

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****DECEMBER 14, 2020**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on December 14, 2020, with; Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover; and Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

AV Capture was turned on and meeting video and audio recorded.

Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda

Commissioners reviewed and discussed their agenda items

Briefing Among Commissioners-

Reminder Complete Employee Performance Evaluation Forms & Schedule time for each.

Commissioners reviewed their draft press release regarding the resignation letter of Prosecutor Arian Noma whose last day is January 15, 2021. The Press release provides the process of filling a mid-term vacancy in the elected office by the Okanogan County Republican Party. Commissioner Hover stated he is a party member and would be recusing himself from the selection vote.

Continued Public Hearing Okanogan County 2021 Budget Adoption Consideration

Auditor Cari Hall, Treasurer Leah McCormack, & Lisa Schreckengost, Dennis Rabidou

Commissioner DeTro opened up the continued public hearing of the Okanogan County 2021 Budget to discussion among the finance committee group.

Mr. Rabidou provided a draft resolution regarding funding to appropriate the additional revenue to provide for stipends paid from revenue from the University of Washington. The plan is to budget for it for 2021 rather than bill for November and December in 2020 for payment to the employee. The employee would get reimbursed for those months in 2021 for the program that is outside the regular program work. The impact was to add the revenue and expenditure into 2021 budget. The resolution was modified for approval. Mr. Rabidou thanked the commissioners for supportive of Superior Court in keeping the courts going and providing space in order to do so. Our court was one of the few in the state that could keep going and meet the COVID requirements. COVID funds requested was around \$88,000. The body scanners and temperature taking equipment was discussed. Other grant billings are being prepared for submittal and will continue on a monthly basis.

The group reviewed the 2021 preliminary budget and addressed "housekeeping" that Auditor Hall identified. The proposed bank loan and current interfund loan was discussed. The idea of leasing sheriff vehicles is still on the table to figure out. Commissioner Hover discussed Public Works leasing their vehicles versus purchasing their vehicles and what the strategy was for a more wisely applied process for running the trucks for three years that would not have a negative offset. Enterprise is so big they have government programs already established. Treasurer McCormack thought inquiry and consideration of local companies should happen of what local programs could provide. Commissioner Hover said all vehicles now begin being budgeted in ER&R to start a long-term plan.

Teagan "Christa" Levine discussed some changes to the Prosecutor's Victim Witness budget fund 129. She explained the need of the Victim Witness employee to communicate with victims being assisted when out of the office during working hours. A budget was provided for the cell phone costs.

Treasurer McCormack recommended bundling any Capital Improvement projects for funding because rates are 1.2-2%. The county has not bonded for awhile and would need to go through underwriter, bond process, and standards and poor ratings process. Now would be a good opportunity to bundle projects. We have three years to spend the bonded funds.

The remaining red tabs in the 2021 budget worksheet were reviewed and adjusted.

The Planner I position that is split .5 FTE between Oroville and .5FTE the county, the county will contract with the City of Oroville for half the salary and wage of the full-time employee for contracted planning services provided to the city of Oroville.

Motion Continued Public Hearing 2021 Okanogan County Budget

Commissioner Hover moved to continue the Public Hearing on the Okanogan County 2021 Budget to Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 1:45 p.m. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners adjourned at 12:10 p.m. for lunch and returned at 1:24 p.m..

Planning Update-Director of Planning Pete Palmer

Director Palmer had emailed last week stating she would not be here today, but the Clerk of the Board did not remove her update time before publishing this week's agenda.

Review Commissioners Proceedings of December 7 & 8, 2020

Commissioners used this time to review their meeting minutes and make corrections. Commissioner Hover asked that items 7-11 listed on the consent agenda be removed in order to consider those items on an individual basis because they have to do with employee wages.

Public Hearing Lake Management District Roles -Planning

Planner Angie Hubbard

Commissioner DeTro opened up the public hearing to staff. Ms. Hubbard read from the staff report. (attached)

One written filed objection was received from Michael Kramer. Ms. Hubbard explained the recommended options of the board. 1) Deny the objection, 2) Grant the objection and reduce the special assessment 3) Grant the objection and remove the parcels from the special assessment roll or 4) Order the preparation of the new special assessment roll.

The house does not appear on the current assessment roll. A map was provided showing the location of the house and the other sliver parcel. He only wants to be assessed for one parcel and he wants rectification for prior rolls where the two rolls were assessed. This is the first time Ms. Hubbard received the request in writing.

Commissioner DeTro closed the hearing to staff and opened up to public seeing no one he closed the hearing to the public and opened up to commissioners' discussion.

Commissioner Hover discussed the documentation to be approved and which option it contained.

Motion Resolution 175-2020 Lake Management District Rolls

Commissioner Hover moved to grant the written objection from Michael Krammers and approve resolution 175-2020 outlining the parcel removal and other subsequent additions to the rolls. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

The Public Hearing was closed.

The commissioners briefly discussed the press release that was sent to the media by the board earlier today regarding the Prosecutor's resignation.

Emergency Management, Maurice Goodall, asked for clarification about budget reserves and how a reserve can be made in the budget. Commissioner Hover stated per resolution we can reserve a beginning fund balance. The beginning fund balance is the reserve amount. Mr. Goodall discussed his understanding of his budget. Commissioner Hover explained the budget is set by the commissioners which then sets an amount of money the cities have to put in. Mr. Goodall is trying to get the EM fund an untouched reserve. Commissioner Hover said the EM Council will need to be asked about providing the funds to build a reserve and it must be part of the program. Commissioner Branch asked if other county EM departments build their reserves for emergencies. Commissioner Branch stated that Emergency funds are needed to respond to certain emergency situation that are not known. Mr. Goodall stated his desire to have a contingency reserve. Commissioners said if that happens the rest of his budget must be spent within budget. If he budgets tight there are no extra funds to respond to an emergency. The EM Council must determine the amount they can afford.

Commissioner Branch discussed Forest Collaborative writing a comment letter regarding Twisp Restoration project and Landscape assessment for the extended comment period. Commissioner Hover explained he'd like to be careful on categorical exclusions.

The board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.