



Okanogan County Hearings Examiner Meeting Minutes

1 A regular session of the Okanogan County Hearings Examiner was held on **May 25, 2023** at
2 10:00 a.m. the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington.

3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY STAFF:** Hearings Examiner Dan Beardslee, Rocky Robbins Planner III,
4 Planner I Liz Serrao, and Director Pete Palmer

5 **APPELLANT/APPLICANTS OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES:** Rory Westmoreland

6 **Others in Attendance:**

7 **New Business:** Mr. Beardslee opened the public hearing at 10:00 a.m. and explained the
8 process of the Hearings Examiner meeting.

9 **Public Hearing:**

10 ○ **Okanogan Sales & Recycle CUP 2008-8 Termination**

11 Director Pete Palmer sworn in and entered an addition to the staff report into the record
12 and gave a summery of the addition. Dan asked if Pete thought he had the authority to
13 add the conditions that are proposed. Pete excused herself to find the code that gives
14 the authority to the Hearing Examiner.

15 Liz Serrao presented the staff report. Dan asked about clarification about what gave
16 Rory the ability to continue work after the work order was placed. Rocky Robbins gave
17 history regarding the attempts to help Rory come into compliance.

18 Rory Westmoreland 32288 HWY 97, Oroville was sworn in and gave testimony. He
19 stated that he wants to be in compliance. He mentioned that he has had numerous
20 health issues and has had problems with equipment and has been unable to maintain
21 the yard. He mentioned that he is finally feeling better and has new equipment. He
22 said that he has a verbal agreement with someone from Oroville to haul the junk. Dan
23 asked more about the day to day operations and the validity of his promises to comply.
24 Dan asked if Rory had the ability to acquire a bond to ensure that the property could be
25 reclaimed. Rory said that he is not currently in the position but hopes that he would be
26 soon. Dan also pointed out that Rory's business license isn't active and Rory stated he

27 wasn't aware of that. Dan stated that he will be visiting the site today. Dan asked how
28 long it would take to come into compliance. Rory said that it would take him 3 months.

29 Pete agreed that the conditions that were proposed would need to be handled in
30 enforcement and not by the Hearing Examiner. She went on to explain that Rory has a
31 history of cleaning up when forced to but, within 3 months, he is back out of compliance.
32 He also does not have any of the required permits to operate.

33 **Hearing Examiner closed the meeting: 10:37am**

34 Rocky Robbins
35 Planner III
36 Okanogan County Planning
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