

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS****OKANOGAN COUNTY****FEBRUARY 10, 2020**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on February 10, 2020, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

After much discussion about elected official wage changes, the board agreed the resolution was ready for approval.

**Motion Resolution 18-2020 Elected Officials Salary**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 18-2020 adopting elected officials' salaries that will now be tied to the Superior Court Judge's salary as shown in the resolution and effective timeline. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners discussed their travel stipend and read resolution 3-1993 which initially authorized the stipend. The resolution provided three different ways to justify how a commissioner could be compensated for in or out of county travel. Commissioner DeTro proposed \$1300 monthly to cover all travel including out of county and in county travel. RCW 42.24.090 addresses reimbursement claims by officers and employees.

Commissioners discussed doing away with portions of the county's travel policy and adopting the states per diem policy with regards to mileage and meals reimbursements. Commissioners discussed ways to justify the basis for the stipend at \$1300 using the state based mileage rate based on each commissioner driving 20,000 miles per year based on how much it costs to rent a vehicle from ER&R.

**Review Commissioners' Agenda & Consent Agenda**

Commissioners reviewed their consent agenda and provided edits to the Engineer's misspelled name and inserted an executive session at 3:00p.m. on Monday.

**Potts & Associates Legislative Issues-Conference Call**

Potts and Associates called in their legislative update and discussed the various bills being considered. (attached)

**Briefing Among Commissioners – Discusses Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedules**

Anna Lyon Larry Hudson

Ms. Lyon requested time with the commissioners to discuss starting seasonal workers earlier than usual for the Noxious Weed season. Ms. Lyon explained the reason for her request was because there was a lot of work to catch-up on before the season starts that could not be accomplished due short staffing. She thought the work load would be no more than 40 hours per week and would provide a benefit to the department.

Ms. Lyon stated a budget supplemental will be prepared to budget the funds for the additional staffing costs that carried over from last year. Commissioners were alright with bringing on temporary workers earlier than usual this season.

Mr. Hudson said he met with USFS to work out a plan to address the lien on the Thurlows property due to noxious weeds on their property. The USFS among other agencies has access to the mountain

top for communication tower access. The noxious weeds were found in the county right of way and in the lower canyon area. The USFS said there wasn't anything they could do now to help with the cost, but they were in favor of helping in the future. The USFS was also in favor of developing a future process and plan for addressing the weeds there. Commissioner DeTro said he doesn't want agencies to place a financial burden on the property when the problem appears to be due to the agencies accessing the property. Ms. Lyon said there were additional sights identified that were not close to the road. He asked that a tangible plan be laid out so everyone is on the same page. The total lien amount was about \$3500 with about \$600 of that being administration costs. Ms. Lyon and Mr. Hudson thanked the board for their consideration.

Commissioners discussed the following three annually chosen options the commissioners could be compensated for in county and/or out of county travel.

1. A flat monthly payment of \$960 per month OR
2. Mileage reimbursement at the same rate received by all county employees OR
3. Receive the use of a rental vehicle from Public Works

Annually, around budget time, the commissioners would then elect which option to receive the compensation and depending on which they elect, a payroll change notice would be submitted annually to HR and Payroll. Commissioners also discussed tying the mileage rate to the state mileage rate.

1:30 p.m. Gina McCoy taking computer notes for Okanogan Watch Group.

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

Dave Hilton

Ms. Hubbard explained that she had received an October 2019 invoice from Life Line that was missed for Tonasket EMS District that will need to be paid in addition to the current invoice. She said a budget supplemental will be needed in the future for \$21,700.

### **Motion Tonasket EMS District**

Commissioner Branch moved to adjourn as the BOCC and reconvene as the Tonasket EMS District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certifications and authorize the Tonasket EMS District vouchers to be paid for October 2019 in the amount of \$21,700 and January 2020 in the amount of \$21,700 to be paid to Life Line. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

Alternates were discussed and whether the board wished to formalize those for WRIA 49 Planning Unit.

