

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****MAY 6, 2020**

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

Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch was absent due to attending a different meeting.

Discussion County Offices

The Clerk of the Board asked for direction on whether the board wanted to set their regular schedule to include departmental updates that would be remote attendance by the public but physically attended by department heads with proper social distancing and hygiene. Commissioners discussed the need to keep abreast of the information provided by those departments.

Commissioner Hover believes we should get back to our regular schedule because the board needs the information to make educated decisions about things and regular briefings are necessary. It was suggested the meeting be done by Zoom for public participation to protect our staff. For department heads who wish to be present we can ensure proper COVID-19 protocol. We rarely have more than 10 people in the room at one time and our room is large enough to practice social distancing. The Clerk will notify the departments of the return to regular scheduling.

Commissioner DeTro explained his thoughts on the Governor's Order and the confusion with the variances. He would like to discuss this with Public Health on Monday. The Clerk of the Board stated Public Health had contacted her to schedule the discussion.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to direct the Clerk of the Board to inform Planning that the Tonasket EMS district and all relative business of Tonasket EMS be brought back under the commissioners' office. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Fairgrounds opening discussion will happen Monday, said Commissioner Hover. The north end fairgrounds is open for day use. Commissioner DeTo discussed

Commissioner DeTro is going to contact Commissioner Skoog because she indicated as chair EWCOG to band together the eastern counties who are allowed to do a soft opening.

The Board discussed Phase I bullet points and what is included in the phase I approach.

Ecology is holding a water banking meeting and Commissioner Hover was invited attend.

Commissioner DeTro stated his wife started an idea to help provide funds to distressed businesses. The idea was to create T-shirts that says "I am a COVID-19 Survivor" and with the funds disburse to distressed businesses from the funds. On Friday at the property there will be a drive through for people to pick up their T-shirts.

Auditor has been overwhelmed with calls about the election.

The board adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

