

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**OKANOGAN COUNTY****JANUARY 11, 2020**

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on January 11, 2021, with; Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

The meetings were video and audio recorded in AV Capture.

Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda

Commissioner Hover stated he has been working on the Capital Improvement Plan and will be providing it to departments for review.

Briefing Among Commissioners

Commissioner discussion.

Executive Session – RCW 42.30.110 (1)(f) -Commissioners Conference Room

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:30 a.m. for 15 minutes inviting the Clerk of the Board and Risk Manager to discuss complaints against a public officer. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive session was extended at 9:45 a.m. another five minutes. Executive session was extended at 9:50 a.m. for another five minutes. Executive session ended at 10:00 a.m. No decisions were made.

Prosecutor Candidate Questionnaire Review

The questionnaire was refined by the Board of County Commissioners to provide the most important information they wished to know of the candidate. Commissioner Branch explained the interview is on Zoom for attendees to hear and is being recorded via AV Capture.

Prosecutor Candidate Interviews***Interview of Dave Stevens***

Kit Arbuckle, Tanya Craig

The Prosecutor Candidate Interviews were conducted in open session.

There were several members of the public attending the interviews via zoom. They were listed as Heather, Isabelle, Jason M, Katie Haven, Emily Sission, Jamie-Okanogan County, WA, FChandler and LShreck

Mr. Dave Stevens introduced himself and explained some of his experience and key qualities for the position. Director of Human Resources Tanya Craig asked the questions from the prepared questionnaire. Mr. Steven's responded to the questions in detail to each of the questions asked and the commissioners listened without comment.

Mr. Stevens said either of the applicants would be a thousand times better than what we have now. He has the experience in budgets and the majority of the current caseloads so it would not be about him taking over anything. Issues will be resolved and we won't see people leaving like before. He said 12 have left so far.

Commissioners explained their decision would be made by the end of the day today.

A short break of the board was taken before the next interview.

Interview of Melanie Bailey

Heather, Isabelle, Jason M, Katie Haven, Emily Sission, Jamie-Okanogan County, WA, FChandler, LShreck, Sheriff Tony Hawley

Melanie Bailey introduced herself and gave the board general back ground information. Director of Human Resources Tanya Craig asked the questions from the prepared questionnaire. Ms. Bailey responded to the questions in detail to each of the questions asked and the commissioners listened without comment.

Commissioners explained their decision would be made by the end of the day today.

The candidates do not need to be present. The commissioners understand the candidates have an afternoon calendar to attend to.

The interviews ended at 11:45 a.m.

Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(h)

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 11:45 a.m. to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate to an elective office. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive session ended at 11:55 a.m. no decisions were made.

Commissioners adjourned for lunch at 11:58 a.m.

Commissioners after reconvening from lunch said they would have a decision on the appointment of the Prosecutor.

Update-Planning & Development-Director Pete Palmer

Pete Palmer, planning director provided the Comprehensive Plan Timeline. (attached)

Director Palmer explained contact responses to those who have inquired.

January 22 Compete DEIS Addendum to be completed.

January 27 DEIS Addendum and New Draft will be published in the Newspaper and trigger public comment period.

Feb 10 close the comment period.

80 comments from the first document.

Feb 22 Planning Commission to hold public hearing and close written and public comment period.

Next 45 days the planning staff will respond to the comments received past and present.

Grant funds have been received and placed back into current expense.

Watershed grant was received with three year turn around of \$100,000 over a two-year period. Director Palmer discussed the use of the fund for WRIA 48 as they have an established committee and staff thought it was a good fit. WRIA 49 is still on the fence on what that plan is to look.

The commissioners wished to to consider their decision on Prosecutorial appointment prior to the Planning update.

Motion

Sheriff Hawley, Sgt Everett, Tanya Craig

Commissioner Branch stated after discussion on the qualifications of the candidates the board will move on their decision of appointment to the Prosecutor position.

