

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OKANOGAN COUNTY**

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on February 16, 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.

Deputy Clerk of the Board Crystal Hawley attended the meetings today for training purposes.

Staff Meeting- Chief Corrections Officer, Discuss Lake Osoyoos Water District
Tammi Denney Chief Corrections Officer, Maurice Goodall Emergency Management, and Naomie Peasley, Fairgrounds Coordinator.

Because Commissioner Hover had a call with a state representative and Commissioner DeTro was absent, no quorum was established at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner DeTro arrived at 9:15 a.m.

Tammi Denney Chief Corrections Officer presented a grant agreement amendment No. SWMCLCP-1921-OkCoSO0035 with DOE for litter control to de-obligate grant funds for litter clean up which trustees of the jail are used. Since there is no jail staff to provide the supervision grant funds won't be used and must be de-obligated. The amount is \$55,000.

Motion

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the grant amendment between Okanogan County Corrections and Department of Ecology in the amount of \$55,000 which becomes de-obligated since we cannot meet the obligations of the agreement. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Maurice Goodall explained the public can apply at Mid Valley Hospital for COVID vaccines. Vaccine clinics will be held on the Fairgrounds on Thursday's and Friday's. Many people registered in multiple locations and then took the first available opening when called.

Pete Palmer provided a brief update regarding Planning Department file storage and the development of a proposal for best outcome. Ms. Palmer stated she would work on that

this week and see what the financial impacts will be. Commissioner Branch was agreeable with that plan.

Director Palmer asked if a press release should be submitted about ordinance 2021-1 and 2021-3 moratoriums to get the word out as those are important issue of the public. Commissioner Branch said draft one. Director Palmer stated staff thinks and she does too, that it would help if a facilitator for the upcoming Planning Commission Meeting was secured for the March 8 public hearing. Commissioner Branch said he heard some concerns about the hearing being without physical attendance. He stated the group approved last week has an exemption under the rules due to it being a court ordered function, this is different. He said it was suggested that the hearing be postponed, but the county is under a court order too. The civil deputy will be consulted on this. A facilitator who facilitated the meeting online may help the meeting progress and is working. As far as facilitating the comment son line and the photos and numbers and time limits then we would try to lay out ground rules that included none repetitive comments. If we get some direction from David Gecas and designate a facilitator who can run the zoom program. DOE orchestrates their meeting well, and commissioner Branch thought they could offer some tips on running our meeting. Director Palmer stated the commissioners need to decide on whether to hold their closed public meeting afterward with Planning Commission holding the Public Hearing like LUPA, or if the commissioners will hold a public meeting after the Planning Commission's Public Hearing. It was previously discussed but it was not set by the county commissioners at that time. Commissioner Branch stated the record would be transferred to the County Commissioners from the Planning Commission for the final meeting which ever kind is decided.

Commissioner Hover joined the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Ms. Peasley will be able to return to work next Tuesday without any complications at home. Commissioner Hover asked that the fairgrounds phones ring to her while she is at home. Ms. Peasley stated it is the best thing to do so she is

Commissioner Hover moved to authorize the fairgrounds events coordinator to work from home until Tuesday February 24. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,

Ms. Peasley submitted request for maintenance to start remodeling the arts and crafts building since potential events have decided to move their events to those buildings so social distancing can be maintained. She has met with Joe Poulin on those issues to be resolved. She will be meeting with the board on the fee scheduled update next week.

Commissioner Hover recommended the budget for the little control supervisor be reviewed to ensure the wages were not split between two-line items.

Commissioners briefed among themselves on legislative matters and legislative serving committee items and the ask for funding for communications priorities.

Finance Committee Meeting Treasurer-Leah McCormack

Cari Hall and Lisa Schreckengost

The Finance Committee was canceled, as the Treasurer was not able to attend. Commissioner Branch requested Auditor Hall draft a letter regarding the dissolve of Lake Osoyoos Water District. Auditor Hall agreed to draft a letter.

Commissioners discussed how the county can meet in public under the Phase II guidelines. The Clerk of the Board read from the guidance and the Proclamation 20-28.14 including the Miscellaneous Venues Requirements. The Commissioners discussed how they could accommodate in person attendance at public hearings and where overflow would be placed. Okanogan County has an advantage with its AV Capture video which allows people to hear and to see what is going on.

Commissioners received comments that WebEx did not work well for the public during the planning commission meeting last Monday. It was terrible and took over 25 minutes for some to connect and the sound was poor. County Watch did record that meeting but it was poor.

Commissioner Branch discussed when technical difficulties happen that staff knows what to do. He encouraged people to use other options provided. He discussed how the cities might help with overflow by providing a central place for public to attend online. Commissioner Hover said if testimony happens in those places we need to ensure those are the people who actually are providing it. He also asked if those venues would charge for that use.

