

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on September 16, 2019, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Member, Commissioner Andy Hover, and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

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

Pledge of Allegiance**State Audit Exit Conference-State Auditor and County Departments**

Jake Santistevan, Josh Thomson, Cari Hall, Leah McCormack, Dan Higbee, Rocky Robbins, Angie Hubbard, Larry Gilman and Jan Million were present.

Audit lead provided the audit package. Mr. Santistevan explained what he would be going through. The accountability audit is a standalone audit and the financial statement and Federal grant compliance audits are separate to but discussed together. No formal audit findings this year, but we do have some management letters. The report itself doesn't include any formal audit findings.

Accountability audit report and results were read and explained for fairgrounds activities. The following areas were examined: County Fairground operations; Cash receipting-timeliness and completeness of deposits from landfill; payroll-benefit deductions; Tracking and monitoring of theft sensitive assets; use of restricted funds; and fuel disbursements.

Leah McCormack asked how an independent office would provide the oversight when there is only one person in the department. The county would establish a process and another person who would provide a frequent review of the financials. Segregation of duties is challenging.

The Financial statement report was discussed.

Jake said he believed the BARS guidelines will be made clearer for next year. Do it by annual net instead of in and out every month.

The exit items noted on prior management letters were reviewed.

Commissioner Hover asked for the cost break down for next year's audit.

Commissioner DeTro explained the recent Tonasket EMS District Audit which was given a glowing audit. It will now be an assessment instead of a full blown audit. The letter stating the general representations of the district was signed by the Chairman and sent to Auditor Traci Walker. The State Auditor said the commissioners made the right decision for Tonasket EMS.

Ms. Hall thanked the State Auditor's office for being so willing to listen.

1:30 p.m. Emily Sisson, member of Okanogan Watch Group video and audio recording the meetings. Jennifer Ward, member of the public, taking hand written notes. Teagan Christa Levine, taking and written notes.

Update – Planning Department – Interim Director - Angie Hubbard
Angie Hubbard

Well Tracking

Ms. Hubbard gave her staff report. She prepared an agreement for the Well Tracking Grant Agreement from the Department of Ecology and listed the interim director as the signer. She sent it to Gecas for review

WRIA 49 Planning Unit

A meeting to go over the scope of work to learn whether Aspect might need more time. Technical Advisory Committee developed it and there were some changes asked for by Vanessa's higher ups that should be reviewed by commissioners. She will forward the information to the board. This meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 24 at 3:10 p.m.

The Planning Commission meeting is September 23 and they are asking for an economic analysis on the alternatives. Commissioner Hover said they must be very clear and narrow down the economic factors they want to look at. Ms. Hubbard said those are the types of conversations that will happen. They also mentioned they wanted it reviewed by a consultant or legal review done. Commissioner Hover did not believe that was unreasonable until you have a document that is semifinal we won't be able to have a legal review because we won't know how it would change. It would be after the changes were made based on alternatives then reviewed again before adoption.

The contract between Conconully and Okanogan County requires the county do a Site analysis for lots that require a building permit, but some site analysis's were getting waived like Zach's from the town of Conconully, but the language in the agreement is restrictive with the county doing all the site analysis. An agreement is being discussed to allow more flexibility and that draft will be presented at a later date. Commissioner DeTro said the residents may take that up with the developer and explained the mish mash of setbacks along the city streets that are being applied inconsistently depending on who is asking. Commissioner DeTro agrees with Dan that they be consistent with the application of the setback rules.

Interview Brock Hires Fair Advisory Committee

Commissioner Hover said the board likes to meet and interview to know what interests Mr. Hires has by being on the committee and asked what background he brings. Mr. Hires commented on the fairgrounds reinvestment of the county to make the fair better and grow. He would like to see big name entertainment, see more vendors, commercial building was empty, involved in the fair all his life, his mom is the goat barn superintendent, he has sat through many FAC meetings and just wants to get involved. Commissioner Hover said it is difficult to find people willing and energy wise to be on the board. His big thing is that the FAC has been working well among its members and among the county commissioners and we need people to sit with several interest. In the end, the commissioners make the financial decisions. It has been on an upward trajectory with \$15,000 more in gate revenues over last.

Motion Fair Advisory Committee Member Appointment

Commissioner Hover moved to direct staff to draft an appointment letter for Brock Hires to the Fair Advisory Committee position #4. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Briefing Among Commissioners

Commissioners discussed their schedules and meetings attended.

Review Meeting Minutes and Consent Agenda

Commissioners reviewed the meeting minutes of September 9 and 10.

The board adjourned at 2:30 p.m.