

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

**OKANOGAN COUNTY**

**JULY 31, 2018**

---

9:00 AM	Commissioners' Staff Meeting
10:00 AM	Update – Human Resources/Risk Management – Tanya Craig and/or Debi Hilts
11:00 AM	Update – Public Works – Josh Thomson & Ben Rough
1:30 PM	Citizen Comment Period
2:00 PM	Discussion – Supplemental Employee Benefits – Colonial Life – Maria Salas & Debi Hilts
4:30 PM	Approve Consent Agenda

---

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners' met for its regular session on July 31, 2018. Commissioner Chris Branch, Commissioner Andy Hover and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

Commissioner Jim DeTro was absent due to attending the WDF&W breakfast with the new Director, Kelly Susewind. He returned at 11:40 a.m. for the afternoon schedule.

Member of the public George Thornton taking notes.

**Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

Joe Poulin, Perry Huston, Debi Hilts, David Gecas, Stella Columbia and Dan Higbee.

Mr. Poulin reported on activities on the fairgrounds. He is bringing water to the south end via a ditch that will need to be dug for the lines. The pig barn asphalt will need to be repaired where the irrigation was fixed. Director Huston stated he spoke to BTO Varrelman as he asked about the release of his construction bond and he needed the county to release the project. Commissioner Hover asked he watch the expenses to try and keep them low.

Ms. Hilts explained Ms. Craig is out today. Ms. Hilts asked if the commissioners' were in favor of cell phone discounts that are provided by Verizon for government employees. The bad part is that county employees with Verizon services cannot make calls from the courthouse, jail or admin. Any employee that uses Verizon can sign up, validate their work email or paystub, it takes about one or two cycles with around 18% discount. Commissioners' approved Ms. Hilts inquiring of both AT&T and Verizon for the discounts.

Ms. Columbia explained the Search and Rescue are for sure not doing the gates this year. Commissioner Hover asked her to make some calls to secure a group to do the gates. He stated the county has about \$6,000 for this service. She suggested the county consider online ticketing services. She stated people are using the horse stalls, leaving horses in stock pens without even letting staff know. They paid one night but not two. There were \$160 worth of stalls used we only got paid \$40. They come in late and leave early. She cannot always tell when someone is at the north end. The only gate that should be open is the RV main gate all other gates need to be locked. Ms. Columbia said people will drive through the main gate through the grounds to get to the horse stalls. Perhaps the fees

50 schedule should be modified to require a cleaning deposit an extra day rent. The camp  
51 hosts are not monitoring for this type of use.

52  
53 David Gecas reported on cases he is dealing with. One case is regarding foreclosure  
54 property where the land owner did not get the notice of foreclosure sale due to wrong  
55 address on file. He discussed code which have remedies that may need to be amended or  
56 updated. Director Huston stated he was working on amendments such as this where the  
57 remedy is not clear or typical. The amended interlocal agreements for building inspection  
58 services were discussed.

59  
60 Director Huston provided the board with the Grant Application pre-approval form attached to  
61 the Dept. of Ecology Well Tracking System Grant. The amount of the grant is \$60,000.

62  
63 **Motion Dept. of Ecology Well Tracking System Grant**  
64 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Grant Application to the Dept. of Ecology for  
65 the Well Tracking System Grant and authorized the vice-chairman to sign. Motion was  
66 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

67  
68 **CANCELLED Update – Human Resources/Risk Management – Tanya Craig**

69  
70 Commissioner Branch left at 10:00 a.m.

71  
72 **Update – Public Works – Josh Thomson & Ben Rough**  
73 Ben Rough was absent.

74  
75 Engineer Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there.

76  
77 Engineer Thomson provided overtime report details. Commissioner Hover would like to  
78 minimize the overtime hours where possible. The report presented had the detail of what  
79 work and which employees are generating the hours and the project it has to do with, such  
80 as seal coating, traffic striping, or clerical. Commissioner Hover thought monthly detail  
81 reporting would be sufficient. He has been receiving questions from the public about  
82 projects they see our public works staff performing. This information informs the  
83 commissioners' well.

84  
85 *Maintenance and Road Conditions*

86 Engineer Thomson explained seal coat schedule with the project ending up in the Methow  
87 next week. He discussed the use of the scaling's from the airport resurface project and the  
88 amount of road the materials will cover.

89  
90 Putting the culvert in at Windy Hill today.

91  
92 Sinlahekin Road was originally estimated at \$50,000 but now has increased to \$120,000  
93 and the project was mandated by WDFW for fish species. But, he did not know for which  
94 listed fish. There was something that changed after the fire with more run off and he agrees  
95 there should be a larger pipe in there. Part of the arrangement was that it must be  
96 completed this year. There are two areas one is the outlet from Blue Lake and the other one  
97 for Sinlahekin Creek.

98

99 Authorization to purchase the pipe will be forthcoming so the pipe can be ordered and  
100 permitting arranged for.

101

102 *Buffalo Lake Rd CCT project*

103 Engineer Thomson updated Commissioner Hover on this project. He explained the tribe has  
104 money for maintenance of the road, but a portion of the road is county jurisdiction. What are  
105 commissioners' thoughts on turning jurisdiction over to them? The commissioners' would  
106 like to know what they are proposing. Would the county entertain the request? Request of  
107 the Tribe to take over the road. In Commissioner Hover's opinion, he would like them to turn  
108 over the right of way rather than us turning over jurisdiction. The road serves several lakes  
109 in the area.

110

111 The county owns a parcel of land around 6 acres that Buffalo Lake Road crosses. He will  
112 check out the property and determine if there is any good rock there. It would be ideal to  
113 find pit property that could serve Brewster area.

