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**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

**OKANOGAN COUNTY**

**FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

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19 **Review Meeting Minutes January 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

20 **Public Comment Period**

21 **Finance Committee Meeting-Treasurer Pam Johnson**

22 **Update-Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson**

23 **Executive Session-RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)**

24 **Update-Noxious Weed-Larry Hudson**

25 **Update-Building-Dan Higbee**

26 **Discussion-County Wildfire Protection Plan Core Group Attendance-Eli Loftis OK. Conservation Dist.**

27 **Approve Meeting Minutes January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

28 **Approve Consent Agenda**

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29 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a regular meeting at 123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North,  
30 Okanogan, Washington on February 13, 2024 with Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover;  
31 Member, Commissioner Chris Branch; and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

32 AV Capture and Zoom provided audio and video accessibility for public interaction.

33 Chairman, Commissioner Neal was absent today.

34 **Review Meeting Minutes January 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

35 Commissioners reviewed their meeting minutes.

36 **Motion-Approve February 6, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

37 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the February 6, 2024 commissioners' proceeding as  
38 corrected. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

39 **Motion-Authorize Letter to Mr. Beardslee**

40 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize the letter to Mr. Beardslee which is a rescission of the notice  
41 of termination sent on January 29, 2024. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

42 **Motion-Authorize Waiver of Notice Requirements for Hearings Examiner**

43 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize the Waiver of Notice Requirements and agree to terminate  
44 the Professional Services Agreement between Okanogan County and Dan Beardslee-Hearings  
45 Examiner effective upon signing. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

46 Commissioners discussed and agreed that the auditor create a BARS code for the auditor to process  
47 the Sheriff's employee retro pay contract.

48 **Public Comment Period**

49 Member of the public, Karren Harris, attended to listen.

50 **Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) Ongoing Litigation**

51 Commissioner Branch moved to go into executive session at 9:32 until 9:42 a.m. inviting Attorney  
52 Milner and HR Director Shelley Keitzman to discuss ongoing litigation. Motion was seconded, all were  
53 in favor, motion carried.

54 Executive session ended at 9:42 a.m.

56 **Motion Approve February 6, Meeting Minutes**  
57 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the February 6, 2024 commissioners' proceedings as  
58 corrected. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

59  
60 **Motion Approve January 30, 2024**  
61 Commissioner Branch moved to approve January 30, 2024 meeting minutes as corrected. Motion was  
62 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

63  
64 **Motion Approve January 29, 2024**  
65 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the commissioners' proceedings of January 29, 2024 as  
66 corrected. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

67  
68 **Finance Committee Meeting-Treasurer Pam Johnson**  
69 Treasurer Johnson stated tax statement went out last week. Payments are starting to come in and  
70 calls being fielded. Staff has been able to stay caught up. Really working on 2021 those parcels that  
71 are subject to foreclosure so those don't get filed. Commissioners have until April 30, 2024 to look at  
72 their tax statements.

73  
74 Commissioner Hover stated suggested the county have a camera and monitor on a moveable cart  
75 that has a speak that tracks the speaker. Commissioner Branch said Aging and Adult care has  
76 something like that too. The main thing is that some agencies have a dedicated staff that operates the  
77 equipment.

78  
79 What do the courts use? Commissioner Hover would like to explore these tools. Commissioners  
80 discussed using Central Services techs to man the equipment when needed.

81  
82 **Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners**  
83 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those  
84 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a list,  
85 and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to approve  
86 the regular vouchers in the amount of \$300,973.49. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket  
87 voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

88  
89 **Approve Consent Agenda**  
90 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-5 as presented. Motion was  
91 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 92
- 93 1. Special Occasion Liquor License-OK Athletic Booster Club 03/02/24-OK Fairgrounds
  - 94 2. ARPA Req#5-RACOM-Radios/Hardware & Installation into MCV-Communications
  - 95 3. Appointment Letter-Farm Bureau Representative-Rob Inlow- VSP
  - 96 4. Appointment Letter-At Large Representative-Adam Lange-VSP
  - 97 5. Appointment Letter-Position #1-Jean Bodeau-Water Conservancy Board

98 **Update-Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson**  
99 *Road Maintenance and Conditions*  
100 Engineer Thomson stated some road restrictions have been lifted and some other being considered  
101 due to the weather getting cold again. In the Methow it is cold enough to keep roads open. Some  
102 primitive roads have become a mess due to the warm weather.

