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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

9:00 AM Review Commissioners Agenda, Consent Agenda, & Meeting Minutes
9:15 AM Briefing Among Commissioners-Discuss Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedule
9:30 AM Discuss Format of Fund 170 for ARPA Expenditures-Commissioners
10:00 AM Discussion Meet & Greet WDFW-Brock Hoenes
11:00 AM Discussion Homeless Housing Coalition RFP Review/Consideration for 2022 Funding
1:30 PM Budget Work Session HR/Risk Management
2:30 PM Budget Work Session Commissioners/NonDept/Special Funds
4:00 PM Budget Work Session-Fairgrounds/Fair-Naomie Peasley

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on November 8, 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 meeting held today, while ZOOM provided best audio accessibility and public interaction.

Review Commissioners Agenda, Consent Agenda, & Meeting Minutes

Member of the public Nick Timm spectating

Briefing Among Commissioners-Discuss Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedule

Commissioner Hover asked for executive session and the clerk contacted David Gecas who arrived at 9:15 a.m. for the session.

Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:17 a.m. for 15 minutes inviting DPA David Gecas and Director Pete Palmer to discuss ongoing litigation under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) Dept of Ecology lawsuit issue the county has going. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive Session ended at 9:45 a.m. no decisions were made.

Discuss Format of Fund 170 for ARPA Expenditures-Commissioners

Treasurer McCormack, Auditor Hall, Pam Johnson, Lisa Schreckengost

Commissioner Hover asked the fund titles be made in accordance with the four categories from the US Treasury. Commissioner Branch stated what the categories are: support of general public health services, negative economic impacts, lost public sector revenues, Invest in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure, and Premium pay for essential workers.

Commissioner Hover stated the purchase of the Forest Service building with ARPA funds under the public health services.

Auditor Hall expressed that she would work with the commissioners on which expenditure BARS to break out for the sub categories.

53
54 Commissioner Branch showed a plan of Whitman County and discussed what other counties are
55 doing who are providing grants from ARPA funds to cities for small business relief.

56
57 Improving facilities and how that fits would be great to see how they measure that. US Treasury is
58 still looking at our scenario but they have been receiving more comments than they are able to
59 answer.

60
61 Auditor Hall asked that Commissioner Branch's draft plan be emailed to her and Lisa.

62
63 Premium pay could be incentive pay and sign on bonuses, as well as finders fees could fall under a
64 generalized category and fine tuned later. Commissioner Branch asked what other counties are
65 basing their allocations on as he is in contact with MRSC on a daily basis.

66
67 Commissioner Hover suggested the public health payment be reduced to because Public Health can
68 use these funds for so many things like rent, salaries, and hiring new people that could train for
69 turnovers or retirements.

70
71 Treasurer McCormack asked when the second installment would be made.

72
73 **Discussion Meet & Greet WDFW-Brock Hoenes**

74 Mr. Brock Hoenes Justin Haug Region II

75
76 Mr. Hoenes introduced himself and explained his back ground and education. He started his job
77 August 1, 2021 and is everything he and his wife hoped for. It has been amazing how integrated in
78 their communities and that isn't normal everywhere else. He wants to keep it that way.

79
80 Collaboration and communication are very important to him and he is very interested in learning more
81 about the commissioners and their relationship with WDFW.

82
83 Mr. Haug presented slides on current acquisitions underway by the department. Appraisals are
84 happening to determine values on the proposed acquisitions. Each project is moving forward with
85 anticipation of Gold Doe and Hunter Mt are furthest along. Commissioner DeTro stated there are
86 petroglyphs and locals refer to it as the cache and is a very unique property.

87
88 Blue Lake near Oroville improvement project is about 90% complete with a vaulted toilet, parking,
89 ADA trail and viewing area with kiosk. Commissioner Branch complimented WDFW on these
90 accomplishments. This improvement is an attempt to bring in more people but spreads them out
91 among the many different places. People will take better ownership of the place and will help keep it
92 clean.

93
94 Patterson Lake improvements were shown. Lewis Butte/Riser Lake Access was presented as not
95 approved by the department.

96
97 Working on a recreation strategy because right now it isn't being managed, said Brock. He is hoping
98 it will be provided soon for public feedback. They are trying not to highlight their land to try and get
99 people to visit their land is actually the opposite of what they are trying to do. There are limitations on
100 tourism. It is important to have a place for people to go in a semi managed way. There is so much
101 use in the wintertime, it could become or is an issue to be addressed, said Commissioner Hover.

102
103 Cutchie #1 and #3 was discussed. WDFW is improving parking and access to river.

