

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****OCTOBER 8, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on October 8, 2019, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover, and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The group said the pledge.

Commissioners' Staff Meeting

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

Ms. Columbia said she did reach out to other rodeo venues to see how much they charge for the various provisions against what we charge. (attached) She said there are big differences depending on what amenities are included.

Mr. Poulin said he didn't have any updates and exited.

Ms. Hubbard said she would follow-up later with the board about last night's Grizzly Bear meeting. Commissioner Branch said there are projects for migration corridors and said no one discussed climate change and the affect it would have on the plan.

Commissioner Branch said he spoke to the Sheriff about the event before and after as they were prepared for the worst. It went relatively well. Listening to everyone's comments was very helpful, said Commissioner Branch.

Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

Commissioner Branch moved to go into executive session at 9:15 a.m. for 15 minutes inviting David Gecas to discuss pending litigation matters to which the county may be or become a party. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. Executive session ended at 9:30 a.m. no decisions were made.

Discussion – Open Range Laws Austin Alma

Mr. Alma explained he is concerned about open range issues in Aeneas Valley as he heard some wish to establish a herd district. He isn't sure what that process entails. In Aeneas valley hosts many grazing permits and many cows start their permit on the FS and in the fall the cattle come down which causes issues. The grazing permits state the perimeter that borders private land that fence is the responsibility of that landowner. Permits now are bordered by 20's or 40 acre parcels and they are absentee land owners just using their property for hunting or recreation. Good fences keep cows out, bad fences or fences that do not meet the legal definition do not and people don't understand that. Agriculture is at the top of our economic base. Mr. Austin said he doesn't want cows in people's yard, but this is a farming county. If a herd law is put into place up there it will cause more problems.

Commissioner DeTro discussed the horses that are running in open range in Aeneas Valley that no one seems to own. He suggested that if people deny ownership of the horses when asked then round them up and bring them to Davenport. Mr. Austin said people feed the horses and they are not afraid

of people.

Commissioners discussed the petition process for stock restricted areas noting there did not appear to be any policy adopted to lay out the petition process of the county.

Update – County Auditors’ Office – Auditor Cari Hall

Auditor Hall provided her update. She explained with the November election being very large election it is a huge undertaking and she is very happy with her staff. We are one of the few counties who participated in the pre-testing tabulation. The state comes out and does those tests, but we have to do a pretest and we were one of the few who got it done on time. There were no concerns what so ever.

Transfers were discussed. Auditor Hall explained the resolutions should direct the Treasurer to move the cash part of the request. She discovered that Board of Health budget Public Health gave her early in the year was not the same budget that PH passed and were different numbers. It didn't have the reserve accounts so the board waited to approve. The PH actually did approve much later their budget with the reserve accounts. Commissioner Hover asked if the ending fund balance showed the reserve funds. Auditor Hall would like to speak to the State Auditor's office for guidance on making 9-2019 correct. The county published and held a public hearing for the budget supplemental on the reserve accounts and the commissioners signed a resolution but it had the wrong language. She would like to fix the issue in the cleanest way. She will forward their response. All the budget input is done manually.

Commissioner Hover asked how we can avoid the auditor's office having a different budget than the one adopted. He said Public Health would need to adopt their budget at the November board meeting in order for the county to be able to adopt by first week of December.

Auditor Hall said another matter is a request was submitted from WSU Extension Master Gardener to run their money through the county in order to avoid a fee that is charged by the agency that currently handles their money.

Ms. Hall said she was working with Fire District #10 as they now wish to redo their petition for annexation under a different RCW 52.04.031.

Update – Public Works – Engineer Josh Thomson

Kent Kovalenko and Gary George were present.

Engineer Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there. Commissioner Hover asked if Mr. George was here to discuss the proposed pit. No, Mr. George, he is here to discuss other items.

Temp Employees

Gary George provided a spreadsheet showing the temp employee positions costs. There are 11 M-2 temps year round that are split between summers and winter months. The sheet showed the total cost of the temps annually at \$354,927.69 annually. (attached) Commissioner Hover stated a temp truck driver is usually someone who is retired. Mr. George explained four full time employees would be brought in and two summer temps would fill in. The in-house guys step into the role in winter. The loss of production was not calculated. Would like to move forward with this very soon, but with union negotiations happening now, that would need to be considered.

New Solid Waste Office Update

Mr. Kovalenko noted this project is moving forward and believes the office will be fully functional by January.

Steam Treatment validation Oct. 23

This is required to validate the system. The Dept. of Ecology is also wishing to move the validation up a week so they can bring other agencies to see this. They mentioned if a county commissioner could attend the event that would be great. There isn't a secure date yet set. Commissioner would like to know the date selected. He will keep the commissioners tuned.

MVIDD Ditch

Commissioner Hover will contact the person there to move forward with the deadline.

Maintenance & Road Conditions

Mr. George stated they are just getting everything winterized.

Tonasket Request for Easement

Engineer Thomson discussed the proposal of 60 feet, but he asked for something less.

Salomon Creek Road

Waiting for the final list of questions.

Upper Beaver Creek Rd

Engineer Thomson said he is working with Chris Johnson on this project. Commissioner Hover would like PW to express how difficult it is for both and him and Commissioner DeTro to keep looking at the projects we are having to fund to fix our roads. Encourage them to integrate other projects into that repair, said Commissioner Branch. If there was a fix that included their projects and realigned the road, it should be something they consider to avoid piece meal. Commissioner Branch would like to see a permanent fix applied. Commissioner Hover discussed the possibility of a partnership in order to use FLAP funding for the realignment. Commissioner Hover suggested the Risk Manager become aware of the situation.

