

## RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

### OKANOGAN COUNTY

**MARCH 20, 2020**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Emergency session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on March 20, 2020, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

Also Present: Emergency Manager, Maurice Goodall, Public Health Official, Lauri Jones; Risk Manager, Tanya Craig; Public Works Engineer Josh Thomson; Sheriff Tony Hawley

#### **Discussion**

Resolution 45-2020 was prepared as the means to declare a public health emergency due to the Global COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioners discussed the situation noting that medical facilities and emergency supplies are needed to deal with the pandemic and that supplies be prioritized and available to Okanogan County to prevent the spread of the virus. There are no positive COVID-19 tests in Okanogan County at this time, but it is inevitable as results take time and many have tested but test results have not yet been determined. The commissioners were notified by the Hospitals in the county that the situation posed a huge financial burden on them and therefore have requested to be placed on registered warrants in order to address the emergency going forward. The County Treasurer was contacted about putting into place emergency registered warrants.

It was recommended by Emergency Management and Public Health to declare the emergency which may help with the receipt of supplies to Okanogan County.

#### **Motion Resolution 45-2020 Declaration of Emergency-COVID-19**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 45-2020 declaring an emergency within Okanogan County due to COVID-19 beginning March 20 through April 30, 2020 to further exercise emergency protocols. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

#### **Motion Resolution 43-2020 Families First Coronavirus Response Act**

Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 43-2020 adopting the Families First Coronavirus Response Act which allows certain employees to request up to eighty hours of paid sick leave with their department head approval. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners received several requests to close Okanogan County borders and stop the clearing of the North Cascades highway to prevent possible coastal populations from access to the county. Commissioners have been answering all sorts of questions and concerns to help mitigate the situation.

Commissioners continued to discuss protocols with the Sheriff, Public Health, Public Works, and Emergency Management.

The board adjourned at 12:48 p.m.