

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS****OKANOGAN COUNTY****SEPTEMBER 30, 2019**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on September 30, 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.

Teagan Christa Levine, member of the public, taking hand written notes was present.

**Review Commissioners' Agenda and Consent Agenda**

Josh Thomson came in to update the board on the schedule tomorrow. Army Corp of Engineers will be meeting in Twisp tomorrow to discuss the church issue and look at the levee the county owns. It would be good to have someone there. Staff can handle the public hearing road vacation tomorrow so he will plan to attend the meeting in Twisp. Commissioners believed that was a good idea. The church property is a concern.

Engineer Thomson learned that the Statler Bridge demolition happened while he was gone, so he will be discussing that with the contractor this week. The contractor may not have had everything in place prior to the demo of the bridge.

Commissioners discussed creating a review/recommendation committee to go over the Planning Director applications.

Commissioner Hover believes comments heard were operationally based, but that position is also to manage the department. A more diverse committee would be good with representation from all geographical areas of the county. Commissioner Branch said we might have someone who can also develop questions that will be the same questions from everyone. Commissioner Branch will put something together. Commissioner Hover will put some names together for the committee from his district. Commissioner Branch suggested a couple people within the planning community who deal with the county department regularly. No decision was made, it was agreed that further discussion would occur.

**Discussion Grizzly Bear Comment Meeting Agriplex**

Sheriff Hawley, Aaron Culp and Joe Poulin were present.

The Park Service and Fish and Wildlife agencies are hosting the meeting and the undersecretary of the interior and Congressman Newhouse will be present as well as numerous other agencies. Commissioners asked for the Sheriff's staff be present at the Grizzly Bear meeting scheduled on Monday, October 7. The meeting is apparently going to be large with up to 500 people expected from across the region because it is the only meeting on this topic in Washington State where people can come and provide their comment on the Grizzly bear plan. Sheriff Hawley is concerned too and will have adequate staffing there. He has heard concerns from the public that warrant his office to be present at the meeting. He is meeting with first responders prior to the event so his staff and everyone needed is organized and ready and on the same page. The group briefly discussed second amendment rights and a good security plan for the meeting. Sheriff Hawley said there will likely be a media corner set up for interviews.

Commissioners asked Mr. Poulin to work with the organizers on set up to ensure the sound system and logistics are in place. He also wishes to ensure there is enough seating for everyone and thought bringing in bleachers might be good. Commissioners wanted to ensure maintenance was prepared and aware at how large the meeting could be.

### **Update – Veteran’s Relief Board – Dale White, Eric Fritz, and Pam Stevens**

Ms. Stevens read from the third Quarterly update of the veteran’s service office. (attached) There was outreach on August 15 to Nespelem and it was not a welcoming visit. The group felt it was unfortunate that the Tribe is not interested in the County VSO providing services nor do they need the county’s help with their veterans. There is no outreach to be provided in Nespelem per the head of the Tribal Veterans Program. There is nowhere to meet in Nespelem, so another venue for the outreach to the area will be considered. We will still serve tribal members but we will ensure the Tribal veteran’s office to first provide their assistance before the county provides its services. Dale White said they made the decision that if they do not want us there then we won’t go there. It appears only one person is causing the problem and they have a terrible history processing the claims work timely and so that person was called in by the Seattle Director to address the complaints the veteran’s paperwork wasn’t being turned in, so that is how the Okanogan Veterans office go involved. Commissioner Branch noted that he had met Lucky Joe Boyd at an Accountable Community Health meeting Moses Lake who seemed sincere about his work with veterans.

The veteran’s board is observing Ms. Stevens and how she is handling some of the veterans, she is accredited by WVA and can process claims now. Mr. White said another thing for now, is the Legacy Board is behind her and plus she has unique ability to contact her husband. They are always looking for funding to enhance the program. Commissioner Branch asked if there was still room on the wall at the Legacy project as a means to make donations. The answer was yes, the plaques are \$100 each which a good portion goes to the program after plaques are etched and installed.

### **Discussion – Homeless Housing Coalition RFQ – Leal Duncan**

Sue Edick, Nancy Nash-Mendez and Margo Amelong were present.

