

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OKANOGAN COUNTY

MARCH 2, 2021

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on March 2, 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.

Commissioners Staff Meeting

Naomie Peasley, Joe Poulin, David Gecas, Pete Palmer

Commissioner Hover stated an executive session is needed with David Gecas today.

Joe Poulin provided his update. The shed log cabin is on concrete blocks, it will need to be shored up first to be able to move it. Commissioner Hover suggested purchase of a portable shed for the rodeo office which can be secured. Naomie Peasley stated a portable shed could be financed at about \$6400. One could also be built by the Brewster shop but lumber prices are likely high right now. Commissioner DeTro and Commissioner Hover thought one could be built for less than a prebuilt. Mr. Poulin asked about purchasing a portable trailer office that could be moved around and used elsewhere on the grounds. Naomie Peasley said an 8x12 size is sufficient.

No court this week, so mop sink project can be completed. Work on Commercial building will be arranged. If a commercial stove is moved in there a proper hood and suppression system is required. He will look at the electrical to see what is needed. The flooring is concrete and in pretty good shape with no seen cracks. The kitchen area has a wood floor where the water system is that feeds the little red barn. A meeting between maintenance and fairgrounds is scheduled for Friday.

Naomie Peasley asked if the surplus auction can be held this year. Campbells auction was secured last year. Commissioner DeTro will contact him and get some dates. The area on the south side camping near the Quonset huts are.

Premium book is being turned into the Chronicle for publishing this week. Working on Capital and Small and Attractive Asset lists and it seems to be coming together. What is the status of the Fair contracts? OFM rates will be used for lodging for entertainers and entertainers will need the updated version of the contract.

Naomie Peasley stated there are some issues the court identified with regards to maintenance work on the grounds. She thought Mr. Rabidou and the judge was going to join the meeting.

Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:25 a.m. for 10 minutes inviting Chief Civil Deputy David Gecas to discuss potential litigation. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners extended executive session at 9:35 a.m. another five minutes

Commissioners extended executive session at 9:40 a.m. another five minutes

Executive session ended at 9:45 a.m. another five minutes.

Maurice Goodall provided the Emergency Management update. He explained water run-off and what his numbers are based on. Sitting at 120% with prediction that it will be cooler in the next couple months with waves and temperature fluxuations. We need to be prepared and push some information from weather services to inform the public. Commissioner Hover asked how many sand bags are in stock. There is an abundance of bags in different sizes and we have plenty of stock.

There will be coordination of COVID uses on the fairgrounds with maintenance and fairgrounds staff. The roads will need to be graded and Public Works enlisted for the work to be done on the road. Mr. Goodall stated locks on the gates could be improved for ease of use. Public Health has purchased another Everbridge module for COVID vaccine registrations. Different accesses can be given to the system depending on what is needed. Commissioner Hover said Mr. Goodall has done a really good job organizing and coordination of the vaccine events.

Update Human Resources/Risk Management Tanya Craig

Ms. Craig updated the board on the City of Tonasket law enforcement arrange and the vehicles that went along with the arrangement. The two vehicles are paid for and will be transferred to the county, but one is paid for via a grant and therefore a grant agreement with USDA is needed for the depreciation portion that has yet to be reached. The county is only on the hook to pay something if the county surpluses the vehicle prior to full depreciation being reached. The vehicles are primarily used within the city but occasionally used to aid when needed by other law enforcement. The Law Enforcement agreement is good through 2023.

Motion Closed Session RCW 42.30.140(4)(b)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into Closed Session at 10:15 a.m. for 10 minutes inviting Tanya Craig to discuss collective bargaining. Motion was seconded, all were in

favor, motion carried.

Discussion Noxious Weed Staffing Request Larry Hudson

Tanya Craig

Mr. Hudson stated he would like to create a new position called lead field technician and provided the board a job description for the new position. He thought it would be grade 25. He would like to hire two of these positions and explained what each would do in what area of the county. The assistant manager position would be dropped and replaced with two lead inspectors. The commissioners reviewed the Noxious Weed budget. The Commissioners will need to authorize the position via a resolution.

Motion Staff Direction

Commissioner Hover moved to direct the HR Manager to draft a resolution outlining the job changes and authorizations for the positions as discussed for the Noxious Weed office. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Discussion Check in

Dennis Rabidou and Judge Culp

Mr. Rabidou explained the status of the Forest Service Building Superior Court and Juvenile and Clerk would be relocated to the building.