All meetings held in the Commissioners Hearing room should be coordinated with the Clerk of the Board to ensure the room is available and doesn't conflict with meetings already scheduled there. The Clerk of the Board has not been contacted specifically to secure the room on March 8 for the Planning Commission public hearing that was discussed today. Commissioner Branch will relay to the Planning Department that they work through the Clerk of the Board to ensure space is available for their meetings before publishing the public notice.

Bid Opening-CRP No. 9155-19 Old 97, Driskell to Verestar -Public Works Shasta Stidman

Engineer Josh Thomson

Commissioner Branch stated the time for receiving bids is here for Old 97 Driskell to Verestar little guard rail for safety. Four bids were received and opened they were as

follows: Ms. Stidman stated there was a Wage rate addendum. Bid Bonds and certified wage addendum were included.

Hirst Construction

The total base Bid amount \$1,550,550.00

Seland Construction

The total base Bid amount \$1,599,999.00

Central Washington Asphalt

The total base Bid amount \$1,624,000

Granite Construction

The total base Bid amount \$1,566,208.00

The bids will be reviewed by public works and a recommendation provided at a later date for award.

Update Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson

Engineer Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there.

Maintenance & Road Conditions

No major changes. Even though it snowed a few inches over the weekend.

System Recovery

All files from January 14 have been recovered. Some work was lost however. The loss affected the finance files the most. All save dates have been corrected. Commissioner Hover stated cyber security will really need to be beefed up. Engineer Thomson stated he thought things were actually better than what he thought.

State Proposed Transportation revenue packages

Engineer Thomson explained bills affecting Public Works funding as listed on his agenda. Legislators are talking about long term transportation funding and whose bills and packages those are for a 16-year term. One Package has Carbon fees around \$0.12 per gallon. Doubles the RAB And CAP programs. Engineer Thomson discussed the effects and reasons involved for the different components that may affect us. The term Social equity is involved but no definitions were given. He believes we could weigh in on what that means to us. Disadvantaged neighborhoods, or poor rural counties with thousands of miles of road.... They seem to expect agencies to provide comment and language. All relevant bills were summarized for commissioners' information.

An additional carbon fee of \$0.40 was discussed related to HB 1091. There are some differing opinions among the legislators so they might not get to an agreement.

Upper Beaver Ck MSRF Property Acquisition letter of support

A letter of support was drafted.

Liberty Woodlands Sewer System

Discussed the issues with the HOA and their engineering firm to see what an addition to the current system would look like but a lot of that work hasn't started since a seconded system was proposed.

Consent Agenda

The request for qualifications for architect closed last week. Will a recommendation be provided to the board for next week? Engineer Thomson hoped so. Commissioner Hover would like to know when it is done. There were a few new submittals received in addition to letters from 2020

Commissioner Branch adjourned for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

Public Comment Period

Isabelle Spohn

Ms. Spohn commented to request the county website be updated to include the proper plans for sub areas and sub units in the Methow valley plan. She asked if the 1976 plan existed in the office because the pages on the planning website were upside down and some parts missing. She explained Sub Areas and Sub Units are different. There are four sub units A, B, C and D. Sub Unit A is the most northern area within the More Completely Planned area. She provided some history saying John Sunderlund worked on this part in 2007. There was a portion of the rule that said members are to be appointed by commissioners. Lorah Waters was hired to facilitate two years of meetings, but then the group did not know the members were not appointed by the commissioners so the work stopped. Sub Unit and Sub Area are being used interchangeably but really in the area there are four sub units within the Methow More Completely Planned Area outlined on Page 10 of the plan. She would like things updated because the names are listed contained many deceased individuals and include no evidence they ever met as a unit. There is the Mazama, Winthrop, Twisp and lower area and then the Mazama area turned into a subarea.

Commissioner Hover asked Ms. Spohn to share the full document as Commissioners thought it would be good to have the entire document in hand and scanned into their records.

Update Human Resources/Risk Management-Tanya Craig

The meeting was CANCELLED due to union negotiations this afternoon.

Commissioner Hover left at 1:45 to attend the union negotiation meeting.

Approve Commissioners Proceedings February 1,2,8,9,10, 2021

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve February 1 and February 2, 2021. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-11. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

1. Contract-Facility Use Rental- Ok. Co. EM/Public Health
2. Agreement-Equitable Sharing Certification- Sheriff's Office
3. Signature Authorization Form- Basic Operations Contract E21-029 Military Dept
4. Consent To Purchase-Crack Seal Materials-Arrow Construction Supply
5. Contract-LTAC Funds LTAC# 21-002 Cascade Loop
6. Contract-LTAC Funds-LTAC# 21-006 Methow Arts Alliance
7. Contract-LTAC Funds-LTAC# 21-004- Loup Loup Ski Education Foundation
8. CDBG Public Service Grant Request #1 No.20-6221C-119
9. CDBG Public Services Grant Request #3 No. 20-62210-011
10. CDBG Public Service Grant Request # 19 No. 19-62210-011
11. Title 111 Certification- Expenditures and Unobligated 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 \$239,444.91. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion Public Health Voucher

Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers in the amount of \$10,397.46. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Branch called a recess at 1:55 until 2:30.

