

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OKANOGAN COUNTY**

MARCH 22, 2021

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on March 22, 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 Assessor Vehicle Follow-up- Assessor Larry Gilman

Assessor Larry Gilman provided the quotes for the Assessor's truck purchase. (attached) The apparent low bid was from Sunrise Auto for the Chevy Silverado 1500 V-6 .

For the ½ Ton Crew Cab 4x4
Sunrise Auto Chevy Silverado 1500 V-6 \$32,365
Jess Ford 150 \$37,383
Jess Ford Dodge Tradesman \$42,678
Sunrise Auto Silverado 1500 4-8 \$43,484

The ER&R totals for fee scheduling were provided for each vehicle. It will be 90 days for the order but not guaranteed. Availability is also to be considered.

Commissioner Hover explained he did not have an issue with the Chevy pickup even though he is a ford guy.

Motion Assessor Vehicle Bid Award

Commissioner Hover moved to award the bid for the purchase of the Chevy Silverado 1500 V-6 for \$32,365 from Sunrise Chevrolet. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Hover asked that budget supplementals be prepared for the costs from the various fund line items.

Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) at 9:15 a.m. for 5 minutes. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive session ended at 9:10 a.m. no decisions were made.

Legislative Update- Potts & Associates

Zach Kennedy provided his legislative update. (attached) Ways and means is addressing several things. He provided the list and dates when testimony on the bills is scheduled to be taken such as Law & Justice, Finance, Health Care & Wellness, Public Safety.....

Commissioner DeTro mentioned how much diesel fuel was in California at \$8.98 per gallon. He also said the board should consider Native American names on creeks, roads, and areas as a friend whose family is on the Siwash allotments said if that name is changed she would be highly offended, the same for Squaw Creek as there is native legends and history associated with the names. In our regions it is worth looking at, said Commissioner Branch. Not everyone is thinking the names are offensive. There are many other offensive things out there, why not focus on the disgusting demoralizing and low standard TV shows rather than kids cartoon.

Dan McCarthy- Presentation

Commissioners presented Dan McCarthy with a Plaque and Signed Certificate appreciating him for his 23 years as the County's Pest Control Agent. Commissioner Branch explained to Dan McCarthy that the board wanted to recognize him for the dedication and services provided to the county and its tree fruit industry over the years.

Briefing Among Commissioners -Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda
Commissioners discussed the recent meeting regarding the Crown Columbia water application that Commissioner Hover attended. The commissioners discussed their thoughts on the situation and the purpose of the motivation.

Commissioner Hover explained at a watershed meeting he attended that Okanogan County needs to account for the water reserves. Aspect wrote a program for tracking wells. How many parcels using water to generate a data base for the watershed council. We need to send a report to Ecology about the reach reserves and use of water. He asked Planning to send the board the assumptions used to give the output data. Before we agree on the numbers and provide to Ecology, the Board and Watershed Council should look at them to review the science. Commissioner Branch said these types of review should have been happening all along. Reconciling reality with the assumptions is an important process. Commissioner Branch thought a facilitated meeting would be best.

Commissioner Hover stated he asked DOE for a list of interruptible water rights in the Methow Basin and Treavor Hutton provided it in an email.

Commissioner Branch acknowledged receipt of a Grant County water right change of groundwater point of withdrawal permit. This is having to do with an application filed by

Benchmark Farms, Inc of Ephrata to Grant County Water Conservancy Board. The Clerk of the Board stated several years ago the water conservancy boards agreed to provide these types of applications to surrounding counties to each knew of the water changes being considered.

Commissioners adjourned until 1:30 p.m.

Special Board of Health Meeting-1234 2nd Ave S, Okanogan

Commissioners attended the Special Board of Health Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner DeTro was not here at 1:30 p.m.

Update Planning- Director Pete Palmer

Dan Higbee

A Plat improvement request was explained but they don't have the millar to sign at this time. They will bring the millar once the other signatures are obtained.

The Pasayten Peak Planned Development has a change where the parcels abut county owned property.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to authorize the chairman's signature on the Pasayten Peak Planned Development minor modification PDM 2021-01. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. (attached)

A final has finally been reached for the final long plat modification for Veranda Beach and the Millar is ready to be signed.

Commissioner DeTro arrived at 1:40 p.m.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to approve Point at Veranda Beach Long Plat 2019-2 of the planned development. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners signed the Millar.

Planning Director Palmer stated the list has been vetted. Do the commissioners wish to publicize the list or continue screening calls as people inquiry. Commissioner thought it would be good to publish as it may mitigate less calls from real estate agents. Commissioner Branch agreed it should be published.

Aspect did not have the information for the assumptions on well tracking prepared yet.