Mr. Rabidou will reach out and get a timeline from Forest Service and to let them know the county is getting the initial study completed. The architect said it may be less than 60 days. Commissioner Hover asked if he was contacting the city about the facility. Mr. Rabidou he will take a lot of the county's plate in that regard. The city would look at the proposed use which would stay in public use.

Mr. Rabidou said \$91,000 CARES act funds have been received, but additional submissions will be generated. Commissioner Hover said if we can be reimbursed for the costs then please keep trying to get reimbursed, but if we cannot it did not make sense for Current Expense to pay Current Expense and there fore the lease will need to be adjusted.

Bid Opening- 2021 Soil Stabilizer- Public Works Shasta Stidman

Engineer Thomson

Commissioner Branch opened the bids, read who they were from, what was included and what the amounts of the bid was.

Envirotech Services

Total Bid \$147,396.90

GMCO Corp.

Total Bid \$143,245.88

The Engineer will review the bids and provide his recommendation. Apparent low bid is GMCO Corp.

Bid Opening- 2021 Liquid Asphalt- Public Works Shasta Stidman

Engineer Thomson

Commissioner Branch opened the bids, read who they were from, what was included and what the amounts of the bid was.

Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions

Total Bid \$1,127,375.18

Idaho Asphalt Supply Inc,

Total Bid \$1,151,357.59

Update Public Works- Engineer Josh Thomson

Kent Kovalenko

Commissioners asked how public property use is to be handled for requests to go on the property. Commissioner Hover would like to come up with a policy for public use on property such as county pits when property is not in use by the county. Engineer Thomson stated for safety reasons the gate is currently closed until a fence is established around the pit. The public likes to shoot at pit sites so opening up the property for hiking or hunting might not be safe. Commissioners wish to discuss further later on. The most use right now is hiking and walking, said Engineer Josh Thomson. Commissioner Branch stated he would like to ensure if rules are created that they can be enforced. Decibel readings of the pit use will be conducted prior to starting the pit operations. Commissioner Hover wants to be sure to address the concerns and comments made at the previous public hearing. Commissioner DeTro stated could the stock pile block future crushing. Engineer Thomson explained the arrangement of the berms so they reduce noises.

Solid Waste DOE Grant Litter Cleanup

Mr. Kovalenko explained since the lack of trustees in the jail to do the work around \$55,000 of the previous grant was sent back. It was suggested that SW take over and apply for a new \$74,000 grant. Implementation will include him reaching out to the cities to help with clean up as well as reaching out to the tribe for cleanup. DNR can also participate. Mr. Kovalenko is looking to spread out the work under a regional approach. He is looking at hiring two-or three temps to run the program during the summer months. The funds can be also used for cleaning up illegal dump sites under some

circumstances.

Motion DOE Litter Clean up Grant

Commissioner Hover moved to direct the Solid Waste manager to submit the DOE litter clean up grant. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Chipping Event at Twisp Transfer Station-DOE Funded

Apple Maggot Conference Call-Wednesday

Information from Greg Haubrich was submitted regarding apple maggot survey. There is a meeting regarding this issue.

SW Water Truck

A water truck was budgeted for purchase this year. Mr. Kovalenko would like to purchase a newer used one and submitted information and quoted prices. The problem is these are quotes, not bids. Can we do a one time quote price to save time? Engineer Thomson stated it is a pain to purchase used equipment but it would need to be process. We have done a sole source justification process for ones that are the best for Okanogan County. Engineer Thomson stated the current trucks were used as dump trucks for 20 years and water trucks for another 20 years. Commissioner DeTro made suggestions on the type of truck that would be best to consider in the specs. Direct drive pump, low miles, etc...

Building conditions and permitting was discussed with regards to the required sand filters.

Maintenance

Watching out for run off areas and issues. Removal of dead tree funding was discussed.

Summer Flagging employees and projects were discussed. South end of the county and Methow Valley have increased traffic and so an extra flagging crew will be needed. He would like to hire one stationed out of the Methow shop and one out of the Brewster shop.

Commissioner Hover asked that Tanya Craig be informed to work on the authorization.

Starting construction early April for guardrails and some on Cameron Lk Road in March.

Project List for possible state funding was submitted.