Ms. Edick stated the first thing to discuss is the RFP for homeless housing funds. Ms. Duncan was not present at this time.

Ms. Edick discussed two options for the Board’s consideration for the annual RFP process for 2020 homeless housing funds. The 1st option was for OCCAC to prepare and publish the RFP like they have been doing, and recommending to the commissioners the allocation amounts for 2020 expenditures. The 2nd option would be for the county staff to prepare, publish and process the RFP notice and responses. The commissioners were more in favor of OCCAC providing that work under the current amended contract.

The timeline for the publication would be October 15 with responses due back by October 30. The Coalition would receive, review and rank and the proposals for commissioners’ consideration. The Clerk of the Board did not believe the Professional Services contract with OCCAC included any details on the homeless housing RFP work. It was thought OCCAC could bill the hours under the current contract should the board wish to for OCCAC to issue the RFP.

The 2163 fund Homeless funds RFP was suggested to be done by OCCAC under the current amendment #1 of the professional services agreement through communications with Lael Duncan.

### **Update – Planning Department – Interim Director Angie Hubbard**

#### *YN Response letter*

The board discussed drafting a response letter to Yakama Nation.

### *Motion Directing Drafting of Letter to Yakama Nation*

Hover moved to direct staff to prepare the letter for signature regarding our response to Yakama Nations Superintendent Rigdon. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Several dates, Oct 16 or 21, were provided for the meeting.

### *Veranda Beach*

Ms. Hubbard updated the board on the Veranda Beach area hillside issue. An incident report was submitted to Ecology by the landowner. She is trying to figure out what was supposed to be done to the hillside to by the contractor to prevent this type of issue. Ms. Hubbard described the work that may have caused the problem happened above the hillside and there is an underground spring that seeps under the hillside and undermined the hillside where it is sloughing down. The landowners are trying to figure out if the construction contractor will fix the issue. Commissioner Branch asked if a geological work had been required for the steep slope work. Ms. Hubbard is reviewing the documentation for that project to learn what may have been required.

### *Comp Plan continued deliberations*

Comp Plan Deliberations are continuing as planned. There was some wildfire plan policies that were requested. Commissioner Hover stated he knows someone from Wyoming who said they had to abide by a wildfire plan there. They were asking for some goals and policies to look at. Commissioner DeTro said the state is mandated to protect the unprotected lands from wildfire and those plans are being reviewed by the Wildland Fire Advisory Committee for submittal and adoption by the legislature. Commissioner Branch thought there was some policies in the existing or draft plan and suggested a couple more from the Chelan Comprehensive Plan. Commissioners Hover and Branch recalled that they thought there was a section in the plan (verified later that there were some) Commissioner Branch suggested that It helps when we have succinct policies.

### *Wolf Post Recovery Comments*

Ms. Hubbard discussed the letter received from WDFW regarding the request for comments on the scope of EIS on Wolf post recovery plan development. The scoping comments are due November 1. The BOCC would like to submit comments and feel is very important. If 36.78 says the rural character is to be maintained and another public agency is making it difficult for us to do so then what?

The commissioners discussed the definition of "rural". Commissioner Hover shared some comparisons of densities in Seattle to Okanogan County. Commissioners believe towns and cities within our county are not urban but rural, but guidelines are not consistent with that. Commissioner Branch admitted that such terms were used loosely in planning and thought perhaps the word "ruban" could be used to describe rural towns with only a few hundred residents.

These are issues the BOCC continue to grapple with this.

### *Grizzly meeting next Monday, October 7*

Ms. Hubbard inquired; does the board need staff support for this meeting? Commissioners thanked her, but did not believe so.

### **Motion Letter of Support Town of Winthrop Sewer Plan Upgrade**

Commissioner Branch moved to direct staff to prepare the letter of support for the Town of Winthrop's sewer system plan grant to the department of ecology.

### **Public Hearing–Supplemental Appropriation–Infrastructure Fund 117, Homeless Housing Fund142**

Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to the public, seeing no public to comment he closed to public and opened up to commissioner discussion.