Motion Appointment of Prosecutor

Commissioner Hover moved to appoint Melanie Bailey as Okanogan County Prosecutor. Both candidates interviewed were qualified and it really came down to the interview. He asked for a resolution to memorialize the decision. All were in favor, Motion seconded, motion carried.

Planning Update

Director Palmer provided her agenda items for the discussion today. She discussed a Watershed grant application. Commissioners provided their direction and input with regards to watershed planning and the uses of the grant if awarded. They asked several questions about protections the watershed committee may have under the county.

Commissioners discussed the Water shed plan and the legal existence of the water committee that the county appointed and formed under the RCW. Commissioner Hover discussed the people so appointed were appointed under a certain reason for watershed planning and if we have active watershed committees under the RCW are they protected under the rules and how DOE would look at it and the protections of the appointment. Because it was mandated in 1994 what is WRIA 48 and what was their mandate and are they still under that jurisdiction.

Commissioners would like others (Sara) to look at the grant application and stipulate if the commissioners sign off it must be used for watershed planning.

Director Palmer discussed an agenda item request on the promotion of Angela Hubbard. She requested the board amend the resolution from Grade 25/3 to Grade 25/4 as Angela Hubbard is an outstanding employee handling more complex issues way above her current title and pay. In addition, Ms. Hubbard has a BA degree in Natural Resources. Director Palmer went through the Planning Budget that included funds for step 4. The different between step 3 and step 5 is about \$2300 she believes the amount can be made up within her budget without a budget supplemental. Ms. Craig was asked to attend the discussion. Commissioner Hover explained typically promotions must get a minimum of 5% over the previous wage. Director Palmer proposed Ms. Hubbard to go into the step 4.

Commissioners thought the resolution should be amended since it was the director's original ask, but because that was not relayed to HR at step 5 that the resolution was changed to step 3 consistent with the employee manual promotion policies. The resolution is correcting a clerical error. The Clerk of the Board was asked to draft the amendment to Resolution 172-2020 to consider the position at step 4.

A call from Robin Stice requested the county to use LTAC funds to redraft the County Road Atlas. Director Palmer said the original atlas was drafted in 2003 and GIS confirmed it was used for emergency personal. It has become obsolete since technology changes have been made. The software used is outdated and no longer exists. Planning staff felt what was requested should be more of a document guide brochure for recreation. Commissioner Hover said a map would be great to be included in a Destination Master Plan or Tourism Master Plan. Director Palmer asked that the road atlas showing trailheads and recreation areas be separate from the roads portion used for emergency personnel. Commissioner Branch said since the atlas was designed public works has the roads

marked for WATV routes and integrate those with the Atlas. A booklet was developed for this, but every six months the roads were changes and it was hard to keep up to date. What categories of things should be on the map, trail markers, boat launches, kayak launches etc... and what exactly is being requested.

Director Palmer explained additional printing need for large scale mailings.

Motion Office Tech Agreement

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Office Tech Agreement for office printing and authorized the chairman to sign. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

Executive session will be requested on a legal matter regarding Ordinance 2020-6 and work plan associated with that.

A 911 address appeal was received and another discussion will be needed for that on January 19. Is it a quasi-judicial matter. Director Palmer said it is different and is one of the only appeals that would go directly to the commissioners.

CERB Presentation -ACRS James Lightfoot

Roni Holder-Diefenbach introduced the presentation with James Lightfoot and his team. (attached)

The scope of the project was to provide a feasibility study of the expansion of broadband services throughout Okanogan County and the Colville Tribal jurisdiction to find gaps in services, identify stakeholders, set primary goals, analyze the data and conditions, identify alternatives and deployment of the solutions, select the alternatives and evaluate alternatives and implementation strategies.

A report of the service area priorities was discussed and what those issues are to. A high-level conceptual plan and costs for 18 service areas and market analysis.

The report its self is about 300 plus pages.

Ms. Diefenbach asked if there were questions of the board. The study would not have been possible if it were not for the county applying for the CERB grant and the Tribe for helping with the match. She has spoken about partnering with NCW EDD for another grant coming up. Her goal is to provide funding for the plans and keep it moving in the direction of funding the projects. Helping our rural areas access the needed services.

