

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS****OKANOGAN COUNTY****DECEMBER 8, 2020**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on December 8, 2020, with; Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover; and Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

Commissioner Branch was present via zoom.

**Continued Okanogan County 2021 Budget Hearing**

Cari Hall, Leah McCormack, Lisa Schreckengost, Aaron Culp, Tanya Craig

Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to staff. The group presented the county's 2021 budget on the presentation screen.

Commissioners reviewed budgets that were not previously completed. Commissioners discussed the Bank loan of \$1 million for Sheriff's Vehicles. Treasurer McCormack discussed paying off the current loan and starting over versus starting a new loan and not paying off the old one. Auditor Hall discussed where the funds would be receipted to, or at the end of the year, via resolution committing the funds, recommended how 197 is used and at the end of the year those become uncommitted, that way we do not have to track everything at the end. Fund 197 dedicates lines to departments, with the resolution it would allow a cleaner process when we uncommit/unrestrict the funds at the end of the year. It all comes from current expense anyway.

Tanya Craig reminded the board of the law that increases salary for exempt employees. The county has already classified which employees are exempt based on duty test. The law change affects three employees including the Events Coordinator. It was suggested that her week be changed to a Tuesday through Saturday position to provide coverage on the grounds during the busiest time of the week and declassify the position to a 40 hour per week. For fire work, the hours could be coded to Emergency Management budget. Commissioner Hover stated he'd like to provide overtime in the fairgrounds budget at \$10,000. The other position is in Central Services. The IT Support Technician will need to be changed to Grade 29 step 2 that one is a true exempt position on call 24/7. The third position is the Pest Control Agent position. Commissioner Hover suggested reclassifying the position to a 40 hour per week position at 16 step 5 with an overtime budget. The Pest District was created under RCW 17.12 which includes insects, predators & pests, and included the whole county but the district is collecting assessment only from commercial orchard acres. A further discussion will be needed regarding the district's revenue arrangement. Commissioners discussed moving any non-bargaining position at grade 10 step one to minimum wage.

The group discussed and adjusted the following budgets Capital Improvements, Homeless Housing, Affordable Housing, Title III, Emergency Management, Pest Control District,

Commissioners discussed fund 104, 105, and 107. The group budgeted funds in accordance with resolutions that are in place. If in the future the board and OBHC wish to change how the funds are broken out. Reserves are left in the funds but if something emerges later that can be addressed at the time.

Commissioner Branch discussed opportunity for public comment on the preliminary budget prior to adopting the budget. Commissioners discussed a date to continue the hearing to, but also discussed having budget work sessions in between.

**Motion Continued Public Hearing Budget Adoption**

Commissioner Hover moved to continue the public hearing for 2021 County Budget to Monday, December 14, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

**Board of Health Meeting- 1234 2nd Ave S Okanogan****Bid Opening Radio System Consultant-Mike Worden**

Mike Worden, Walt Stalder

Mr. Worden stated bid openings and responses for RFP for a radio improvements consultant that was published October 1, 2020 for two weeks as well as a tool on Washington state OMWBE Women's and veterans website.

The Bids were opened and Mr. Worden explained the evaluation process identified by the communications group that would ensure to come up with a recommendation for Commissioners approval. Bids were received from the following responders. Qualifications is the prime determinate in the selection.

CSI Communications Oato California Bid amount \$296,658

Vigilance Consulting Group, Sterling Virginia Bid amount \$397,712

ADCOM Woodinville, WA Bid amount \$836,900

Televate, LLC Vienna VA Bid amount \$78,042

The group will take the bids back and evaluate the bids.

**Approve Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Consent Agenda items 1-4. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. MOU Sheriff Employee Association & Okanogan County
2. Grant Application Renewal-Military Department \$27,896
3. Bid Award and Purchase Approval- Wheel Loader NC Machinery
4. Bid Award 2019 County Wide Guardrail Safety Project-JR Construction

**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 \$582,650.59 and Payroll vouchers in the amount of \$1,125,453.12. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

**Motion Public Health Voucher**

Commissioner moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including payroll vouchers in the amount of \$53,857.73. 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 Hover 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 \$57,550.16. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

