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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

JULY 19, 2022

9:00 AM Review Commissioners Meeting Minutes July 11 & 12, 2022
9:15 AM Public Comment Period
9:30 AM Commissioners to set Wednesday's Agenda
10:00 AM ~~CANCELLED Finance Committee Meeting~~
11:00 AM Update -Public Works Engineer Josh Thomson
1:30 PM Update-Building Department Dan Higbee
2:00 PM Update-Noxious Weed Department-Larry Hudson
2:30 PM Approve Commissioners Proceedings- July 11 & 12, 2022
2:35 PM Approve Consent Agenda
3:00 PM Bid Opening RFQ Domestic Violence Contract-Clerks Office Susan Speiker

19 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a Public Hearing at 123 5th Avenue
20 North, Okanogan, Washington on July 19, 2022 with Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover;
21 Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro; and the
22 Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

23
24 AV Capture and Zoom provided audio and video accessibility for public interaction.

25
26 The pledge of allegiance was recited.

27
28 **Review Commissioners Meeting Minutes July 11 & 12, 2022**

29 Commissioners reviewed their meeting minutes.

30
31 **Public Comment Period**

32 Ruth Hall commented and thanked the commissioners for their service to the county. No other
33 comments were provided.

34
35 **Commissioners to set Wednesday's Agenda**

36 No meeting was needed.

37
38 **Briefing Among Commissioners-Prosecutor Lin**

39 Prosecutor Lin explained the difficulties he has staffing his office with experience attorneys. He
40 is asking the commissioners to increase wages for attorney's that are more in line with what
41 other counties are paying. He has to take care of the best interests of this county and use
42 whatever he can to get people here who will help us. The increased wages are to be utilized to
43 help provide qualified attorneys.

44
45 Commissioner Hover said because several positions haven't been filled all year it would not be
46 a budget impact this year, but could be a \$200,000 impact in future years. Public safety is high
47 on the public's list. Violent crimes take priority, said Prosecutor Lin. The court rules are strict
48 on property crimes and people are more likely to be released on those types of crimes.
49 Commissioner Branch explained the importance of funding the prosecutor's office at a

50 reasonable level. We should keep in mind WSAC is working on getting revenue for indigent
51 defense, funding jails, and other costs.

52
53 Commissioners discussed the dilemma the prosecutor presented for staff attorney wages.

54
55 Prosecutor Lin said he would rather have experienced people on his team and the only way he
56 can do that is to pay them what they are worth. He not only wants to gain capacity but he
57 doesn't want to lose them either. He asked for consideration of a three-tiered position scenario
58 that is in line with other counties

59
60 **Motion Prosecutor's Office Attorneys**

61 Commissioner Branch moved to direct the Prosecutor to work with HR on resolutions that would
62 adopt new tiered pay levels and job descriptions for the prosecuting attorney's office. Motion
63 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

64
65 **~~CANCELLED Finance Committee Meeting~~**

66
67 **Update Planning-Director Pete Palmer**

68 Director Palmer inquired whether or not the draft ordinance regarding Tunk Valley moratorium
69 needed additional recitals. (attached)

70
71 Commissioners discussed the draft ordinance regarding Tunk Valley which imposes interim
72 land use controls in accordance with RCW 36.70.795 Moratoria, interim zoning controls to allow
73 staff to evaluate zoning density against water availability in Upper Tunk Basin, Lower Tunk
74 Basin, and Tamarack Springs Basin all located in Water Resource Inventory Area #49.

75 Commissioner Branch wasn't sure the history outlined in the draft was relevant as the interim
76 land use controls have been adopted and the reason for moratorium has changed. He
77 discussed the lots that were subdivided, zoning that allows smaller lots, which the allows uses
78 that use up more water. We are at the point of what that area can serve and to make a case
79 beyond water, to look at zoning. It is a fiscal issue as well. To review proposals in the Tunk
80 Valley costs more money than what we get out of it to run the short plats the planning office
81 doesn't collect revenue for. Road systems would also need to be upgraded and maintained if
82 densities are increased in the Tunk basin. JH Green Road for example has issues and many
83 calls are generated because of flooding and lack of improvements. There are several things
84 that indicate we should rezone the Tunk Valley, he said. Commissioner Hover replied, in the
85 Methow the basin is closed, but in the Tunk basin since there are many lots created and not
86 through sub division process there was no water availability process for those. Do we now put
87 a stop to water usage like a closed basin? Commissioner Branch hasn't gone that far in his
88 mind. There are many who have lots that have not been developed and it is hard to predict if
89 there is enough water to serve those. Commissioner DeTro said situations like that created
90 Duck Lake Water Association and others to serve areas without other water. Commissioner
91 Hover said what bothers him is that all these lots were created through the exempt well process.
92 That law was in place at that time. Now, what will happen if the study is true and wells put in
93 up high will affect lower ones. What happens to those who have been there forever and their
94 well goes dry? Commissioners agree no more lots in the Tunk Valley. Commissioner Hover
95 wants to take a concise and systematic approach to address the zoning issues. All the basins

96 are different. We need to fix the specific issues we currently have as all areas are not all the
97 same. We may need to make a different zone. Commissioner Branch said because Tunk Valley
98 is close to Omak the area could develop. Commissioners discussed the tools they have to
99 address these issues.

