

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OKANOGAN COUNTY

APRIL 13, 2021

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on April 13, 2021, with; Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

AV Capture provided audio and video of the meetings held today, while ZOOM provided best audio accessibility and public interaction.

Discussion Emerging Opportunity Funding TV District #1

Roni Holder-Diefenbach

Ms. Holder Diefenbach explained the Infrastructure Committee met on April 12, 2021 and reviewed the TV District #1 application for county Infrastructure funds in the amount of \$50,000. She said there was some concerns of the Infrastructure Committee about the project fitting into the appropriate guidelines, but that was resolved upon review of the guidelines and the application was appropriate. (attached)

The Infrastructure committee accepted the application and moved to recommend the County Commissioners approve the application. The funds will be used for the Districts restoration project which includes repair and restoration of the tower, build in redundancy from catastrophic failure of the main broadcast tower and includes electronic equipment replacement as necessary on Omak Mt.

Motion Emerging Opportunity Fund Budget

Commissioner Hover moved to direct the Clerk of the Board to draft a budget supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$50,000 within the Infrastructure fund 117 for TV District #1 restoration project. Motion was seconded all were in favor motion carried.

Ms. Holder Diefenbach explained others may wish to apply for emerging opportunity funds. We need to revisit the .09 dollars and see funding can open up again since the county's GO bond payment is done in 2022. Commissioners reviewed the Infrastructure fund budget.

Ms. Holder Diefenbach said on the other hand it might be best to build up the fund so the amount is large enough to leverage bigger projects.

Motion Emerging Opportunity Funding

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the TV District #1 emerging opportunity restoration project in the amount of \$50,000 from the county's Infrastructure fund 117. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Regional Technical Team was asked to fund the purchase of the DOT property north of Mazama bridge and they said no, it wasn't a large enough piece. Commissioner Hover is not willing to put forth county funds to acquire the property. A study may be best at this point.

Commissioner Branch discussed Congressman Newhouse community projects list request. A spokes person astute enough to relay the county's infrastructure needs would be best.

Commissioners Staff Meeting

Maurice Goodall, Pete Palmer, Joe Poulin, Naomie Peasley

Mr. Goodall updated the board there is about a 5% chance for flood, but weather has been dry. May is usually when we see problems.

Commissioners would like to be notified of how things are working and they would like to know of any issues beforehand with regards to COVID vaccine events. There are many straight hours being used. Overtime policy and federal guidelines do not allow overtime until 40 hours of work time has been reached. Mr. Goodall explained how he is juggling staff time between emergency management and public health. He thought overtime should be counted daily instead of after 40 hours.

A junked car was pulled from the Similkameen that had been in the river for a long time.

Director of Planning Pete Palmer said critical areas ordinance notice will be published. The 60-day review has been completed by Commerce and now it is out to the public. On the Comp plan we are waiting for one more review, once done it will give an idea on preparing the EIS. The comment responses have been completed except for those received in 2018. In the next 30 days the whole record will be transmitted to the board. The record will be in boxes with supporting documents Commissioner Hover would like the file scanned and provided on the common drive in one folder so the PDF can be pulled over to Laserfish.

Director Palmer said the Zoning code will be worked on once the comp plan is adopted. It will be an intense process. It will be chunked up instead of tackling the whole thing at once. Priorities will be requested from the commissioners.

Building Official Dan Higbee said Winthrop lost their building inspector and now they want to contract with the county until they can hire someone else. Their position is only

two days a week.. The same process will be needed as the other contracts.

Naomie Peasley provided her fairgrounds update. FAC met last night and they are moving forward with Fair events. Camping applications are bringing up concerns about the south end electrical issues, so that needs to be addressed before it can be used. The Fair will put in \$10,000. Nate Kruse will provide the upgrades. Amperage connections are 50 amp and most are 30 and 20. Commissioners will come up with a plan for installing pedestals which will be installed for specific RVs and not just 110. Commissioner Branch would like our RV system mapped online with the plugin capacity and whoever is chosen to manage the RV park they have specific knowledge of what is where. Online reservations will be available this year.

52 arena and track use waivers have been signed, it is being used daily. The irrigation must be repaired before the irrigation can be turned on. The irrigation water right says April 1 through October 31. Commissioner Hover asked that the water be turned on this week. He would like to shoot for April 15 from here on out. Commissioner Branch thought frost free taps on domestic. He asked if schedule 40 pipes are used. Mr. Poulin said no there aren't many of those used on the grounds.

Surplus items are still left on the grounds. Give people a week to pick up their purchases then arrange for departments to deal with their unsold items. The Arts and Craft building needs heaters and those will be plugged in. Commissioner Hover wants to ensure we have the capacity. Schmitt is looking into that.

The security system is up and running. Our door key cards can operate the doors on the grounds. There is no written policy on the management of key cards. It is challenging when there are no written guidelines and that could be an internal control issue. The security system takes a photo of anyone using a key to access the fairgrounds. There are three app licenses that can be used to view the fairgrounds. Joe Poulin stated Kyle Haugen should have access. The license is not transferrable.

Motion

Commissioner Branch moved to define the security system by policy and it be worked out between the Clerk of the Board, Central Services and Commissioner Hover so we have some guidelines to look at. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

No camp host has been found although it has been advertised. Google advertising is being utilized for the RV campgrounds. Long Term Recover is willing to help with the damages due to their shed building and will be leaving the grounds this week.

Projects were discussed. FAC is worried about completion of the projects. Commissioner Hover said materials would cost \$3400 for a chain link fence on the north end. It is not hard to install. He is willing to help fix things. The sprinkler system should

be put out to bid as a phased project. Allow a walk through of potential contractors to determine placement and system specs. He will put together a proposal for a design build proposal. Electrical build for the RV park is very important.

