

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS****OKANOGAN COUNTY****MAY 5, 2020**

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

**Briefing Among Commissioners**

Mike Worden

Mike Worden explained there were three licenses that are being liquidated so there are three frequencies available. AdCom was used for the study of those frequencies about what the limitations are and what we can do with them and the types of communications to be used. The info came back and we can get three frequencies. Gaining the additional VHF for the system will only benefit the system in the long run. We cannot just go to market place to purchase you go through the FCC and in that case we get them or we don't and may be limited. The purchase was determined to be a sole source situation. The price is \$100,000 for all three but no terms or negotiations have been discussed. The resolution will allow the negotiations to begin. Commissioner Hover asked if adding the VHF channels would the other entities need to change their radios. If we get more then no one has to change radios then right. Mike said no there would not be a need to change the radio. The three do not fill the total need for your system. WE are not sure how many more we will need but this would be progress towards what we need. These frequencies will work on the current radio systems. We will need to figure some things. It seems to be a sellers' market, we could resell them to someone else. The licenses are from Canada to Oregon so there are many agencies who could use them.

Commissioner Branch said the dispatch advisory board discussed and recommended the purchase. The board did vote to recommend the purchase to the commissioners, stated Mr. Worden.

**Motion**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 56-2020 a sole source resolution for the purchase of three frequencies from Spectrum Communications Inc. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Once sales tax comes through a journal adjustment can be done to replace funds initially used for this, said Mr. Worden.

Commissioner Hover stated the county's resolution declaring an emergency expired yesterday May 4. Does the board wish to renew? We should base on funding allocations. Commissioner DeTro said funding is a reason for extending the declaration.

Maurice Goodall was consulted about extending our declaration to be in place until further notice. He will send the extension to the Governor's office. We are still operating under the Governor's order but the county should acknowledge to citizens that we are still under a state of emergency.

**Motion Staff Direction**

Commissioner Branch moved to direct the Clerk to draft a resolution to extend the declaring of emergency resolution 50-2020 until further notice. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

**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 certification and authorize the Tonasket EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$21,700 to Life Line for April Services. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

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

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

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

The Clerk provided a draft joint letter that Commissioner Laura Osiadacz of Kittitas County sent around to other counties for review. It was regarding opening the state economy. (attached)

Commissioner Branch stated in his opinion the letter was sending a mixed message especially when Kittitas County was going to ask for a variance. The letter was not lending well to that request. It is difficult because if we are contrary to what others are saying, it doesn't acknowledge the letters from counties that have already communicated with the governor's office. There were changes made to the original letter that now sends mixed messages. Commissioners felt the letter already sent from Okanogan County relayed everything the board wanted to say. The hope was to expedite local authority, but our letter and include accountability.

Commissioner Hover said he was sent the WA State Emergency Management plan and looking through it, bullet point 9 contemplates the loss of rights and liberties during a pandemic. Commissioner Hover read that section. Commissioner Branch discussed whether it was a constitutional violation or not. The AG's were looking to ensure that line was not crossed. If we think we can do a better job in our rural communities, then creating more anxiety by taking people to task, then we need to demonstrate that. Spending time on creating challenges is not a good effort.

Commissioner Hover thought an additional letter to thank the Governor's office for doing what the counties requested. We do need to discuss how to meet the criteria laid out by the Governor for going into Phase II. Our numbers will need to show no new cases in a three week time. The Board discussed the controversial one size fits all that does not quite dial into what we experience on the ground.

### **Motion Resolution 57-2020**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve 57-2020 extending Okanogan County's Declaration of Emergency. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

### **Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-5. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. Letter Appointment LTAC – At Large Rachell Haven
2. CERB Grant -A19 Voucher Request #1-ACRS
3. LTAC Amended 2020 Allocations
4. Consulting Contract-Parametrix Supplement-Professional Services
5. Resolution 54-2020 Amending LTAC Membership

Commissioner Branch will touch base with Economic Alliance to discuss the work they have provided to businesses as a response to COVID-19.

The board adjourned at 11:30 AM.