Update Central Services Karen Beatty

Karen Betty provided the bundled features document showing information to be discussed. (attached) She stated that over all we have done well with getting up and running after the cyber-attack. They are about 95% back up and running. Commissioners asked how to move forward and what can we do differently? Ms. Beatty explained the bundled features of the SentinelOne Endpoint Protection and Threat Detection Monitoring Plan. This plan would be able to monitor our system 24/7 for

detection and response.

Ms. Beatty discussed training to provide county staff tools to avoid cyber attack. Our backup systems were destroyed during the process of being hacked. A copy of our backup systems should be kept offline because most hackers try again in a year or two.

Hoffman Pro will contact us about the sound system equipment when it has arrived from England.

Discussion WSU Capstone Project Update - Kayla Wells Moses

Commissioners discussed meeting facilitation with Ms. Wells Moses. She has experience with meeting management and using ZOOM as does her assistant.

Ms. Wells Moses provided an update of the WSU Capstone project. The needs assessment for the county was chosen for undergraduate classes and professor Janet Peters who is on the Tri-Cities campus does a lot of research methods type projects. Three housing graphics were provided, Housing Impact and Satisfaction, Community Impact the Cannabis Industry, and Future Implications of Higher Education which are not data of Okanogan County but the first step to learn how and practice creating or framing a product that would make sense to a normal person. It is generalized. At the end of the project there will be specific information and data of Okanogan County.

Now the students are working on the questions the needs assessment will be based on. Any questions missing should be added if the board has them. Questions in the Cannabis Economy industry section scale were a bit of concern by the professor regarding the perception they may give of what the commissioners intention is. Commissioner Branch stated these would be opinions based on something that hasn't been researched. He was more interested in what is the Cannabis economy and ways the money turns over in the economy who works here. Ms. Wells Moses said that has not been studied enough to be able to ask. The Professor said there is research out there on the perception of Cannabis but doesn't really speak to what the commissioners are looking for. If this is not needed it can be dropped off the project. Those cannabis questions can be eliminated as it may not be the right time for those. Keep it an objective project. An email reminder will be provided to Ms. Wells Moses by March 2.

Commissioner Hover returned at 3:55 p.m. for the below discussion.

Discussion CDBG CV-Grant Budget Request Lael Duncan

Via Zoom Donna Talbot

Ms. Duncan explained OCCAC is the subrecipient of the CDBG CV-1 Grant through the Dept of Commerce. The budget submitted and approved by the county and Commerce included \$25K from Health Services and \$5K for Food Bank/Distribution. Ms. Duncan

would like to move those funds to Subsistence payments because they were budgeted there in anticipation of other grants and funds being needed. The total subsistence pays would be \$202,285.

The cost of putting out the subsistence payments in terms of administration is part of getting out the payments and use of salary and wages.

\$22,000 budgeted for administration of the grant will remain the same.

Commissioner Hover asked what portion of the subsistence payment will go out to people. Lael did not have the figure it depends on how much time is spent with the client. Donna stated 56% goes out as subsistence payments and 44% percent is the cost of doing business.

Donna stated Katrina reached out to OCCAC to determine how this change would work and Katrina told her she needed the county to agree to the changes.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to authorize the change in the CDBG CV-1 Grant budget to move \$25K from Health Services and \$5K for Food Bank/Distribution to subsistence payments. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Tonasket EMS District

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

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Tonasket EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$16,203 to Life Line for postage and January Services. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. Commissioner Hover moved to adjourn as the Tonasket EMS District and Reconvene as the Oroville Rural EMS. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Oroville Rural EMS District

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Oroville Rural EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$9,684.50 for postage and January. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

Motion Methow Valley EMS District

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the

Methow Valley EMS District vouchers to be paid to Aero Methow in the amount of \$58,867.75. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

Motion Clerk Direction

Commissioner Hover moved to direct the Clerk of the Board to draft a letter of appointment for Mike Fort to appoint him to fill the unexpired term of John Hubbard on the Water Conservancy Board. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

The board is not convening Wednesday, February 17.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to Draft a letter outlining the communications projects priorities and authorize the chairman to sign and the Clerk of the Board to send to 7th and 12th district legislators before the deadline. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

The board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.