Local priorities should include Bill Shaw road lot of residential building happening on that road it and it is difficult to keep up maintenance. Another road seeing a lot of residential traffic is south end of Cape La Belle road and it is unpaved.

Cold Springs Fire/FEMA

Upper Beaver Ck MSRF property acquisition letter of support
Chris Johnson is drafting a letter of support and it is forth coming.

Commissioner Hover said a neighbor mentioned the traffic near the bridge where people are parking and abusing Wolf Creek road as a trail head. Can Methow Trails and the County and state work on making a parking area for access to the trail. A meeting may be needed to discuss the issue.

Public Comment Period

Isabelle Spohn commented a concern about the comp plan comment period is not getting out very well for the Special Planning Commission meeting set on March 8. The Methow Valley news had only a tiny article on it and it did not give a timeline for submitting comments. She is concerned most people won't see the article and there was nothing in the Omak Chronicle. She is concerned about people being able to comment on WebEx and whether the hearing would be extended. Planning told her written comments would be accepted by a certain post mark but that was not in the notice. Commissioner Branch said the board would consider and discuss under advisement.

Commissioner Branch stated the board is not good at doing news releases for things. Commissioner Hover said the board had indicated that comments be in the Friday before a hearing so the comments could be reviewed. The notice was published February 4 one time in the Omak Chronicle

Commissioner Hover asked that the commissioners agenda note upcoming hearings that are before the Board and that the hearing be described under the meeting headings. He especially wanted the hearings set for land uses to be shown in that section of the agenda as far ahead of the hearing as possible. He will reach out to the Planning Director and request the description of the meetings scheduled be provided to the Clerk of the Board.

Quarterly Update- Tonasket Forest Ranger District- Kathleen Johnson

District Ranger Kathleen Johnson provided an update of the Tonasket Forest Ranger. Raising the camp ground fees was discussed. A letter will be sent to the county with the fees. This was in the works prior to the district going to the Colville Forest. Changes to the wood permits was discussed as Tonasket's were free due to COVID. Revenues from camp grounds is allocated to recreation fund, Christmas tree revenue is allocated to forest maintenance.

Commissioners discussed use of chainsaws in the forest. Commissioner DeTro mentioned how powerful the battery powered chainsaws are and would not pose a fire risk. Commissioner Branch suggested how wilderness fire fighting might be

accomplished in certain areas. Ranger Johnson said some are more willing an open to new ideas than others. She explained it really depends on getting the right person to do the maintenance work.

Ranger Johnson is getting to know the personnel on the Colville District but with COVID it has made it difficult to meet face to face. Commissioners thought Rodney is very engaged, good listener and really considers the conversation and points made. Ranger Johnson said he was really good to work under.

Title II and Title III RAC members are lacking and it seems difficult to keep people on the committee.

Commissioners thanked Ms. Johnson for her time.

Commissioners discussed the fee schedule of Beaman Architecture submitted by Mr. Rabidou earlier for the Forest Service building in Okanogan County that is proposed for the courts. It included a \$13,800 proposal that included several site visits, land use determination. There is nothing to compare it to in general. Commissioner Branch thought as long as it addressed what the board wished to do. The proposal included moving Juvenile Detention and Juvenile Courts to the building. Demolition or remodeling of the old building was discussed. Could the dispatch or communication center be relocated to the Detention building?

Commissioners were comfortable with the fee schedule.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to authorize Beaman Architecture to go forward with the proposed feasibility evaluation of the facility for the Superior Court/ Juvenile Court /Juvenile Detention under the proposed fee schedule. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Hover will provide the information so Tanya Craig can draft the contract since she has worked with Beaman Architecture before.

Discussion Pest Board & Tri County Draft Agreement- Dan McCarthy & Will Carpenter

Mr. Carpenter stated some recent changes to the proposed draft Interlocal Agreement between Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan County for Pest Control Joint Operations. Enforcement actions in individual counties would go to the Chelan County BOCC then each individual county would agree. Contractors hired to perform the work would be bonded. Mr. Carpenter will have a Four-year plan laid out so there are no surprises with a budget of \$130,000 per county during that time frame.

Insurance costs were discussed. Okanogan County is self-insured and Commissioner Hover wondered how the costs would be covered. Ms. Craig explained the Insurance is paid out of the Pest Control fund 119 and the current amount is \$1645 based on equipment and worker hours. She would decrease the hours and the vehicle removed to we wouldn't pay them as much.

