

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****DECEMBER 2, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on December 2, 2019, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge was recited.

Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda

Commissioners reviewed their agenda and consent agenda.

Briefing Among Commissioners – Discuss Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedules

Commissioner Hover explained the state has told the towns of Twisp and Winthrop they are not sanding or deicing the city limits this year as they have in the past. Commissioner Hover said this has never happened before. The other thing he heard was the state is cutting back on their salt to sand ratio, so Commissioner Hover would like to write a letter to DOT requesting they reconsider due to safety reasons. Commissioner DeTro felt this was retaliation from the governor. DOT already has the budget for this year's winter program and the materials purchased. Commissioner Branch thought the letter should be to the regional director.

Commissioners discussed which departments the board wanted to attend the budget hearing today and asked the clerk of the board to request their attendance.

Commissioner Branch convened the meeting at 1:32 p.m. without Commissioner DeTro.

Update – Planning Department – Interim Director Angie Hubbard

Ms. Hubbard explained she is getting ready for the December 5th SEPA appeal on the Miller Pit CUP 2019-7.

This Thursday is the WRIA Planning unit meeting. The commissioners will attend.

There is a discussion scheduled with the board next Monday about a Boundary Line adjustment. She will provide some back-ground information.

Ms. Hubbard provided a brief update on the work being accomplished.

Commissioner Hover asked about the organization of the Planning Department as the offices are separated. He'd like to see consolidation of the office spaces, files scanned and stored into permanent storage.

Ms. Hubbard explained the current arrangement with one large office being used for current file storage. There was prior discussion about how the new Planning Director would like the office space arranged. She mentioned the conference room is used often for various groups.

The Clerk of the Board explained she provided the NEPA/SEPA review binder that ORFH provided her for the CDBG Construction Grant for Oroville Harvest Shelter Sewer project. The county will need to

sign off on the determination whether it is exempt, insignificant or neither.

Jan Young, member of the public audio and video recording the meeting for Okanogan Watch Group.

Discussion 2020 Budget Request

Eric Fritts Pamela Stevens

Commissioner Hover asked that a discussion with Eric Fritts about veteran's services occur. Commissioner Hover said he wasn't here when the board discussed the veteran's office request for another staff. The ad valorem is currently set at \$80,000, but with the extent of the request we would have more expense than revenue. Commissioner Hover said he isn't sure what \$90,000 would look like on a long term basis. Mr. Fritts said the labor would be around \$48,000 full time. He said there was some budget left this year that would help. Due to the part time changes in the benefit rules, it didn't make sense to him as a part time as part time employees are now afforded the full-time benefits.

Another \$50,000 would be needed in order to provide additional staffing. Commissioner Hover discussed a part time position. Commissioner DeTro asked if a part time would get the department where it wants to go. Even if the board approves a half time person there will still be some additional expenses due to benefits.

Public Hearing – Okanogan County's 2020 Budget

Cari Hall, Lisa Schreckengost, Leah McCormack, Aaron Culp, Pam Stevens, Eric Fritts, Maurice Goodall

The clerk turned the audio recorder on for the public hearing.

The group discussed the Eastlake Sewer fund 410 and how the City of Oroville's portion of the revenue is derived. The previous loan document and history of the situation would need to be reviewed for the board's purposes. Commissioner Hover just wanted to ensure everyone was on the same page. All information should be consolidated into one place. An agreement is being relied upon by both the city and the county, but the city was not part of the re-amortization, but the amount the city pays was maybe based on a percentage of something. Commissioner Branch is curious if the city is relying on the agreement with the county for their portion. Commissioners just want to understand this fund and situation. Treasurer McCormack makes the loan payments. Commissioner DeTro stated the previous Planning Director kept a file on Eastlake Sewer fund.

Commissioners reviewed several funds that required additional work and comment.

Commissioners discussed wages that were recommended for the Emergency Services Manager for 2019 and it never happened. Commissioner Hover feels that with the council's vote the county should act on it for 2020. There has been no decision by the BOCC upon the Council's recommendation on salary.

The cost of the 2020 Sheriff's fleet request was discussed and the amount of funds that need to be transferred for the vehicle, computers and other outfitting's for the vehicles.

Motion Continued Public Hearing Okanogan County 2020 Budget

Commissioner Hover moved to continue the hearing to December 9 at 9:00 a.m. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch left to attend the Solid Waste Committee meeting.

Review Meeting Minutes

Commissioners provided some edits correction to the draft minutes.

The board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.