Does the Saturday to Friday schedule work for Naomie? For events, Naomie makes sure access gates and bathrooms, parking in an appropriate spot, and being there in case they needed anything. The office hours for the office is 9:00-2:30. She meets with people after their work day to go over things. She could also view from the security system what was going on at the fairgrounds. She often starts her day early because there is a lot to do and it is the quiet time.

Commissioner Hover is thinking about the cost difference between making her exempt and hiring an additional office person because someone needs to be in the office during office hours.

It would cost around \$2300 for the heaters in the rafters.

Joe Poulin explained the maintenance tech position for fairgrounds was hired, he can start in two. The water truck will need a budget supplemental to be able to pay for it. A transfer of the truck from Sheriff to Fairgrounds will be needed.

Motion

Commissioner moved to allow food and training costs Superintendent training in the amount up to \$300 to be paid from the Miscellaneous BARS Code within the Fair budget. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

CANCELLED Update County Auditor- Cari Hall

Since the auditor cancelled her update, Mr. Rabidou's request was presented.

Discussion Bilingual Pay

Dennis Rabidou, Shelley Keitzman, Judge Chris Culp

Mr. Rabidou said a resolution was prepared to authorize a Bilingual stipend for certified eligible non-bargaining employees at \$125 per month.

The cost to become certified will be paid by the employee. There are several online options to obtain certification.

Motion Resolution 44-2021 Bilingual in Spanish Stipend

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 44-2021 authorizing a Bilingual in Spanish Stipend for eligible certified non-bargaining employees in the amount of \$125. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

A budget supplemental will be needed later on to provide budget for the cost of the Superior Court employee authorized the stipend payment.

Approve Commissioner Proceedings April 5th and 6th 2021

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 29 and March 30 April 5th and April 6th. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-4 as presented. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. LTAC 2021-2022 Policy and Procedures
2. Contract- 9155-19 Old 97, Driskell to Verestar Project
3. Resolution 42-2021 Authorizing transfer of a Ford F150 from Sheriff's Office to Fairgrounds Maintenance Dept.
4. Resolution 43-2021- New fund #170 for receipt of American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners

Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$725,713.82. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion Public Health Voucher

Commissioner moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers in the amount of \$7,981.04. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch discussed utility taxes charged by Spectrum to customers within the city limits as it was brought up by Jim Brannon in a letter to the Newspaper. In its billings they are noting a utility tax appearing by the customer by local government outside the city of Okanogan The city is applying the utility tax on Spectrum to operate within the city and passing the effect of the tax on to its customers. However the billing implies the tax is on the customer. Branch feels it is like a rate increase and the billing is misleading in that local government has taxed the customer directly. If Spectrum is operating outside the city and providing a service outside the city limits they can charge a tax. The city is applying a utility tax to Spectrum for those served in the city and Spectrum is charging customers the tax. It might be a rate increase over charging the specific tax.

Updated Public Works- Josh Thomson & Kent Kovalenko

Solid Waste

Kent Kovalenko provided the Paradigm Software Agreement to be considered. Scale systems can be chosen based on what works best for us. David Gecas reviewed the agreement. Our current program does not accurately record as it duplicates certain checks, doesn't charge for the tonnage weighed and reconciliations must be done by hand. This is a current issue that hasn't been resolved but would be by the new Paradigm software.

Motion Paradigm Software Agreement

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the Paradigm Software Agreement for the Solid Waste scale systems. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Maintenance Road Conditions

End of spring grading is happening, watching river forecast with flooding expected to be pretty minor.

Crushing at Miller pit will be completed soon. There are some complaints coming in regarding the dust. The contractor is watering their haul road, but we need to water ours clean it up, do some hydro seeding along the road.

Old 97 project Driskell to Verestar does not have an official start date, but expected to start in three weeks with completion end of August.

Guardrail Safety project will start in a couple weeks due to recertifications needed by flaggers.

B-4 Bridge Replacements cultural resource review with no issues. Apply for construction funding next week to advertise in June and start in August.

Rendezvous Rd meeting to understand what is needed and amend the program for an official project.

Salmon Creek Drainage project will be constructed sometime next year.

Cameron Lk Rd working with tribe on the cultural resource review expected to be a 2022 project. 1.2 miles that are unpaved with hairpin curves will be addressed.

Old 97 funding expected in 2024.

Area 3 & 5 Shops

Beaman Architecture has been contracted for this design work.

Commissioners discussed there being no business on Wednesday

Motion CDBG PS Req #2 Revision Contract No 20-6221C-119

Commissioner Hover moved to approve CDBG Public Services Req #2 Revision Contract No 20-6221C-119. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion CDBG PS Req #3 Contract No 20-6221C-119

Commissioner Hover moved to approve CDBG Public Services Req #3 Contract No 20-6221C-119. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion CDBG PS Req #4 Revision Contract No. 20-62210-011

Commissioner Hover moved to approve CDBG Public Services Req #4 Revision Contract No. 20-62210-011. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion CDBG PS Req #5 Contract No. 20-62210-011

Commissioner Hover moved to approve CDBG Public Services Req #5 Contract No. 20-62210-011. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Letter of Agreement Teamsters Local No 760

Commissioner Hover moved to approve Letter of Agreement amendment between Okanogan County and Teamsters Local No 760. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Board of Health- 1234 S 2nd Ave. Okanogan

Commissioners attended the board of health meeting.

The board adjourned at 11:45 a.m.