

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****MAY 7, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 7, 2019, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover, and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

George Thornton, member of the public, present, taking notes for Okanogan Watch.

Update – Commissioners’ Staff

David Gecas, Perry Huston, Stella Columbia, Joe Poulin

Stella Columbia updated the board on a request to pay the facilities rental from Fair fund to facilities fund.

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the processing of the rental payment for the fair rental fee

Someone vandalized the fairgrounds over the weekend and broke into the sheep weighing equipment shed and door was knocked out of its frame. She review the security system file to see if the party did the damage. The damage deposit may not cover all the damage. She will report this issue to Tanya Craig.

Commissioner Hover asked maintenance to begin to pick up the rocks around the arena and track. Ensure the volunteers used are signed up with HR for L&I documentation. Joe Poulin said he would.

Four bids are being submitted for the Planning HVAC replacement. There is also a compressor out that was replaced two years ago. It will cost about \$2200 to replace compressor. The problem will be ongoing as the coils that get acid build up in them that is created by moisture causes the build-up. These units are the eight stacked units on the courthouse annex bridge that have reached end of life that were going to be part of a phase II energy project. Commissioner Hover asked about quotes to replace all eight units. Mr. Poulin recommended hooking into the geo thermal rather than replacing with another unit. Commissioners would like to consider the options and costs for replacement and costs to hook into geothermal.

Mr. Poulin explained he is aware of a used floor scrubber for sale (2 years old) for use in the annex that would greatly reduce staff time in cleaning the annex floor. Quotes will be obtained for a used unit for comparison.

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 to discuss legal matter to which the county may be a party, inviting David Gecas and Perry Huston. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive session was extended at 10:00 a.m. for another 10 minutes

Executive session was extended at 10:10 a.m. for another 10 minutes

Executive session ended at 10:20 a.m. no decisions were made.

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

Ms. Craig explained she attended the Labor Relations conference last week. A couple classes on Paid

Family Medical Leave that starts January 1. Many questions are still unanswered but hope the legislation will. She relayed the questions she still need clarification on.

Superior Court (SC) discussed with her how SC would pay for the judicial assistant and treatment services manager. They want to offset the costs using CJTA Funds in Current Expense and Therapeutic Courts funds 143. Commissioner Branch would like the SC to come back and discuss the work flow vision and how it will work between SC and OBHC. This would help the commissioners establish their course of action. Commissioner Branch doesn't understand how this is working out between OBHC and the courts, without that insight he is unable to come to a decision. Would the Treatment Services Manager and Judicial Assistant be managing the therapeutic courts fund? Commissioner Hover thought the previous discussion with SC was about one position modification not two. Commissioner Branch explained OBHC has been playing a bigger role as to how these services are performed. How will this situation change what OBHC is currently doing. He sees a shift from OBHC to the county for this cost. Ms. Craig explained the program services offered to the county by OBHC and the expectation of the court in dealing with OBHC program treatment services. The person on our end would be the liaison between the courts and OBHC who would ensure the program services are followed through by OBHC. Shifting responsibility from OBHC should also shift funds for county use. Ms. Craig explained the OJTA money from HCA is about \$50,000 with 10% retained by the county for administering the funds. These funds are receipted into current expense. SC wants to use the CJTA money to offset the costs of the Judicial assistant and Treatment Services positions. In the event OBHC doesn't use all of the \$50,000 then whatever is left over would offset those staffing costs.

Ms. Craig stated the Criminal Justice billings are going out today. The amount is down over previous collections. There is also a city in arrears and behind on their payments.

Motion Agreement –Public Works Fiber line Installation -NCI Datacom

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the agreement between Okanogan County and NCI Datacom for the fiber line installation for Public Works Building. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Public Hearing – Public Works Utility Franchise – Frederick H. Van Doren

Engineer Josh Thomson, Anna Randall

Commissioner Branch opened up the hearing asking for staff report

Anna Randall provide her staff report for the public works utility franchise renewal under new ownership for another 50 years.

Chris Fisher, resident of Okanogan County, but works for Colville Tribe, said he needs clarification. The water line is within the county's right of way and asked if there might be a water right associated with the water being delivered. Mr.

Ms. Randall explained anytime anyone operates within the county right of way a franchise agreement is required which gives them the specific right to work within the county right of way. This isn't a new franchise it is a renewal that was established in 1959, but is now under different ownership.

Motion Resolution 54-2019 Franchise Agreement Frederick Van Doren U02-19

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the franchise agreement, then amended the motion to state approval of resolution 54-2019 which adopts the franchise agreement for the water line. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Public Works – Engineer Josh Thomson

Christa Levine, City of Tonasket Council member

Engineer Thomson updated the board on public works.