114

115 *Peter Dan Rd. Slide Repair*

116 Engineer Thomson updated Commissioner Hover on this project.

117

118 *Hwy 7 Tonasket Bridge South-paving complete.*

119

120 *WATV Proposed Routes*

121 Engineer Thomson recapped on yesterday's discussion and direction received for the  
122 several roads discussed.

123

124 Portions of Keran Drive, Brewster Grange and Grain Elevator roads were discussed. These  
125 have a small paved segment that is 50 mph however it is only 50 mph because it was a  
126 paved section.

127

128 Engineer Thomson would first like to speak with the tribe about those proposed roads within  
129 the reservation.

130

131 He discussed the ORV/WATV differences. We are only opening up roads that are 50 mph  
132 or less.

133

134 *McClure Radio Site*

135 Engineer Thomson explained the damage done by a contractor who put in a building for the  
136 cell phone company. They said they did not do but would pay for the damages. It should be  
137 fixed by middle of next month.

138

139

140 *Coordination w/Yakama Nation fish projects*

141 *Upper beaver creek*

142 He met with Yakama nation on the fish project. One project they want to begin at Upper  
143 Beaver Creek. He met with them up there the majority is not close to our road, but where it  
144 is close to the road they intend to put wood structures which will protect the road even  
145 further.

146

147

148 *Levees*  
149 Twisp levee has been in place since the 70's but recently with changes up stream things  
150 are worse. There are some plans to address the levee as there are many who are losing  
151 property to the river further down. If the Colville to move the entire levee back on the  
152 property they acquired as long as the same level protection is provided. The Army Corp will  
153 do the modeling to ensure the same level of protection is planned for.

154  
155 *Road Files Scanning Project*

156 Twelve boxes of road files were sent off to be scanned by Northwest Vital Records. It will be  
157 great to have them scanned and backed-up. LaserFishe will be the storage and retrieval  
158 program used. All road files must be in the engineer's office at the county seat.

159  
160 *Consent Agenda*

161 Authorization to purchase plows. The J shaped plow seems to be the preferred shape as it  
162 doesn't push as much snow onto the windshield.

163  
164 **Citizen Comment Period**

165 Treasurer McCormack and Pam Johnson.

166  
167 Commissioner Branch asked for public comment. No one wished to comment.

168  
169 Treasurer McCormack explained an issue with manning the fair gates this year as Search  
170 and Rescue who previously attended to the fair gates said they would not do it this year. So  
171 another group will need to be secured. Treasurer McCormack explained she contacted  
172 Head Start to see if they could do it and they said not for \$4,000. They could use the funds  
173 like a fund raiser as all their other money is dedicated to a specific purpose. She'll see if  
174 they will do it for \$6,400.

175  
176 The Treasurer explained whoever takes on the responsibility of the grounds should also be  
177 responsible for the money or FAC should designate their finance committee who would be  
178 tasked with the whole process. We need to get on this now to get it on a normal tract. FAC  
179 should coordinate with Stella on the event for the ticket taking. The treasurer does need to  
180 transition out of the responsibility, but not entirely as she is responsible for the money  
181 reconciliations. Her whole staff is involved taking shifts in order to make change, make  
182 deposits for the whole fair. She doesn't want to do it any longer.

183  
184 It was thought too many potential ticket sales would be lost if the gates did not open early  
185 (6:00 A.M.) Electronic tickets were discussed and the software needed to process them.  
186 Treasurer feels it will be more of a pain than it is worth. Little fees are taken out leaving less  
187 revenue for the fair. There are conveniences, but from the Treasurer's standpoint it would  
188 not be advised. Commissioner Hover explained he wants to make it easier for the ticket  
189 takers and money collectors even if it does take longer in line. The treasurer was not in  
190 favor of the idea.

191  
192 **Discussion--Supplemental Employee Benefits--Colonial Life--Maria Salas**

193 Debi Hilts introduced Maria Salas and Dale Witwer of Colonial Life

194  
195 They are the largest voluntary benefit provider in the company. They are able to save  
196 municipalities a lot of time and money.

197 Ms. Salas asked what the county currently offers its employees in terms of supplemental  
198 insurance. Ms. Hilts provided the benefit carriers for our current supplemental benefits.

199  
200 Colonial Life is able to enroll everyone electronically all at once and conduct dependent  
201 verifications.

202  
203 Commissioner Hover asked how many people would be reached. Section 125 means  
204 everyone is offered the same thing. Everyone would be reached through the offer and can  
205 say yes or no at that time. The declaration is done electronically.

206  
207 The benefit services were summarized. All commissioner questions were answered. What  
208 is needed is more information, cost breakdowns for the additional benefits, and side by side  
209 comparisons will be needed. They will follow up once the county has had a chance to  
210 review.

211  
212 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.31.110 (1)(g)**

213 Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 2:35 p.m. for 15 minutes  
214 inviting HR Debi Hilts to discuss the performance of a public employee. Motion was  
215 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

216  
217 Executive Session ended at 2:50 p.m. no decisions were made.

218  
219 **Approve Consent Agenda**

220 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-4 excluding item  
221 #5. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 222 1. Commissioners' Proceedings July 17 and July 23 & 24, 2018  
223 2. Contract – WA 911 Reimbursement Support E19-030 – Sheriff Dispatch Services  
224 3. Bid Award – 6 Truck Plows – Northend Truck Equipment – Public Works  
225 4. Letter – Federal Service Desk - SAM Entity Registration – Appoint Entity Administrator Laleña Johns  
226 5. ~~Letter – WA State Liquor & Cannabis Board – Rejecting renewal of marijuana licenses – Various Entities~~

227  
228 The board adjourned at 5:00 pm.

229