### **Tentative Discussion W/ NRCS, FSA, & Conservation District-Emergency Management**

Craig Nelson, Conservation District, Sarah Trotnick, Celeste Accord

Maurice Goodall explained how he has been working on the Cold Springs fire for the county residents affected and addressing concerns of hay and fencing. He spoke to several people affected by both the Palmer fire and the Cold Springs fire about a whole gambit of things. Held a meeting with the State Emergency Management Department and he told them what was needed. 79,000 tons of hay is needed. Some of the cattle are in feed lots right now. There is work needed by the farmers to identify what they need. The formula for the cattle is around 35 lbs of hay per day for 135 days. The cost is around \$1.422 million dollars. There is nothing available to assist and he knew they would say no. Commissioner Hover stated there is still \$1.2 million dollars of loss to address. State Dept of Ag email provided some links to those in the room. He doesn't know how to assist other than to rely on the programs of those attending this meeting today. Commissioners needed to know what the number was of the loss so they can relay to the state what aid is needed.

Celeste Accord with Farm Service of Okanogan County provided a list of the aid through Farm Service Agency. (attached) She provided the rundown of each program relaying the details of each, timelines, and participation levels.

Ms. Accord also explained that verifiable and reliable documentation records were going to be needed from the producers of their lost livestock inventory for the program. Loans are also available and those do require a disaster designation by the Secretary. Have not been notified of the designation yet but is expected.

Assisted 27 producers with 19 in the works for Forage Disaster Program. Ms. Accord explained its about \$19 per head reimbursement.

Okanogan County is very blessed with the private donation responses and that not shared with other counties and other counties cannot touch that response. The Long-Term Recovery is unmatched!

Sarah Troutman Conservation District explained the primary program ECLIP and just finished the sign up. There were several practices our producers were interested in. Really working with the Ag producers and were concerned about the smaller producers. Deferred grazing payment to pay \$6.57 per acre for pasture losses if they agree not to graze it. Designed for them to find other pasture. The first payment isn't until next winter. Fencing is a big challenge but they do not have hold downs and ask FSA to work on the boundary fencing. They pay \$3.87 per foot. They received very few applications. Help a lot on the forest land, and not many requests for clean-up after the fire. Cover crop to help hold the soil in place payment in the spring for the seed. Encouraged people to continue coming into their conservation office as many do not know who they are. Troughs, tree planting, seeding are also available.

Craig Nelson Conservation District mostly grant funded for their programs by the State Conservation District and is a tale of two takes. In 2014 they requested immediate assistance and got it very fast. There were leftovers from that appropriation. This year he only received \$10,000, which was a big difference over the 2014 grant. Aided 60 people.

Shelley Keitzman explained a process to monitor employees coming to work each day that includes a

self assessment for COVID symptoms and presented a sheet for the assessment documentation, per the Public Health Official's guidelines. She would like the commissioners okay on the form and how employees are to document the information before clocking in each day. Each office would screen each employee each time an employee comes in the office and form maintained by the supervisor each day on a day to day basis. Put a sign on the door that each employee does a self-check. The forms are not retained beyond the day to day screening.

### **Motion CDBG CV-1 Grant**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the CDBG Grant Agreement between Okanogan County and Dept of Commerce for the Corona Virus CV-1 Grant in the amount of \$227,285. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Motion**

Commissioner Hover moved to ratify the signature of the Fairgrounds Manager signature on the rental contract for use of the Agriplex by Superior Court. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, Motion carried.

### **Motion Commercial Building Rental Waiver**

Commissioner Hover moved approve and authorize the chairman to sign the 100% rental cost Waiver request of Constanza Smith for the Christmas Basket Program use of the Commercial Building at the Fairgrounds. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Motion Ratify Fairgrounds Manager Signature**

Commissioner Hover moved to ratify the signature of the Fairgrounds Manager signature on the contract for use of the commercial building on the fairgrounds by the Christmas Basket Program Constanza Smith. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Motion Contract Agriplex Propane Heat Superior Court**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the amendment to the Superior Court Contract for use of Propane for the heating of the Agriplex. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Resolution 170-2020 Senior Planner Position Reinstatement**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 170-2020 reauthorizing the Senior Planner position within the Planning Department. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, Motion carried.

### **Motion**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the LTAC amended agreement between Okanogan County and Methow Interpretive Center in the amount of \$1000. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, Motion carried.

### **Motion Pape Machinery for Fairgrounds In-Kind Table & Chairs**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the In -Kind Agreement between Pape Machinery and Okanogan County for table and chairs and advertising. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, Motion carried.

### **Approve Commissioners Proceedings November 30 & December 1, 2020**

Commissioners did not approve the meeting minutes for the week of November 30.

The board adjourned at 5:00 p.m.