because it was easier to build there. A letter was sent to the owner that included the county's code on width of county roads. The RCW was read. The land owner said he would like to submit a letter of request for the county to change the county road width to allow his fence to remain. The county is not willing to make the requested change to this road. Photo attached.

Hwy 97 Deer Fence

Commissioner DeTro met with DOT, Mule Deer Foundation, Contractor and the County Engineer regarding the deer fence. An exception will need to be made on how to deal with the fence. There isn't enough room for both the gate and the fence where currently proposed.

Statler Bridge Replacement

Project is moving forward.

CCT Road List-Request to include County Roads.

Still working on the list.

Barkley & MVID Ditch Project

Engineer Thomson provided a time line for the project with the bid opening next week on the rest of the project. Commissioner Hover explained his involvement with the project. Making the road better would be good for the project but it is a three way conversation.

ER&R Supplemental Appropriation Request

This public hearing is scheduled Monday, September 30, 2019 at 2:45 p.m. Some history on the purchase was given.

Engineer Thomson will be out on annual leave next week.

We need to have a long planning discussion on the financial outlook and trends to consider how to deal with things going forward.

Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 11:40 a.m. for 15 minutes inviting Engineer Josh Thomson and Attorney David Gecas to discussion legal matters to which the county may become a party. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive Session ended at 11:55 a.m. no decisions were made.

Citizen Comment Period-May Call-in 509-422-7100

George Thornton said no one wished to comment today.

Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-6, as presented. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. Contract-Fair Parking Services-Oroville High School
2. Agreement-2019 Gravel Crushing Supply Testing-NC Testing & Inspection LLC
3. CDBG Public Services Req. #2 August Services \$13,337.00
4. Purchase Approval-Crack Seal Materials- State Bid Contract
5. Resolution 117-2019 Declaring Intent to Authorize Sales & Use Tax for Affordable Housing
6. Resolution 121-2019 Cancellation of Outstanding Treasurer Warrants

Motion Interlocal Agreement Building Inspection Services-City of Brewster

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the interlocal agreement between Okanogan County and the City of Brewster for Building Inspection Services. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Letter of Appointment-FAC-Brock Hires

Commissioner Hover moved to approve a Fair Advisory Committee letter of appointment, appointing Brock Hires to position #4. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Resolution 120-2019 Lifting Countywide Burn Ban

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 120-2019 lifting the countywide burn ban effective Wednesday, September 18 at 12:01 a.m. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Resolution 121-2019 Cancelling Treasurer Unclaimed Warrants

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 121-2019 cancelling the treasurer's unclaimed warrants. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Resolution 122-2019 Budget Amendment CE BOE

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 122-2019 a budget amendment within current expense board of equalization fund in the amount of \$390. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Resolution 123-2019 Authorize Hubbard Signature Ecology Well Tracking Grant

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 123-2019 which authorizes Interim Planning Director, Angela Hubbard, to sign the Department of Ecology Financial Assistance Grant for Well Tracking and model software. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners

Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$291,814.02. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion Public Health Voucher

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers in the amount of \$437.64. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Commissioners Proceedings of September 9-10, 2019

Commissioners decided to hold off their approval of the meeting minutes as Commissioner Branch was absent today and he usually has some corrections to make.

The board adjourned at 2:30 p.m.