

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on September 10, 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 taking hand written notes for Okanogan Watch Group.

Pledge of Allegiance**Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

Stella Columbia, David Gecas, Angie Hubbard, Joe Poulin and Kyle Haugen were present.

Ms. Columbia updated the board on the fair that happened over the weekend. She explained it was well attended. She received comments from the ATM vendor that he made way more at our fair than at the Chelan County fair. George Thornton reported that he felt the fair was well attended with moms corralling the youngsters and dads just watching. Ms. Columbia said she had two contracts that still need to be signed such as the poultry judges.

Motion Fair Poultry Judge

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the poultry judge contract No. J-19-2 with John Bryant and authorized the chair to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Ms. Columbia provided the Board with the Okanogan County fee reduction waiver request data and the official written request of the High school career expo. This is justification for the 50% waiver. (attached)

The new announcer booth sound system at the fair that was purchased and donated to the fair by the Team Penners is being stored in a safe protective box.

Mr. Poulin provided work order detail report for the fairgrounds arena take down, repairs and maintenance, supplies, and staff time. The commissioners expressed their appreciation for the time taken to get things done correctly. He reported that Saturday was extremely busy. Commissioner Hover would like another report like the after action report to explain actual staffing needs of the grounds. Due to the rain, many very large puddles where the water accumulates. It also affects the Commercial building and floods. He thought filling those divots would help or grading away from the building. Commissioner Hover said whatever he believes is going to be better within the budget. He also asked Ms. Columbia to run a revenue report for the board to review. Ms. Columbia replied that she did not monitor the spending like she should have and it got away from her. Commissioner Hover discussed moving the fence on the north end closer and along the road for next year.

Commissioners did not hear any complaints this whole year about the grounds or the fair. The feedback received by the board and staff has been very good.

Motion Agriplex & Annex Fee Waiver Career Expo

Commissioner Hover moved to waive 50% of the Agriplex and Annex fee for the High School Career Expo October 29, 2019. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

The Halleluiah carnival plans to hold another Halloween carnival this year. They will need to come and discuss a fee waiver for reduction.

David Gecas updated the board on public records requests he is fulfilling. There is an agreement he is working on with the city of Brewster. He requested executive session to discussed potential and ongoing litigation.

Motion Interlocal Agreement Town of Twisp Building Inspection Services

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the interlocal agreement between the Town of Twisp and the county for building inspection services. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:35 a.m. for 30 minutes inviting Josh Thomson and David Gecas to discuss potential litigation to which the county may be a party or become a party. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

Mr. Gecas presented a letter regarding proposed action of the county Engineer regarding termination of the GN Northern Inc. contract for materials testing.

Motion Materials Testing Termination Letter-GN Northern Inc.

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the letter of termination to GN Northern Inc. regarding the contract between GN Northern, Inc and the county for material testing. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

George Thornton discussed TV district #1 with commissioners stating no progress on the improved signal. He said on Sunday he and Gina McCoy held an informational meeting about how the planning commission works. Commissioner Hover was really glad he did that as the Planning Commission represents the people.

Update – Auditors’ Office – Auditor Cari Hall, Jamie Groomes

Auditor Hall explained it was an eye opening experience for her to spend 54 hours at the fair helping out. It was the first time she was involved to this extent.

Auditor Hall updated the board on the recording position that will be filled. She explained rules coming into effect and how those will impact the county. Recording increase and DOL increase, with recording expected to have a better impact. It is very complicated.

DOL increase is being seen and impacting our revenue. Auditor Hall explained the staffing levels and lateral movements within her office. Still working to get everyone up to speed. Everyone has stepped up to help in all areas needed.

The preliminary budget was submitted to the board on schedule. Mandated elections 101 training is finally happening with three staff attending, trying to get everyone certified.

Ms. Groomes said the ballot for the general elections is coming together. It will be a big ballot. She explained the districts involved. The staffing changes and approvals will have a budget neutral impact to Current Expense. She believes there will be added income above and beyond the staffing costs. The issues she runs into is the cross training, but everyone wants to do it. By the end of the year she hopes things are smoothed out with customers feeling like they are getting what they want.

Auditor Hall explained the training plan needed to train the new sub agent who was recently offered the Twisp sub agent position. He was the only response to the RFP she received, but she is confident

the person is capable.

Commissioner Hover discussed the fair wrist bands being on a roll rather than sheets which seem to be all mixed up and bands taken from one end or the other or from the middle. With three shifts, it is very difficult to keep the bands all sequentially in order.

Ms. Hall said the gate contractor did a great job! They were very organized. She explained issues with vendor's receiving their wrist bands to place on their own wrist which makes it too easy to pass one band around so multiple people can get in without paying. A vendor punch card was suggested as a way to manage the ancillary groups.

Ms. Hall said folks reached out to her at the fair about the disability committee. Commissioner Branch is involved with that.

Update – Public Works – County Engineer Josh Thomson

Maintenance and Road Conditions

There is enough water to grade now but could be too much. There were areas reported where hail accumulations cause a lot of mud.