100

101 The draft ordinance will be represented at a later.

102

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

104 Engineer Thomson provided his public works agenda and discussed the items listed there.

105

106 *Maintenance & Road Conditions*

107 Typical projects ditch cleaning chip seal projects etc...

108

109 Complaints were received about Twisp River Road speed limit being too fast. A solution may
110 be to stripe the road as no passing. There was a reduction some time ago of the speed limit to
111 40mph.

112

113 *Chip Seal*

114 Chip seal projects were delayed a little due to rain last week.

115

116 *6-Year TIP Development*

117 Engineer Thomson asked the board if there were other projects they would like to add to the 6-
118 year TIP. Commissioner Branch said bridges and culverts. The Round Lake guard rail is listed.
119 Engineer Thomson said Bally Hill bridge over Beaver Creek has moisture issues and is on his
120 radar. There are load ratings being determined and so it may qualify for funding. A lot of hay
121 goes over that bridge said commissioner Hover.

122

123 Engineer Thomson explained the county may need to modify county policy to include
124 requirements for safety hard hats at construction and inspection project sites. He will work with
125 Risk Manager Shelley Keitzman on that.

126

127 *Levee USACE Inspections*

128 Corp of Engineers inspected levees and there are no concerns.

129

130 *Planning Position*

131

132 *Consent Agenda Items*

133 Engineer Thomson explained the projects for approval listed on the consent agenda.

134

135 Commissioners recessed until 1:30 p.m.

136

137 **CANCELLED Update-Building Department Dan Higbee**

138

139 **Approve Commissioners Proceedings- July 11 & 12, 2022**

140 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the July 11, 2022 and July 12, 2022 meeting minutes.
141 Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

142

143

144 **Approve Consent Agenda**

145 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the consent agenda items, except for item 7 which
146 was previously approved. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 147 1. Authorization to Call for Bids-Bridgeport Transfer Station Valley Gutter
- 148 2. Authorization to Call for Bids-Ellisforde Landfill Wells & Gas Probe Decommissioning
- 149 3. Reimbursable Work Request Chip Seal-Twisp-Public Works
- 150 4. Reimbursable Work Request Chip Seal-Omak-Public Works
- 151 5. Service Agreement Renewal Full Coverage HVAC Services Divco
- 152 6. Production Agreement-Okanogan County Fair 2022-VIP Productions \$13,870 + tax
- 153 ~~7. Installation Approval Pedestrian Barrier Fence Project Vendor ??????~~
- 154 8. Fairgrounds Facility Use Rental Contracts Signature Acknowledgments: WSHSRA Finals Steph
155 Sackman; Holy Rosary Church Lutakome Nsubuga; Grad Party Kori Jackson; Quince Estaban
156 Camarelo; Quince Arcadio Gomez; First Responder Wellness Training Aaron Culp; VBS Wolter
157 Abbink;Family Reception Lenny Gargett; Swap Meet Robert Tyler; WSSPA Sheriff Posse
- 158 9. Resolution 106-2022 Sheriff's Office Employee Referral Program Policy

159
160 **Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners**

161 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those
162 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded
163 on a list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous
164 vote, to approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$705,845.07 and Payroll vouchers in
165 the amount of \$1,021,968.13. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list.
166 Motion seconded and carried.

167
168 **Motion Public Health Voucher**

169 Commissioner moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers in the
170 amount of \$1,880.03 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$50,654.44. Warrant numbers as
171 cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion
172 carried.

173
174 **Motion Resolution 109-2022 Prosecutor's Office Attorney Wages**

175 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 109-2022 approving wage increases to the
176 prosecutor's office attorneys. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

177
178 Commissioner DeTro said there was a discussion by EWCOG counties that commissioners
179 attend the game commission Fish and Wildlife meetings

180
181 **Motion Resolution 110-2022 Employee Retention Bonus**

182 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 110-2022 regarding a retention bonus for
183 county employees. Discussion, Commissioner Hover stated these funds will be paid from ARPA
184 funds which the BOCC previously discussed and agreed. It was reviewed by the Chief Civil
185 Attorney for services rendered after the date noted and provides Law Enforcement employees
186 \$4,000, Dispatch \$2,500 and everyone else \$1,000. Commissioner Hover said the Auditor will
187 need to work to create BARS codes for the payments. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
188 motion carried.