Public Works Window Replacement

One quote on the Public works window replacements was received and he is waiting for another from Discount Glass.

Grants available for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

The previous Volkswagen legal payout is being used for these grant funds, but require a 40% match to utilize.

There is money available up to \$200,000 per entity who applies and the funds must be used for charging station at a county facility.

Commissioner Branch discussed people he knows that have electrical vehicles. The range is only 30-35 miles before it kicks into fuel. Commissioner DeTro stated the battery disposal cost is astronomical. The technology just isn't there quite yet.

Similkameen Trail

Commissioner DeTro said a PUD commissioner spoke to him about the Enloe Dam and what must be done. A Crane will need to across the bridge so they can dewater for inspection. The rail is designed to be taken off. It is in application form right now for right of way easement with BLM. Engineer Thomson said the there are ways to remove it.

Engineer Thomson explained the acknowledgement letter regarding county roads and CCT is on the consent agenda and asked of the commissioners had questions. Commissioner Branch noted some concern is the ability to use the roads. This situation doesn't affect the use of the roads, it does open up more funding for CCT, so that is good.

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

Commissioners attended the Board of Health meeting and returned at 3:00 p.m. to a discussion with the Thurlows.

Bernard and Diane Thurlow stopped by to discuss with the Commissioners the Noxious Weed enforcement that was recently done on their property. The commissioners' plan is to consult with Okanogan County Communications Chief Deputy about those agencies who accesses the McClure mountain top the most in order to get together the other users to create a plan to take care of the weeds or help pay for the spraying. Bernard said Noxious Weed dept. doesn't know the affects the spray has on his calving cows they are putting down on his land. You cannot trust the company label on the spray to ensure it is not harmful.

Commissioner Branch moved to take no action

Public Hearing – Fire District #10 Petition for Annexation

Rob Enlow and Ally McClure were present.

The audio recorder was turned on. Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing stating the county has learned the district actually wished to avoid the election method of annexation and wished to use either of the other two options noted in RCW 52.014.011 (3) and 52.04.031, 041, & 051 for the annexation. The District's resolution and the Auditor's Certification of the signatures actually directed that the election method be used but because the RCW doesn't lay the process out clearly for any of the options, the District didn't know precisely which method of annexation would be best. If the BOCC approved the annexation today as presented, the cost of the election method would be around \$8500 which is about half the district annual budget.

Mr. Enlow, commented that if the district had to obtain all the signatures all over again it would likely take another year for those additional signatures to be obtained. Commissioner DeTro responded, that our Chief Civil Deputy told him that the signatures already collected could be used for a subsequent petition in addition to any additional signatures needed to meet either requirement of RCW 52.04.011 (3) dispensing with the election and public hearing or RCW 52.04.031, 041, and 051 which

It must be signed by the owners, according to the records of the county auditor or auditors, of not less than sixty percent of the area of land included in the annexation petition

If the petition is signed by sixty percent of the qualified registered electors residing within the territory proposed to be annexed

The county should spell out what exactly the steps are for the three ways to annex.

Ally McClure, Wannacut lake road, has property within the annexation. He worked on the annexation for over three years. He asserted that the County gave misinformation about the annexation process as they were told what they should do, and the County could suffer liability in that regard.

Commissioner Branch apologized, saying if there was a misunderstanding in the past because of the County, past and present but presently the BOCC couldn't do much more than apologize for the perceived misguidance of another elected official in the past. However, he noted, it is the fire district commissioner's responsibility to understand their own annexation process.

Motion Annexation to Fire District #10

Commissioner Branch moved to deny the proposal under the current situation. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Commissioner Proceedings, September 30 & October 1, 2019

Commissioner Branch moved to approve to approve the September 30 and October 1, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-9, as presented. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. Approve – Joint Letter to USFS – Colville National Forest Expansion
2. Approve – Okanogan County Roads added to National Tribal Transportation Facility Inventory (NTTFI)
3. Approve – Cattleguard Franchise Renewal – VIA, M.P. 4.934 on OCR #3743, Omak MT Rd. CGF# N-37
4. Approve – Award Bid for Concrete Slab at Twisp Transfer Station – Dieter Concrete LLC
5. Approve – Award Bid for Concrete Poured for New Landfill Office – Dieter Concrete LLC
6. Approve – Local Agency Agreement Supplemental #2 – Roadside Hazards HSIP Federal Funds
7. Resolution 129-2019 – Budget Amendment – Current Expense/State Examiner Fund 001.019 - \$6000
8. Resolution 131-2019 – Okanogan County Infrastructure/Development Project Prioritization
9. Resolution 132-2019 – Budget Amendment – Current Expense/Superior Court Clerk Fund 001.006 - \$7955

Motion Contract NW Management Update MHMP/CWPP

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the recommendation of Emergency Manager for update of the MHMP/CWPP and approve the Emergency Management Professional Services Contract with Northwest Management. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion HMGP Grant Amendment

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the HMGP grant amendment extending the grant period from 11/2019 to 11/2020. 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 \$659,003.38. 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 \$1,630.56. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Methow Valley EMS District

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

Commissioner DeTro 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 EMS District and reconvene as the Oroville Rural EMS. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Oroville Rural EMS District

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Oroville Rural EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$9,860. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

The board adjourned at 4:30 p.m.