### **Motion Initiating Government Appointment WRIA 49 Planning Unit**

Commissioner Branch moved to approve Brian Cook as alternate to the position reserved for the Okanogan Land Trust for WRIA 49 Planning Unit. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch discussed the CAO.

### ***Land Use Matter***

On a land use matter Planning Director Ms. Hubbard is working on she relayed what ecology said on

the use 1) they are building on erodible materials, 2) they will need structural stabilization, and she wanted to keep the board in the loop as she will send a letter saying it's not possible. Ecology would then work with the land owner on the department's requirements.

The proposed land use must be 35 feet from the ordinary high water mark. Ms. Hubbard said the land owner may call to discuss further.

#### *Monthly report of Planning Activities*

The monthly report of the Planning activities was submitted for commissioners' information. (attached)

#### **Motion Closed Session RCW 42.30.140(4)(b)**

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 2:10 p.m. for 10 minutes inviting Tanya Craig and Josh Thomson to discuss strategies to be taken related to Union negotiations. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Closed session ended at 2:15 p.m. no decisions were made.

#### **Public Hearing- to Authorize Local State Shared Tax for Affordable & Supportive Housing**

Lael Duncan, OCCAC

The audio recorder was turned on.

Commissioner DeTro opened up the public hearing to staff. The Clerk of the Board provided that, in coordination with the cities within the county, the following cities of Oroville, Tonasket, Omak, and Winthrop responded as to their intent to impose the sales tax legislation authorized in substitute house bill 1406. Winthrop and Omak passed resolutions of intent, but will not put forth a vote to the tax payers for qualifying tax legislation. The cities of Brewster, Pateros, Twisp, Okanogan, and Conconully have not responded.

The Clerk of the Board explained THIS TAX IS NOT A NEW TAX, rather the tax will be credited against state sales taxes collected within Okanogan County, and, therefore, will not result in higher sales and use taxes within the County, but it will represent an additional source of funding to address housing needs in Okanogan County.

Commissioner DeTro closed the hearing to staff and opened up to the public.

Lael Duncan stated she recommended the board continue on this trajectory towards this legislation.

Commissioner DeTro then closed the hearing to public comment and opened up commissioners' discussion.

Commissioner Branch explained there is a bill on the table before the legislators to extend the deadline for those cities to adopt legislation for qualifying tax or an ordinance to impose the tax for those that already have a qualifying tax. He also explained the Cap used to calculate each agencies portion.

#### **Motion Ordinance 2020-2 Affordable Housing Legislation**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve ordinance 2020-2 adopting legislation to authorize a sales and use tax for affordable and supportive housing in accordance with substitute house bill 1406. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner DeTro closed the public hearing.

#### **Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)**

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 3:00 p.m. for 30 minutes inviting Tanya Craig, Risk Pool Attorneys Chuck and K. Harper, Sheriff Hawley, Undersheriff Culp and Chief Corrections Deputy Denney to discuss litigation or potential litigation to which the agency is likely to become a part and when public knowledge regarding the discussion could cause an adverse legal or financial consequence to the county. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive Session ended at 3:15 p.m. no decisions were made.

Commissioners sat and waited until 3:30 before any other action was done.

### **Motion Resolution 23-2020 Commissioners Travel Stipend**

Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 23-2020 establishing the commissioners travel stipend choices. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Motion Purchase and Sale Agreement Miller Pit**

Commissioner Branch moved approve and authorize the chairman to sign the closing agreement, acknowledgement, and Excise Tax Affidavit for the purchase of the Miller Pit property. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Motion Oroville Rural EMS District**

Commissioner Branch moved to adjourn as the BOCC and reconvene as the Oroville Rural EMS District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Oroville Rural EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$9860. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

### **Review Meeting Minutes**

Commissioners reviewed their meeting minutes of February 3, 4, 2020 and provided corrections.

The board adjourned at 4:45 p.m.