Commissioner Branch asked if there was a prioritized list for the funding that comes about to fund them in a certain way. Do we see private industry contributing in any way? James Lightfoot said there is an annual process for community connect applies for Once announced funding is available they give as little as 30-60 days. It would be wise to sit down and narrow down a list for the game plan so when the Community Connect rolls around we are prepared. It looks like they are coming up with 3-4 Million dollars more as well as state funding that we need to continue the conversational to make sure there is a game plan and prepared for when those come around. Ms. Diefenbach and Tribe and PUD providers met and broadband director and was presented with an opportunity at the federal level for the federal stimulus package and challenged us to prepare our shovel ready projects that he could advocate for. Service areas and engineer reports are being worked on and going through the process and have an ROI and engineer stamp on them. This Friday we will have the list and will submit to our region and our shovel ready list. One challenge is we have one provider in the county and mis represented wireless that that business offered and it eliminated us from a lot of grant programs. Trying to pushout a state-wide broadband data plan which is a really important process that USDA funding can be applied for so we are eligible. Service providers do not want anyone else coming into their service provider areas. The tribe will be a key partner.

Discussion Radio Network Consultant – Chief Mike Worden

Responses to the RFP for radio network improvements were evaluated and completed and each reviewer came up with consistent answers and impressions as a result of their review. The vendor recommended was ADCOM as they scored the highest and are local. The bid was \$860,000 and was the highest but they also had the least indication for increases as they included everything some vendors said they could do things but would increase the overall cost if they did. Mr. Worden does wish to begin negotiations.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to select ADCOM engineering for the communications engineering project and authorize engaging negotiation with them. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

The courthouse generator scope of work for the electrical work insulation vendors selected we have one response out of Wenatchee. Vassar said they would not be submitting a response. Vexstar \$46,660 plus tax. They are on the small works roster.

Mr. Worden asked the board to accept the bid.

Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to award the generator electrical work to Vexstar in the amount of \$46,660 for the courthouse generator project. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

If the total project cost doesn't go over \$300,000 we won't need to follow the semi-formal solicitation process.

Mr. Worden explained Dispatch Advisory Board agrees some additional funding is going to be needed for the Tunk building replacement and the consultant. Would the county be supportive to engaging the 7th and 12th district legislators for the funding?

Commissioner Hover asked for a summary of what projects would need additional funding the commissioners would like to send the legislators the summary to consider. OCOG sent their letter of support as did the Sheriff's office. Commissioner Hover would like a letter requesting support drafted for the commissioner's considerations on BOCC letterhead to be emailed to the legislators.

Commissioner DeTro explained he got feed back from Dan McCarthy and Al Secomb to bring some suggestions forward for the Pest Control Board changes.

Motion Resolution 3-2021 Field Technician Position-Noxious Weed

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 3-2021 creating a Field Technician Position and creating a new BARS Code for the position. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Resolution 6-2021 Appointing Melanie Bailey as Prosecuting Attorney

Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 6-2021 appointing Melanie Bailey to the Prosecuting Attorney. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion Methow Valley EMS District

Commissioner Hover 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. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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

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 \$668,124.76. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion – Separate 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 Separate voucher in the amount of \$58,013.79. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion Public Health Voucher

Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers in the amount of \$168,145.51. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion A19 CERB Grant Request #6 ACRS

Commissioner Hover moved to approve ACRS CERB Grant Request #6 in the amount of \$10,000 and authorized the chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion A19 CDBG Public Services Grant #2

Commissioner Hover moved to approve CDBG Public Services Grant Request #2 in the amount \$5623.28 and authorized the chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Motion CDBG Public Services Grant #18

Commissioner Hover moved to approve CDBG Public Service Grant Request #18 in the amount of \$19,493.26 and authorized the chairman to sign. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Review of Meeting Minutes

The board adjourned at 4:15 p.m.