Maintenance & road Conditions

Tonasket letter of request for a 15 foot wide easement on the south end of the City's Chief Tonasket Park property. (attached) He would like to know why 50 feet as it will reduce what we can use our property for. Commissioner Branch discussed what history he knows of the situation and wondered about transferring ownership of the property to the city. If it were annexed and there was a road they would have the connection. It would serve the community well to have well developed access to the sports park.

Washington Transportation Commission Tour May 14-15

Commissioners discussed clearing their calendar on May 14 in order to attend the Washington Transportation Commission that day. The public hearing scheduled that day for the Twisp Carlton Rd speed limit petition will be continued to May 21 at 11:25 a.m. Commissioners asked that a public announcement be sent to the radio station for so the public knows of the change.

Survey Consultant Contract-Action Item

Engineer Thomson explained some old markers were just references and trees marked. The Methow Valley Road description was relayed. The consultant will proceed with identifying those five markers but it will cost about \$12,000 and additional funds to identify more. After 130 years, Engineer Thomson isn't sure what they will find. The old survey refers to the markers as being either a 4x4 post or a tree.

Motion Professional Services Survey Agreement –Methow Valley Road

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Professional Services Survey Agreement between the county and NCW Land Surveying, LLC for Methow Valley Road marker identification and authorized the vice-chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Levees

Engineer Thomson said he met with Chris Johnson about the Twisp levee situated behind the church just north of town. There isn't any new information to relay. He said the Army Corp is okay as long as the levee is designed properly to provide the same level of protection.

Elmway levee easements will likely be approved by the city of Okanogan tonight. Engineer Thomson asked if the board wished to approve those or if the board wished to authorize the Engineer to sign. The board said they would prefer to sign.

Fairgrounds Track

Commissioner Hover explained soil is still needed for the track and what materials have already been identified.

Consent Agenda

Engineer Thomson asked if the board had questions about the item to be approved via consent agenda. Commissioners did not have questions.

Citizens Comment Period - May call-in 509-422-7100

No citizens present to comment, no citizens called in to comment.

Discussion – Wolf Policy/Management Comment Protocol - WDFW- Jim Brown

Jim Brown, Regional Director of the North Central Region; Perry Huston, Char Schumacher, Members of the public Christa Levine and George Thornton

A few wolf processes beginning so wanted to information the commissioners about it and the timelines

the commissioners may wish to comment on.

His mission is to talk with all the counties in the region. He wants to ensure all county commissioners are well informed well ahead of time.

A Periodic Status review period is beginning for the wolves as a pre-scoping session. The process will take about 2 years, with the data from wolf populations, and a recommendation to the commission would be provided in late in 2019 and they will determine a change in status which will go through a SEPA process but SEPA won't happen until the determination is made.

Commissioner Hover asked how WAG is involved. Mr. Brown said they consult with WAG but whatever is relayed is not binding. If wolves were recommended to be delisted or sensitive it would still need to go through a SEPA process to see if it passes muster. The SEPA process may inform the final decision and every member of WAG would have an opportunity to comment on that process. The principal of WDFW's decision is based on science.

A map was provide of the state of Washington that showed the three designated wolf area zones. Regardless of state decision it must be consistent with that federal delisting rules. Some could be subject to the federal process. Review process, one process to look at translocation from higher populated areas to less populated areas and one Post delisting management plan.

Timelines were discussed. There are not four breeding pairs in each zone. Commissioner Hover thought it was 18 breeding pairs anywhere in the state. Mr. Brown read from the rules and said there must be three consecutive years. Mr. Brown discussed the very little data from the southern areas of the state. The issues in NE WA have been drawing all the agency resources and thought some more focus in the southern areas would determine unknown populations. There is a significant prey base down there, and he believes there will be some confirmation soon. There can be a pack without a breeding pair, said Mr. Brown. There must be four breeding pairs in the southern zone and fifty in any of the other zones, but they haven't gotten confirmation in the southern Cascades and Northwest Coast zone.

The SEPA process was pushed out to September. With the scoping process he welcomed any comments from the commissioners to be sent directly to him. He will submit to Julia Smith. Commissioner Hover said he would rather route the county's comments directly.

Commissioner Hover asked about the status report on the Colville Reservation. He said someone with WDFW said there were 40 wolves on the reservation. Mr. Brown said, Eric Krause is the Tribal wolf lead, but Mr. Brown doesn't know what numbers they are looking at. Commissioner Hover said he heard it during a WAG meeting. On the map, Commissioner Hover noted the number of breeding pairs NE of the state were much greater than what has been identified in the NW wilderness area of Okanogan county. He said the human population is much greater where the wolves are seen in the NE area, but not many people live in the NW wilderness area. Commissioner Hover as how much WDFW is flying over the wilderness area. Mr. Brown replied probably as much as WDFW is flying over the SE area of the state which has no breeding pairs noted.