103  
104 Commissioner Hover wondered how much of the rain was saturating the soils. Problem areas were  
105 discussed. Knox area has become a problem this year. It was so warm so early the ground is  
106 saturated. Hauling out of Libby creek, but the temps were around 26 degrees. They did stop the project  
107 and just hauling the logs they already had piled.

108

109 *Cameron Lakes Rd Project*  
110 Engineer Thomson explained Rebecca Hunt stopped the project because she doesn't support the  
111 project, but we have requested that in writing to learn how we can work better together next time and  
112 have a letter in our file. The council was upset when it was presented to them but he wasn't sure how  
113 that happened. Our staff and the BIA were kicked out of the CCT meeting before they had a chance  
114 to speak about the project. Commissioner Hover wanted to understand, would it be possible to transfer  
115 county roads to the tribe to take care of. We did this in 2012 and it was an odd deal where they came  
116 to us to get the roads on their system by a certain date and that did happen, but now there is an issue  
117 because the person who signed the document wasn't actually authorized to sign. Those were minor  
118 roads. It has been discussed about transferring additional roads and CRAB was consulted and they  
119 said it depends on how we got the roads in the first place. Commissioner Branch was curious what  
120 the driving force was. Met with tribe in 2018 and 2020 and other times in between to keep everyone  
121 in the loop on the Cameron Lakes Road project, but it is hard to tell what happened. If there is anyway  
122 to get something in writing it would help us close out the project. Federal money isn't an issue and we  
123 don't have to repay, but with RAP we do.

124  
125 *CRAB Road Levy Certification, E-Sign Process*  
126 Commissioners discussed how E-Signing the Levy Certification can happen. The Clerk of the Board  
127 explained that the E-Signed document have the date of the motion and be submitted for the record  
128 once E-Signed.

129  
130 *CRAB Preliminary Prospectuses for RAP Projects*  
131 We can apply up to five projects. Engineer Thomson provided which he is looking at listing and which  
132 are a good fit.

133  
134 Commissioner Hover asked if Solid Waste can take the waste hydraulic oil from the county's elevators  
135 if we have a way to haul it to the waste oil location ER&R shop. He will get with the Clerk of the Board  
136 where it needs to go.

137  
138 **Motion**  
139 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize the Letter to the Department of Commerce Coordinating  
140 Low-Income Housing Planning grant and grant application directing the Clerk of the Board to submit  
141 to the Department of Commerce for consideration. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion  
142 carried.

143  
144 **Motion**  
145 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize Commissioner Hover to sign the WSLCB notice of special  
146 occasion liquor license for Methow Recycles sponsoring an April 27, 2024 event at the John Doran  
147 Ranch with Sarah Lightner as the contact. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

148  
149 **Motion**  
150 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize Commissioner Hover to sign the WSLCB notice of special  
151 occasion liquor license for Omak Elks sponsoring an April 30, 2024 event at the Okanogan County  
152 Fairgrounds with Marilyn Taylor as the contact. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

153  
154 **Motion ARPA Request #2 Elmer City Fire District #2**  
155 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize Commissioner Hover to sign the ARPA Request #2 for  
156 Elmer City Fire District #2 in the amount of \$8,790.15. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion  
157 carried.