Statler Bridge Replacement

The Salmon Creek Road will be closed tomorrow. The project is moving along.

Johnson Creek Road

CCT seeking funding to replace the crossing 20 foot box culvert to replace it with. The requirements were larger than anticipated. They will need a permit and approval to move forward with that.

He started the quote process for window replacements. D&R glass is the only one on the vendor list. Commissioner Branch asked about other vendors being listed for selection. Josh said it would be good to have a second opinion.

Petition to vacate Platted Roads in Methow

Engineer Thomson disc used coming up with a formula to determine the value of the land.

Buffalo Lake Rd

It was recommended to leave the speed limit as it, so PW will drive the road for curve signage warning sign coverage, and then the road will be reduced to 35 mph after that.

CCT Road list

Engineer Thomson said there isn't time to correct the list to meet their deadline. Josh recrafted the letter to provide them the ability to work on it. The roads are reported to CRAB.

Conconully Sewer

Next year to budget for upgraded tank system. Liars Cove was contacted by Public Health due to underwater tanks installed in 1990's that haven't been a problem but now appear to be. We may need to dig up the tanks and the lines to move away from the well. The project was approved by DOE and Public Health back then because of the quality of the lake was compromised and now the system they approved back then may be creating impacts to the lake the county now has to deal with.

Barkley & MVID Ditch Project

Commissioner Hover updated that he had been contacted with a November date.

Engineer Thomson explained the items listed on the consent agenda from his office.

Commissioner DeTro explained some meetings with land owners that he and Engineer Thomson attended. Thomson explained a complaint received about Conconully Road striping.

Lloyd Albright commented on Buffalo Lake road as he runs his cattle on the road. He said people don't pay attention to his cattle when they run on the road. He had three cattle killed on the road this year. No one pays attention to the herd laws or the gate laws. The Tribe won't control the speed limit. He asked the Tribe to fence both sides of the road, but they won't. He is glad for the decreased speed limit up there. He is interested in how the commissioners operate such a poor county. He was disappointed about Sheriff Hawley becoming sheriff as he continues the practice of the previous sheriff to just let the tribe deal it. He explained how the Tribe handled him badly. The Sheriff should use the county tax money to patrol the reservation because federal government and county is allowing them to run themselves. Commissioner DeTro explained the Sheriff is also an elected official and the commissioners do not have jurisdiction to tell the sheriff what to do. They have the utmost authority in the county and it is his decision how non tribal members are handled on the reservation.

Commissioners discussed the management document that was printed prior to the rules.

The Clerk of the Board presented for signature the county's letter of General Representations to the board that Cari Hall received from the State Auditor's office regarding the county's 2018 audit.

Motion Letter General Representation County Audit 2018

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the letter and authorized the chairman to sign the letter of general representations of the county to the State Auditor's office regarding the county's 2018 audit. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

3:00 p.m. George Thornton reappeared, a member of the public taking hand written notes for Okanogan Watch Group.

Board of Public Health Meeting – 1234 S. 2nd, Okanogan

The commissioners attended the public health meeting and returned at 3:00 p.m.

Public Hearing – Budget Supplemental Appropriation – Elections Reserve \$6,000

Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to staff, seeing no staff, he closed to staff and opened up to citizen comment, seeing no one he opened up to commissioners discussion.

Motion Resolution 118-2019 Budget Supplemental Elections

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 118-2019 a budget in the amount of \$6,000 within Elections fund 199 for capital expenditure. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Trauma Council Appointment

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the application for appointment to the North Central Regional EMS Trauma Care Council by Commissioner Branch and authorized the chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Subrecipient Agreement CDBG Public Services Grant

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the subrecipient agreement between Okanogan County Community Action Council and Okanogan County for 2019/2020 CDBG Public Services Grant funding. 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 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 EMS District and Reconvene as the BOCC Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Commissioners Proceedings of September 3, 2019

Commissioner Hover moved to approve commissioners' proceedings of September 3, 2019 as presented. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Hover asked about the Victim Witness resolution 119-2019 as it was moving a part time position to a full-time position when the previous discussion was about creating a full-time position. Unbeknownst to the Board at that time, there was already an unfilled authorized full-time position within the Victim Witness program which the prosecutor's office preferred to use over the creation of a new position. Commissioner Hover asked about the source of funding for the position and the Clerk of the Board responded that when she and Ms. Craig reviewed the situation it appeared, and Shauna Field Larson confirmed, that Victim Witness funds were going to exceed what was expected. So, the department will need to submit a budget supplemental for the extra funds which will be used for the position as well.

Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-3, as presented. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. Approve--Supplemental Agreement #1--Survey Services Methow Valley Road--NCW Land Surveying,
2. Approve--Supplemental Agreement #1--Survey Services CRP No. 9155-16 Old 97 Driskell to Verestar Rd-- Erlandsen & Associates Inc.
3. Resolution 119-2019 --Change Part-Time Victim Witness Advocate Employee to a Full Time Position

The board adjourned at 3:55 p.m.