

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****OCTOBER 12, 2020**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on October 12, 2020, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Andy Hover; and Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

The full detail of the commissioners' proceedings was captured via AV Capture video and is available to the public on the county's website.

Motion Closed Session RCW 42.30.140 (1)(b)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:05 a.m. for 10 minutes inviting Tanya Craig to discuss collective bargaining strategies of the governing body during the course of this collective bargaining proceeding. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners extended executive session another five minutes.

Executive Session ended at 9:25 a.m. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Hover to attend Union

Review Commissioners' Agenda and Consent Agenda

Commissioners reviewed their agenda, consent agenda, and meeting minutes.

Update TV District #1-George Thornton

George Thornton member of the TV District #1 reported on the long-term financial stability of the district to expand services and encourage more contributions from the public using the services. There have been difficulties keeping up with the expenditures. Partnerships with KSPS are in the works with a current letter of intent from them with a goal to add on and negotiate Spokane Broadcasters support. (letter of intent attached)

Mr. Thornton highlighted the free broadcast that could be set up to help our communities receive information. A station could post this type of information such as rotating slides on a channel that would provide information on what is going on in the county. He would like to get the support of the county for the cooperation of dispatch and sheriff as they would have the information for the slides. During our recent fires it was difficult for the public to receive updated information about the fires.

He would like to expand the geographical area served and the expansion of content. Test channels are out there right now in the central areas of Omak Okanogan people just need to rescan for those channels. A support letter from the Board of County Commissioners could really help with the expansion of the service as well as financial support. Mr. Thornton asked about the use of Coronavirus Relief funds. Commissioner Branch said he would work on a letter of support.

Upgrades to the tower on Omak Mt is being explored that meet the specifications of the Tribe to provide increase capacity and more capability. Commissioner DeTro mentioned that people are really struggling this year financially with the COVID-19 pandemic and now with the fires and have chosen TV from the TV District over more costly entertainment. Mr. Thornton is looking into sites that can provide omni directional transmission towers. Moses Mt is a direct line of site it might pick up since there is a line of sight. If the TV District provides the capability we won't be restricted where the signal goes, but if the Tribe does it they are restricted by the boundaries of the reservation. It is a costly

endeavor. Commissioner DeTro suggested contacting Mike Worden to inquire about Pickens Mt and other site capability and cooperation. KXLY is ready to do an assessment to see where in the county it is most feasible, said Mr. Thornton.

Channel 33 and 35 are expiring so one of those are being used for the test, so it can be reapplied for. Broadcasting TVW was discussed. Commissioners would like a summary of the work done so far with the Tribe and what progress has been made and what is still to be made.

Update-Planning Director Pete Palmer

Pete Palmer provided her Planning Dept update. (attached)

Director Palmer provided the DRAFT MOU with USBR for Conconully Cabins. (attached) Director Palmer stated the Cabins located near the highwater mark would be subject to the rules in the books today as Shoreline flood zones would require them to build back further if something were to happen to the cabin, but some properties do not have that kind of room. Commissioner DeTro stated he has spoken to some cabin owners on the upper lake who are very aware the ground is owned by USBR and were willing to risk that to have their cabin on the lake. Director Palmer said some cabin owners on the lower lake were not very friendly to anyone researching the matter.

Commissioners reviewed the cabins on the lake and discussed the situation of water fluctuations, high water mark regulations, and other lakes with similar situations.

Update Streamflow Restoration and Enhancement Grant-Not Funded

This grant was not funded there WRIA 49 plan project that would have purchase the water rights in Pine Creek. There were two funded under that grant. Antoine Creek Ranch was one of them.

Public Hearing Dates are set for consideration and adoption the Watershed Plan Addendum Oct 19. The Recreation Plan and Lower Methow Zoning Map Public Hearings are set for November 2. Director Palmer asked the commissioners how they wanted to handle hearings that fall under RCW 36.70.580. Where in the past the Planning Commission would hold the Public Hearing and the Board of County Commissioners after receiving the Planning Commission's recommendation would hold a Closed record public meeting on their recommendation and either adopt the findings and conclusions or send back with their changes. Commissioner Branch would like to do his own research and ensure all three commissioners are involved with the process to be set. Commissioner Branch discussed his thoughts on the process.

Planning Commission is meeting on October 26 and will dedicate their time to their recommendation. Dept of Commerce has requested a copy of the Draft Form of the Comprehensive Plan, Director Palmer will share that with them.

Critical Areas Ordinance is on the back burner right now. Funding is still to be figured out.

Commissioners moved the next meeting up by an hour knowing that Director Palmer would only need an hour for her update.

Discussion-Courthouse Generator Costs-Mike Worden

Karen Beatty

Mr. Worden discussed the preliminary work he has done on the proposed project of installing a generator that service our critical services in the courthouse like Central Services, Dispatch, Auditor Treasurer. The particular generator would supply power to Central Services and Dispatch Communications. Bringing on the Auditor and Treasurer we would need to bring the Assessor on too as they share the breaker box with the Treasurer. To supply the whole courthouse, it would double the load. His thought is what is critical and what is less so. Should he look at something different than the

critical services, that would include the other courthouse dept. Commissioner Branch would like to see options for both the critical services and the whole courthouse.

Mr. Worden did talk with a structural engineer to place a generator on top of the old generator vault but thought there is also room beside it.

Commissioner Hover joined the meeting at 2:45 p.m. He asked if we could explore use of the Infrastructure funds since the generator would operate our critical services that benefit the whole county. Commissioner Branch explained the prioritization process for projects that benefit economic development. It is a sensitive subject.

Are the Commissioners willing to commit funds to the project?

The board adjourned at 3:05 p.m.