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162 **Motion**  
163 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the USFS Tunk Mtn Road Use Permit and authorize  
164 Commissioner Hover to sign the Permit No PSNF 24-001 to facilitate the installation of a concrete  
165 shelter at Tunk Mtn. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

166  
167 **Motion**  
168 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 25-2024 allowing the purchase of a coffee maker  
169 and supplies for the Mobile Command Unit. Commissioner Hover discussed whether any other county  
170 department had previously been allowed to purchase coffee makers. He would like to double check  
171 with the county auditor before approving the resolution to be cautious. Motion was not seconded, no  
172 one was in favor, motion was voted down. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

173  
174 **Motion**  
175 Commissioner Branch moved to reconsider the resolution 25-2024 on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.  
176 Commissioner Hover discussed that Mike Worden obtain an email from the county auditor stating a  
177 resolution to approve is appropriate stating it is alright to purchase the maker. Motion was seconded,  
178 all were in favor, motion carried. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

179  
180 **Motion**  
181 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Otis & Repair Order to replace the oil in the Jail and  
182 Admin Building elevators in the amount of \$19,700. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion  
183 carried.

184  
185 **Motion Methow Valley EMS District**  
186 Commissioner Branch moved to adjourn as the BOCC and reconvene as the Methow Valley EMS  
187 District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,  
188 motion carried.

189  
190 Commissioner Branch moved to approve and authorize Commissioner Hover to sign the State Auditor  
191 Entrance Letter for the 2021-2022 Methow EMS District audit. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,  
192 motion carried.

193  
194 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Methow Valley  
195 EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$109,842.97. Motion was seconded, all were in  
196 favor, motion carried.

197  
198 Commissioner Branch moved to adjourn as the Methow Valley EMS District and Reconvene as the  
199 Tonasket EMS District. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

200  
201 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Tonasket EMS  
202 District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$16,200 to Life Line for January Services. Motion was  
203 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

204  
205 **Motion Oroville Rural EMS District**  
206 Commissioner Branch moved to adjourn as the Tonasket EMS District and reconvene as the Oroville  
207 Rural EMS District. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

208  
209 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Oroville Rural  
210 EMS District vouchers to be paid in the amount of \$17,833 for January services. Motion was seconded,  
211 all were in favor, motion carried. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

212  
213 Commissioner Branch moved to adjourn as the Oroville Rural EMS District and Reconvene as the  
214 BOCC. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

215 Commissioner Hover asked what Carelon's role is in the area of mental health. Commissioner Branch  
216 explained they act as the Managed Care Organizations (MCO). They handled the integration of mental  
217 health and Medicaid programs for the ACH and contract with the health care authority for both. They  
218 are willing to come here and give the commissioners an idea of what they do.  
219

220 WSAC and Carelon are willing to come to Okanogan County to give their overview of the intercept  
221 project and discuss who they are and the role of the BH-ASO and answer questions. Chelan County  
222 sent us a bill for \$16,433.75 which apparently is our portion of the \$75,000 for the SIM mapping that  
223 Connections was contracted with Chelan County to do. Commissioner Hover would like to see the  
224 deliverables. He suggested possibly contracting with Chelan county to pay for our portion of the  
225 modeling. Commissioner Branch discussed Chelan County preparing a contract for us to be able to  
226 pay them our portion. Commissioner Branch explained the SIM mapping was to assess the crisis  
227 response system in the four counties and determine if a regional evaluation and treatment center  
228 would benefit the regional four counties of Chelan, Okanogan, Douglas and Grant. Commissioner  
229 Branch explained Chelan County has the authority to bill us for the involuntary treatments to our  
230 patients because we don't have a treatment center here. Chelan County should bill us for our share.  
231 He explained who the participants were at the Intercept meeting in October 2023 at OBHC.  
232 Commissioners will need to discuss this further to decide how the \$16,433.75 bill will be paid and what  
233 needs to happen to use the county's Opioid abatement money.  
234

235 **Board of Health Meeting-1234 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Okanogan**

236 Commissioners attended the Board of Health.

237

238 The board adjourned at 11:40 a.m. Commissioners adjourned until February 20, 2024.