

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OKANOGAN COUNTY

APRIL 6, 2021

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on April 6, 2021, with; Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; 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.

Commissioner Hover was absent today.

Commissioners Staff Meeting

Pete Palmer, Naomie Peasley, Maurice Goodall, Joe Poulin

Ms. Palmer provided her staff update. She was asked to bring in the boundaries of the sub area groups. Mazama, Methow and Oroville Regional Advisory Commission (63-86). Maps of the Methow area school district 350, and the Oroville one. There was nothing describing the Mazama area. Once advisory groups are back up and running, the groups will work with County Commissioners to reestablish the boundaries. There is a Special Planning Commission meeting Wednesday, April 7 for the commission to come together to reiterate and solidify the info that came out of the planning commission meeting last week.

Commissioner Branch thought an ordinance to rescind the Oroville Regional Commission would be appropriate.

Commissioner DeTro thought every single residential address should be on a blue address sign in accordance with the code to facilitate first responder response time. It should be enforced. Existing residences are the ones that will need to comply. Public Works is to install the road signs on county roads, but residents are required to on private roads. Ms. Palmer stated as people come into addressing, it will be articulated. She will also see if there are grants that could help with the cost.

Maurice Goodall stated vaccines are still being issued, working with all entities to accomplish. Finding that people wanted it and got it, and now the rest are on the fence. Things are really dry, working on getting the USFS, DNR, and other chiefs together to discuss fire ban.

Mr. Poulin is trying to fill the maintenance position at the fairgrounds soon. Art building

is coming together, won't be able to address the floor till it warms up. May fill cracks and polish. Working on roof and electrical today. Lighting was changed out by staff. This week maintenance is moving surplus to the fairgrounds for the auction. Mr. Poulin said the white truck on the fairgrounds has issues, the Sheriff's office has a newer S10 with canopy and wondered if the fairgrounds can purchase it. The old truck can be surplus next time. Commissioner Branch said check it out.

Ms. Peasley provided her update. Last week another theft happened on the fairgrounds. A camper was broken into that was in winter storage. A \$1000 worth of equipment that was delivered on Saturday by Fed Ex was taken which happened to be the security system. Central Services is helping to install the system and there may be some extra costs that were not known originally for electrician. The fairgrounds budget is 18% spent, and projected revenue is at 23%. There are many things on hold until after another person is hired. The heat is not coming up to temperature for an event on Saturday. Superior Court is predicting they will be in the Agriplex even after the fair. There are many events that will have to be cancelled, Taste of Three valley's, etc....

Vacation at the end of the month and would like to suggest a volunteer in the fair office to help with phones and questioned. (

4/26-4/30) Kevin Cunningham was willing to volunteer. Commissioner Branch and DeTro did not have a problem with Kevin volunteering for this. A volunteer form would be required. The other option is to close the office. Commissioners prefer a presence since we keep getting broken into.

Motion Architectural Services-Beaman Architecture Public Works Shop Buildings

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the Architectural Services agreement between Okanogan County and Beaman Architecture for design of the Public Works Shop Buildings and authorized the chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

AV Capture turned itself off without warning and discussion was missed today.

Commissioner Branch stated Wenatchee Valley College is thinking about adding a Health Science Center on the Omak Campus asked him if the county would write a letter of support regarding the expansion. A letter of support was drafted for commissioners' consideration.

Motion

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the letter of support for the Wenatchee Valley Campus Health Science Center. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

~~CANCELLED Update Superior Court Clerk's Office-Charleen Grooms~~

CANCELLED Update-Communications/Dispatch-Mike Worden

Update Human Resources/Risk Management-Tanya Craig

Ms. Keitzman would like to provide information, not an endorsement, on how employees can register for COVID vaccines as they will be opened up to all ages next week. Commissioner Branch and DeTro were alright with the information going out.

Ms. Keitzman discussed the American Recovery Act impacts on COBRA subsidies. Anyone with one-hour reduction or were terminated may be eligible for subsidized COBRA. A report was run back 18 months and we only have two people who possibly qualify. Anyone terminated except for gross misconduct is eligible for this program. Dept of Labor does not have the notification language or information published yet. Seasonal temp employees would not qualify. The employer is responsible for paying the costs.

Discussion American Recovery Act Funds-Auditor Hall, Treasurer McCormack

Pam Johnson, Larry Gilman

Auditor Hall discussed the American Recovery Funds and establishing a separate fund for the money. She believes that is a good idea. We don't know exactly what the restrictions will be on the funds but having the added control and separation from other funds is a good idea since it is such a large dollar amount. Commissioner Branch said it is a smart thing to do. Extended COBRA was discussed, it won't affect the county much but a supplemental will be needed for those found to be eligible.

The next step would be to establish the fund, Auditor will provide the fund numbers for the resolution. What the funds are allocated to will need to be discussed for the resolution. She would like to combine that discussion with the annual report discussion. Mr. Gilman stated the guidelines on uses of the funds have been very minimal.

Auditor Hall explained EDEN will need to be replaced and will be very expensive. Commissioner Branch explained what was on his mind to use the funds to help small businesses deal with this COBRA requirements. Treasurer McCormack said the cities are getting their own money. The county also has many infrastructure projects that have been put on the back burner for over 30 years. A brainstorming session would be good to generate ideas.

Courthouse security was discussed. Grant funds may be available specific to elections security measures.

Clerk Charleen Groomes arrived at 11:30 a.m.

Discussion Elected Officials' Deputy Salary

Assessor, Clerk, Auditor, and Treasurer

Treasurer McCormack explained the four offices researched discrepancies between elected officials and their chief deputy salary. The group is looking at their deputy salary to set at 85% of the elected salary around May or June 1. The request included only the four offices and did not include the Clerk of the Board, Sheriff Records, or District Court. Commissioner Branch said no matter what there is always some back lash for any salary change. The deputies are key to the office functions and to the county and it is important to consider keeping parity in the offices. Commissioner Branch suggested a follow up meeting to discuss the request further when the full board is present. Treasurer McCormack said April 20 works during the finance committee meeting.

Commissioner Branch discussed, with the group, the Lake Osoyoos Water District that was formed by the county many years ago. No RCW was referenced in those forming documents. Commissioner Branch will work with Auditor on the closeout of the district.

Annexation to city property was discussed. Auditor Hall stated how important it is that the Auditor receives the annexation documents. A check list is needed to ensure all requirements are provided.

Public Comment Period

No public comment was provided.

Approve Commissioner Proceedings March 29th and 30th 2021

Commissioners decided to wait until Commissioner Hover was present to approve the meeting minutes.

Approve Consent Agenda

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

1. Re-Appointment Letters-Methow Valley Com. District-Tackman, Shirley, Varrelman, & Hamel
2. Acknowledge Facility Rental Agreement-Superior Court for June 4 – Sept 1
3. Agreement Amendment-WA State Snow Park Plowing & Grooming-Public Works
4. Contract- Liquid Asphalt-Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions Inc
5. Ratify Resolution 41-2021 USDA Rural Business Development Grant Assertions

Motion Methow Valley EMS District

Commissioner DeTro moved to adjourn as the BOCC and reconvene as the Methow Valley EMS District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Methow Valley EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$58,867.75 for April Services. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner DeTro moved to adjourn as the Methow Valley EMS District and Reconvene as the Tonasket EMS District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Tonasket EMS District

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Tonasket EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$16,200 to Life Line for February Services. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner DeTro 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 DeTro moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Oroville Rural EMS District vouchers in the amount of \$9,680. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

At this time the commissioners did not believe a meeting tomorrow was needed.

The board adjourned at 2:10 p.m.