We will have to take that information and run a report that says these many parcels are using water from the reserves. Because of the time gap we have to make assumptions about which are using water. He wants to figure out what is being assumed and everyone agrees on those we can put it into the database to send to ecology. Commissioner Brach said knowing the nature of developments, is \$10,000 a reasonable number to set. The ones that come to mind, there are a lot of shops being built due to no water. Director Palmer said there are dry cabins going in too. Commissioner Hover said it is an easy piece of data to pull over. We will have group A systems or PD with water rights, he isn't sure if we get a bulk number to error on side of caution then assign a bulk number to assumptions depending on area.

Manual count using aerial photos to gather information from 1976.

April 1 is the next WRIA 49 meeting. An inquiry to those still interested in serving on that committee was sent out and responses gathered. Several names were provided with some of the previous members not showing interest. There were some who wished to continue their representation.

Published the Building Permit moratorium public hearing that is on April 5.

I Works Systems and Dude Solutions. I Works were not compatible with our point and pay. Limits to custom letters and quarterly updates rather than weekly, quicker to implement. Program doesn't work off line like the Dude Solutions program for entering data and accessing data in the field. The prices were very different Dude Solutions \$33294 plus \$54776 annually and iWork's 12500. She liked the interactive zone map that Dude Solutions would provide to show permitting on property and would eliminate many office calls. It would totally be on line fill out applications, pay for them, communicate with Building Officials schedule reviews, and includes Planning and Dept of Health, includes Assessor's information. They were targeting all four departments and iWork's could not provide that.

Building Official Higbee explained the input needed for issuing building permits. There is a point when information is issued so someone can see a building permit in process. Commissioner Branch stated at some point the application is deemed complete. When the application is complete as well as the plans which have been approved. Commissioner Hover asked if short plat statuses could be viewed. Yes, that is possible. Right now, building staff pulls information from three different places in order for staff to build a report and Dude Solutions would provide it all in one place and reduce staff time in gathering the information. Commissioner Branch suggested some things might be done first before publishing applications. He asked what other jurisdictions publish their reports. Higbee said one thing he isn't sure is how Public Health would be integrated into the Dude Solutions system.

Portable printers and peripherals would be needed in the field in order to print the inspection reports on site because a hard copy is required for the job site.

IT asked that any new proposed software be reviewed first by Central Services prior to purchase.

Commissioner Hover would like to discuss the options with Public Health and Central Services.

Commissioner Branch thought an end result would be shown on a flow chart so the many steps are clear for staff and applicants. The flow chart would start at the Planning Office.

The Clerk of the Board explained the CDBG CV2 application will be opened April 1 and due by April 30. The funds are for responses to COVID to low income individuals. Commissioner Branch discussed Food Banks and work force development.

The work attire for maintenance employees. Commissioners believe work attire should easily identify the person as a county employee such as embroidered shirts. Commissioners discussed issuance of the shirts versus the employee purchasing them.

Review Meeting Minutes

Commissioners reviewed their meeting minutes of March 15, 16, & 17, 2021.

Discussion- Health & Safety- Law Enforcement- Sheriff Tony Hawley

David Gecas, Aaron Culp

Sheriff Hawley explained ruling and decisions about controlled substances. The ruling came out after new bills come out of the session. There was a HB 5468 introduced, but it hasn't come out of committee. His concern is if we wait for that bill to address this, means no one can be held accountable for controlled substances which means more people using in parks ending up in hospital etc... He has spoken with National Association of Sheriffs and Law enforcement. He would like to consider code enforcement for public safety. If this is not addressed it will push up overdose's and hospitalizations.

He provided an ordinance from Grant County banning knowing possession of unlawful controlled substances and providing enforcement and penalties. He asked the commissioners to consider a similar code amendment here in Okanogan County.

David Gecas responded that these concerns are a real concern. From a legal standpoint, members of other civil prosecutors and so far, the overall consensus is that none are moving forward with it yet due to legal concerns. As important as this is the

solution cannot carry a bunch of other legal issues. Preemption is that legal minds can differ. The rule does leave room. A reasonable court could disagree. If we are enforcing our code over the RCW the state is less likely to provide funds for these costs. He is cautious about this and would like to see what happens with the counties that have authorized this code. We don't want our ordinance to be invalidated after people have been convicted, said David Gecas.

Commissioner Hover stated there is an inherent risk and we should do something. He is willing to take the risk. He hears from citizens about drug houses and people wonder why nothing is being done about it.

Commissioner Branch said taking the risk means we have a responsibility to the tax payers and for keeping people safe. He is concerned about the risks. Commissioners would like some historical number data of those in custody for these crimes such as annually based on a five-year span, that were solely knowing possession charges. David Gecas stated the data might include charges associated with the possession charge.

Commissioners adjourned for the day at 3:45 p.m.