104
105 Cutchie #4 off Loomis Oroville road, putting a parking area and better access to the water. Increase
106 access to the Similkameen river, considered a water trail. All sites are up stream from Enloe Dam.
107

108 Additional completed vaulted toilets were discussed as well as new ones in the Campbell Davis
109 Cougar and Boulder Creek areas.
110

111 Reseeding of the prescribed burn areas of Cub Creek and Boulder Creek areas with native
112 grasses.
113

114 Emergency grazing permit opportunities were provided to people affected by recent fires. They will
115 keep looking for opportunities to do that. Brock stated WDFW was requested to issue more grazing
116 permits than any other region and they are happening here. Does the board wish to go on a grazing
117 tour, he will reach out next year as the details become known?
118

119 Commissioners thanked Mr. Hoenes, and Mr. Haug
120

121 **Discussion Homeless Housing Coalition RFP Review/Consideration for 2022 Funding**
122 OCCAC, Lael Duncan, Room One, OBHC David McClay
123

124 Ms. Duncan explained the county advertised the RFP and OCCAC collected the results. (attached)
125 The following entities submitted proposals for 2022 Homeless Housing Funds.
126

127 Ms. Duncan explained what the housing coalition group discussed when they reviewed the
128 responses in what is happening in terms of distress and difficulties case managers in dealing with
129 the most difficult disturbed clients. There are some who are far more challenged and seem to cycle
130 in and out of services due to emotional and mental stability. Each made their case and discussed
131 how the funds would be used. The proposals were all unanimously endorsed for full funding.
132

133 There are a number of clients who are not eligible or are disqualified for COVID funds, but may be
134 eligible for these funds. Commissioners discussed the 2022 budget.
135

136 Room One	\$12,000
137 Housing Authority Ok Co	\$15,000
138 OBHC	\$50,000
139 OCCAC	\$52,500
140 Oroville Housing Authority	\$35,000
141 Support Center	\$36,793
142 Total	\$200,793

143
144 Ms. Duncan explained funding from a grant from WSLA may help with wintertime assistance to help
145 cover folks who are COVID positive to as a place to recover.
146

147 Commissioners discussed balances that will be paid out at the end of the year.
148

149 **Motion**

150 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the above allocations as recommended by the Housing
151 Coalition and direct the Clerk of the Board to draft the appropriate contracts with the entities. Motion
152 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.
153

154 Legislation passed HB1277 for an additional recording fee won't go into the homeless housing
155 funds, but is to be collected and some may come back to the county.

156
157 **Motion RCW 42.30.110 (1)(f)**
158 Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 11:30 a.m. for 15 minutes to review the
159 performance of a public employee under F to evaluate complaints or charges brought against a
160 public employee. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

161
162 Executive session was extended at 11:45 a.m. for another 10 minutes.

163
164 Executive session ended at 11:50 a.m. no decisions were made.

165
166 **Budget Work Session HR/Risk Management**
167 Auditor Hall, Treasurer McCormack, HR Shelley Keitzman, Risk Manager Tanya Everett

168
169 The OBHC CJTA pass through grant was discussed and Ms. Everett explained OBHC isn't
170 providing invoices to process from the funds. There is a 10% admin fee that is charged on each
171 A19.

172
173 Commissioner Hover discussed use of the Self Insurance Payment line item and Ms. Everett
174 explained how it is used. The Sheriff usually pays for their accidents out of their repairs and
175 maintenance BARS.

176
177 Civil service budget was reviewed. The testing for corrections is not working because they have to
178 come in person and there have been many no shows. Should the county do Public Safety Testing
179 in the amount of \$1500 per year as it can be done online from home.

180
181 **Motion**
182 Commissioner Hover moved to direct Human Resources to draft three resolutions increasing the
183 caps of CE and Non-bargaining and sheriff admin to \$793 to cover employee only costs of dental.
184 Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

185
186 **Budget Work Session Commissioners/NonDept/Special Funds**
187 Commissioners discussed and reviewed their departmental budgets. The commissioners discussed
188 what to call the Forest Service building. Law and Justice Center was an idea. Ringhaffer Building

189
190 Commissioners discussed their travel budgets and which travel reimbursement options there are.
191 The group discussed ARPA fund 170 and the expenditure categories commissioners wanted set
192 up. Auditor Hall explained if the Forest Service building purchase isn't appropriate out of the ARPA
193 funds or the particular BARS then it can be moved later.

194
195 Homeless Housing fund 142 was discussed. Recording fees have gone up by \$100 so adjustments
196 were made to revenues.

197
198 **Budget Work Session-Fairgrounds/Fair-Naomie Peasley**
199 Mike Egerton, Brock Hires, Scott Vejraska, Naomie Peasley & Finance Committee

200
201 The fair budget was reviewed. Mr. Vejraska asked why the fair has to rent the fairgrounds.
202 Commissioner Hover explained that no other counties have the fair in their current expense. The
203 current expense fund supports the fairgrounds so we need to charge the enterprise funds.
204 Commissioner Hover explained the other reasons for charging rent to the fair. Many people do

205 not understand. Commissioner Branch suggested use of ARPA funds to help supplement the fair
206 for its losses due to COVID.

207
208 The fair requested \$40,000 to increase fair fund. Commissioner Hover said he isn't against it,
209 because there are many asks from current expense.

210
211 Mike Egerton stated with next year being the 75th anniversary, he was hoping to make it a real
212 big deal. Reduced number of people at this year's fair also reduced the revenue.

213
214 Naomie explained there was equipment being donated for fair use that is no longer available.
215 Such as scales, chutes etc.... How is the county going to cover those costs?

216
217 Fair health and safety requests may be submitted for commissioners' consideration by June.
218 There is an auction group that has been doing the livestock auction was changed to a different
219 group. We have to figure out how to pay for equipment for animals. FAC should discuss how to
220 pay the auction group they decide to use. The group has some homework in terms of

221
222
223 The board adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

224
225
226