On its face it looks like we have the populations, but he doesn't know if the conversation would be different if we weren't dealing with the federal piece, because there is a lot of available habitat in those areas. It is either the wolves haven't made it there yet, or WDFW hasn't spotted them yet.

Commissioner Branch said the county should advocate for adequate budget for WDFW so they have the appropriate funds to manage wildlife. Mr. Brown doesn't know what that looks like and they have to do it by July 1 to makes their case and allocation wish.

Commissioners discussed hunting in Okanogan County and the history that may have affected those

populations. WDFW believes there will be an uptick in the wildlife populations as the habitat is coming back. Commissioners thanked Mr. Brown for the information and opportunity to discuss the wolf topic.

Motion Resolution 58-2019 Reclassification WSU Extension Office Manager

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 58-2019 authorizing a reclassification of the WSU Extension Office Manager from grade 7 to grad 12. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Resolution 57-2019 Approving Veteran's Service Officer Assistant

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 57-2019 re-instating the part-time Veterans Service Officer Assistant position effective April 23, 2019. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Public Hearing – Supplemental Appropriation – Veterans Fund 101 - \$25,286

Eric Fritts

Commissioner Branch opened up the hearing to consider the supplemental appropriation and called on staff.

Eric Fritts explained the budget supplemental will allow the county to receive the portion of WorkSource OJT funding for the 12 week training period of the new part time Veterans Services Officer Assistant. Worksource will pay 50% of the wage cost during the 12- week period which is about \$3200 once the OJT is successfully completed.

Mike Stewart, Legacy and Veteran's board, said he is in favor of the county approving the veterans services officer assistant position and thanked the commissioners for considering it.

Motion Resolution 55-2019 Budget Supplemental Veterans fund 101

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 55-2019 a budget supplemental appropriation within the veterans fund in the amount of \$25,286. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch closed the hearing.

Motion Resolution 56-2019 Budget Amendment Veterans/Current Expense

Commissioner hover moved to approve resolution 56-2019 a budget amendment within current expense in the amount of \$8,222. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Public Hearing – Oroville Rural EMS Replacement Levy Ballot Proposition

Director Huston, Wayne Walker, Lorah Super

Commissioner Branch called for staff report. The clerk of the board gave her staff report stating the resolution adopts a ballot proposition to re-authorize a levy at a rate of not less than \$0.50 per \$1000 assessed value for a period of six years beginning January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2025. She said the proposition will be reviewed by the Prosecutor before it is placed on the August 6 primary ballot.

Director Huston reported the clerk framed the situation accurately but to build the record it would be appropriate to discuss the proposal at not more than \$0.50 per \$1000 assessed value. The previous levy was \$0.25 per \$1000 was sufficient at the time. He believes it is important to recognize the volunteer system. The city of Oroville managed the service and was under contract to provide administrative services. Oroville was faced with a decision to do business differently with many challenges beginning to crop up. There were not sufficient recourse designated to address those. It was at that time the commission moved towards a service contract with Life Line. The monthly payment also considers all the administrative costs of the service provider as well as the equipment.

Commissioner Hover asked about minimum wage increases. Director Huston explained Commissioner Branch discussed the past need for a coordinator to coordinate the volunteer system previously used by the district and city. The level of service declined because of that. The model was in place in Tonasket and the record is very clear about the challenges that occurred because of the arrangement.

Commissioner Branch opened up for public testimony. Hearing none he called on commissioners' discussion. Commissioner Hover read the proposition from the resolution. Commissioners discussed the language in the proposition to ensure it is clear and accurate and says what it needs to say.

The levy would be a replacement levy for six years beginning January 1, 2020 until December 31, 2025.

Mr. Walker explained he understands what the commissioners are trying to do but recommended that clarification be made via public announcements rather than in the proposition.

Motion Resolution 59-2019 Oroville Rural EMS Levy Ballot Proposition

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 59-2019 that would place on the Primary Ballot a proposition reauthorizing the Oroville Rural Emergency Medical Services District levy that would begin January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2025 at a rate of not more than \$0.50 per \$1000 assessed value. 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 \$401,680.68 and Payroll vouchers in the amount of \$1,015,250.06. 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 payroll in the amount of \$43,952.39 and regular vouchers in the amount of \$5,178.07. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Oroville Rural EMS District

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

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Oroville Rural EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$9,680. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Hover moved to adjourn as the Oroville Rural EMS and Reconvene as the Methow EMS District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Methow Valley EMS District

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the 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.

Approve Consent Agenda

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

1. Approve Local Agency Agreement Supplemental #1 – Hwy 7 Bridge North Section

Approve Commissioner' Proceedings April 29 & 30, 2019

Commissioners did not approve the meeting minutes due to needing additional time to review them.

The board adjourned at 4:30 p.m.