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193

194 **Motion Ordinance 2022-7 Tunk Valley Subdivision Moratorium**
195 Commissioner Branch moved to approve ordinance 2022-7 an ordinance which imposes
196 interim land use controls in accordance with RCW 36.70.795 Moratoria, interim zoning controls
197 to allow staff to evaluate zoning density against water availability in the Tunk Basin, Lower Tunk
198 Basin, and Tamarack Springs Basin all located in Water Resource Inventory Area #49. Motion
199 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

200
201 Commissioner DeTro asked the other commissioners whether they wished to increase the
202 Therapeutic Court funds payment to current expense for the public defense portion.
203 Commissioner Hover said Shelley Keitzman will submit the budget to the STOC.

204
205 **Motion ADT Proposal and Service Agreement**

206 Commissioner Branch moved to re approve the ADT proposal and Service Agreement to make
207 the repairs to the Superior Court and Clerk door locking system in the amount of \$8104 plus
208 applicable tax. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

209
210 Commissioner Branch stated WSAC fought vigorously for the state to fund Public Defense.
211 Commissioner DeTro explained lobbyist concerns expressed at the EWCOG meeting
212 regarding the need for experienced lobbyist that has the necessary social backing.
213 Commissioner DeTro said he has always been satisfied with their service. Commissioner Hover
214 would like to table this discussion until later. We do pay our federal and state lobbyists and
215 would like to discuss what the board would like out of that. Commissioner DeTro said they have
216 always addressed what we have asked. The issues we need lobbied are very important, said
217 Commissioner Branch and key people in the legislature are needed and assigned. Further
218 discussion is needed on this matter. Commissioner Hover asked that this be scheduled when
219 he returns August 1 or 2.

220
221 The difference between WSAC lobbyist and the county was discussed. The current county
222 lobbyist reports directly to the BOCC. There are also different things happening on the other
223 side of the state than what happens on this side. It is important to know what we are getting
224 from WSAC. Ferry and Pend Oreille are very budget restricted and often do not go but they do
225 lean on Commissioner McCart being involved, said Commissioner DeTro. Commissioner
226 Branch said those counties have different issues. What WSAC does not address we should
227 have our lobbyist address and talking to the legislature. We should decide what that is.

228
229 **Update-Noxious Weed Department-Larry Hudson**

230 Mr. Hudson ran down the noxious weed program. Spectacle and Patterson lakes, have been
231 sprayed for aquatics in June with Osoyoos sprayed this week with east being sprayed with a
232 new treatment and the west with the traditional. Applicators do contact irrigator 24 hours ahead
233 of time. Other aquatics in May and June that was a cooperative effort among different agencies
234 treated all rest sites, surveyed Okanogan section and found a small amount of flowering rush??

235
236 Other work includes grant work. A budget supplemental will be submitted for those grants. Just
237 finished up work with conservation district in the fire areas.

238
239 Mr. Hudson explained the rest of the treatments within the county and where those were
240 conducted. State parks were completed.

241

242 Other projects in process were discussed.

243

244 **Continued Public Hearing Budget Supplemental Appropriation Fairgrounds**

245 Commissioner Hover opened up the hearing to staff, seeing no staff he closed the hearing to
246 staff then opened up to the public, seeing no public he closed the hearing to public then opened
247 up to commissioners' discussion. Commissioner Hover was trying to change the revenue
248 source to a different revenue source but realized another hearing notice and hearing would
249 have been needed.

250

251 **Motion Resolution 107-2022 Budget Supplemental Fairgrounds**

252 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 107-2022 approving a budget
253 supplemental appropriation within the Current Expense Reserve and Current Expense
254 Fairgrounds in the amount of \$150,000 to pay for the bleachers. Motion was seconded, all were
255 in favor, motion carried.

256

257 Commissioner Hover noted that complaints about the bleachers being hot will likely be
258 foremost.

259

260 **CANCELED Bid Opening RFQ Domestic Violence Contract-Clerks Office Susan Speiker**

261 Canceled due to only one RFQ being submitted by Support Center for the funds. A
262 recommendation will be provided by the Clerk.

263

264 Board adjourned until Monday at 9:00 Monday July 25. Chairman Hover will not be here next
265 week.

266

267 The board adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

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