**Motion Resolution 128-2019 Budget Supplemental Appropriation Fund 117 & Fund 142**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 128-2019 a budget supplemental within Infrastructure fund 117 in the amount of \$19,900 and within the Homeless Housing fund 142 in the amount of \$25,000. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

**Public Hearing – Supplemental Appropriation – Crime Victims Fund 129 - \$17,500**

Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to the public, seeing no public to comment he closed to public and opened up to commissioner discussion.

**Motion Resolution 129-2019 Budget Supplemental Appropriation Crime Victims**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 129-2019 a budget supplemental appropriation within the Crime Victims fund in the amount of \$17,150. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

**Public Hearing – Supplemental Appropriation – ER&R Fund 501**

Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to the public, seeing no public to comment he closed to public and opened up to staff. Engineer Thomson explained the equipment order (striping truck) was expected in 2020 but the equipment is actually ready now and will be delivered in 2019. The proposed 2020 budget will be adjusted to reflect the expense for the equipment happened this year.

**Motion Resolution 130-2019 Budget Supplemental Appropriation ER&R**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 130-2019 a budget supplemental appropriation within the ER&R fund in the amount of \$475,000. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

**Discussion Homeless Housing RFP**

Lael Duncan was previously reached to discuss her involvement with the Homeless Housing RFP. Ms. Duncan apologized for not being able to attend the earlier Homeless Housing meeting with the coalition and offered that she will be able to provide the RFP drafting and publishing work for 2020 Homeless Housing Funds allocation within the amount provided in her recent contract. This will need to be relayed to the coalition that OCCAC will be providing that service.

**Motion Prepare Amendment #2 of the OCCAC Prof Service Agreement-Homeless Housing**

Commissioner Branch moved to direct staff to prepare amendment #2 to the Homeless Housing Professional Services agreement with OCCAC to include RFP work for 2020 Homeless Housing funds allocation. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

**Discussion – Economic Alliance, Prioritization list for 2020 – Roni Holder-Diefenbach**

Lael Duncan was present.

Ms. Holder-Diefenbach explained the infrastructure committee met last Monday to hear applicants present their 2020 infrastructure projects for prioritization. The committee heard from 15 applicants. If the dollars were available the list includes those types of project. Economic Alliance really tried hard to relay the entities submit. The number 1 project was Omak Airport water phase II. They already received funding for phase I. (Note: Commissioner Branch is one of the committee members prioritizing these projects)

2020 County Community/Economic Development Project Prioritization list gets ranked at a regional level. The process was streamlined to follow what the state had so it was a new process. Now our application is good for regional level and county level. The committee will review the application for specific economic developments that are large and small. There is a criteria each member has as well as rubric details for scoring the applications. The recommendation from the committee is to review both the small and larger projects. These projects must be ready

Ms. Holder-Deifenbach discussed another idea that came out of the infrastructure committee was to develop a tech team to help educate applicants on what funding opportunities are out there so applicants are better prepared to make those connections. It would bring others to the table who may not know where to start.

Commissioner DeTro asked about the OCCAC Homestead Resource Training Center project. Ms. Duncan described the proposed offerings that OCCAC would provide to local people; the project includes a new facility in North Omak.

The Economic Alliance approved the list last week. If approved by the board, a resolution adopting the 2020 list would be provided to each applicant for any grants they are writing. It is a requirement or they won't be eligible for grant applications.

### **Motion Staff Direction Infrastructure Prioritization List**

Commissioner Hover moved to direct the Clerk of the Board to draft a resolution to adopt the prioritization list for 2020 Okanogan County Public Infrastructure Project Prioritization list and 2020 Okanogan County Community Economic Development Project Prioritization list approval. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Review Meeting Minutes**

Commissioners reviewed their meeting minutes. Commissioner Hover said he was good with the September 24 proceedings. He said he was not going to be in the office tomorrow, but that he didn't have any additional corrections.

### **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 \$169,304.45 and Payroll vouchers in the amount of \$1,078,630.47. 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 \$44,173.30 and regular vouchers in the amount of \$1,205.30. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

The board adjourned at 3:15 p.m.