There will be four workers and four rigs for the operations that will cover Chelan, Douglas and Okanogan County. Right now, the Chelan and Douglas county co-own the vehicles. Mr. Carpenter stated the Okanogan County S10 pick-up and chainsaw isn't needed. He explained how tri county purchases would be made.

Mr. Carpenter asked if the Prosecutor was charging to process enforcements, no. The Clerk of the Board explained the last two appointments will be approved today for a full board. Dan McCarthy explained the various locations for the Okanogan Pest Control meetings. Mr. Carpenter stated the by laws draft outlines the meeting locations for the Tri County board meeting. Quarterly or monthly meeting and location rotation will need to be decided.

Commissioner Hover discussed the various ways to classify lands and which lands are benefited or not. Lands not benefited would not be assessed. Mr. Carpenter explained he and Chelan County has gone through this before. He is happy to work with the county to help with the process of classification. Commissioner Hover said new taxes should be very well justified to only those benefited. A public hearing would be held. Dan McCarthy asked if the county disqualified the suggestion made by the Horticulture group. The commissioners discussed doing it in accordance with RCW15.09.135.

One commissioner will attend the Apple Maggot meeting tomorrow at 1:30 which is set to be educational. Some terminology in the email from Greg Haubrich Agriculture and the recommendation for quarantine and how that is established was weird. The stakeholder group meeting was formed to provide some education to growers.

Chelan County adopted a resolution to adopt the Tri County Interlocal Agreement.

Commissioners thanked both Will and Dan for coming to the meeting and helping the board realize what is needed moving forward.

Update Capstone Project Following Up- Kayla Wells Moses

Ms. Wells-Moses returned to discuss the Capstone Projects. The bare bones needs assessment questions was reviewed. (attached) Any thoughts on what might be missing from the questions or not necessary. The survey will be distributed to the people through an online survey service. Hard copies will also be distributed and returned and compiled by the students. The Cannabis perception questions had been withdrawn as it is such a new industry. Commissioners discussed the placement of the demographic

questions.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to adopt the Capstone questionnaire for the survey presented today. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Additional capstone projects were dropped due to COVID, if they keep the project going forward, Ms. Wells-Moses will come forward and share it.

Approve Commissioner Proceedings February 22nd and 23rd 2021

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Approve Consent Agenda

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items as listed. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

1. Grant Agreement- Police Vehicle- USDA OMB No 0575-0173
2. Appointment Letter- Pest Board- Rick Delap, Roland Smith and Mike Azzano
3. Cattleguard Franchise Renewals; Double Ranch CGF# 66-73; Double Ranch CGF# 67-73; Keene CGF# 2-90; Keene CGF# 10-13, Gebbers CGF# 87-73; Gebbers CGF# 7-73; Gebbers CGF# 5-91; Gebbers CGF# 16-98; Gebbers CGF# 1-78; 2-78, Williams CGF# 1-84, Graves CGF# 02-01, Graves CGF# 109-73
4. Contract LTAC- 21-013- Tonasket Visitor Center TVBRC Capital
5. Contract LTAC 21-014- Tonasket Visitor Center TVBCR VIC
6. Contract LTAC 21-017- TwispWorks Foundation Marketing & Promotion
7. Contract -LTAC 21-005 Merc Playhouse
8. Resolution 20-2021 Replacing Ok Co Fair Rental Rate Fee Schedule
9. Resolution 21-2021 Cancellation of Unclaimed Warrants- Ok Co Treasurer

Motion Resolution 23-2021 Travel

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 23-2021 rescinding Resolution 6-2020 and amending Resolution 18-2015 to follow the state's Office of Financial Management individual business travel rates for mileage, meal per diem, and lodging. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Hover discussed the LTAC conversation for another round of funding this year and their decision not to go through it this time.

Homeless Housing Funds request of \$35,800 of Oroville Housing Authority was discussed. The funds would be used to provide temporary shelter to homeless individuals during the winter season.

Motion Clerk of the Board Direction

Commissioner Hover moved to direct the Clerk of the Board to draft the resolution for the homeless housing funds proposal of Oroville Housing Authority for \$35,800 and the corresponding contract. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion County Surplus Auction

Commissioner Hover moved to hold the county surplus auction sale on April 10 at 10:00 a.m. on the Fairgrounds. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

The board adjourned at 4:20 p.m.