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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

JUNE 1, 2021

9:00 AM Commissioners Staff Meeting
10:30 AM Update- Communications/Dispatch- Mike Worden
11:00 AM Update- Public Works- Josh Thomson
1:30 PM Public Comment Period
2:00 PM Update Human Resources- Shelley Keitzman
2:30 PM Public Hearing- Budget Supplemental American Rescue Plan Fund 170
3:00 PM Quarterly Update- Tonasket Forest Ranger District- Kathleen Johnson
4:00 PM Approve Commissioner Proceedings May 24 & 25, 2021
4:30 PM Approve Consent Agenda

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on June 1, 2021, with; Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

AV Capture provided audio and video of the meetings held today, while ZOOM provided best audio accessibility and public interaction.

Commissioners Staff Meeting

Judge Chris Culp, Maurice Goodall, Joe Poulin

Mr. Goodall updated the board on the Jr. Rodeo event that happened on the fairgrounds over the weekend. Something must change in terms of staffing events said commissioner DeTro. The circumstance was that someone wanted to rent the water truck to water the arena for the event, but maintenance could not be contacted. Commissioners discussed that on weekends with a large event like this and with as many people as there were the key to the water truck should have been available. Maintenance should be on call during events such as this.

Mr. Goodall stated the burn ban was discussed with fire chiefs recently and the issue is how do we proceed with three different fire danger rating areas or do we have a ban on the whole county. What do we restrict what do we not restrict and who discusses this with the fire chiefs? Mr. Goodall said the whole county should be included the ban. We also need to decide how to deal with the Pest Control issue is who is to issue the burn permit for agricultural burns such as fire blight. There is also no enforcement right now but a lot of complaints coming in. Commissioner Hover said people should not be saying there is no enforcement because there is enforcement done by the County Sheriff. A blanket statement isn't appropriate. Commissioner Branch stated a rumor was circulated that there was a burn ban on, but it wasn't the county's burn ban.

Commissioner Branch explained Judge Culp is here to discuss the meeting on that happened on Friday with the City of Okanogan about the Forest Service Building. Michael Beaman, Architect Chris Johnson, City Building Official and Commissioner Branch looked at the project proposal and discussed a public information statement to publish. The board would like to make sure the information is out there to let people know what kind of facility is proposed. Commissioner Hover asked if the CUP would be done prior to the county purchasing the building? No. Commissioner

52 Branch stated it would be prudent to secure the property no matter what with the courts as the
53 main focus. The facility is so close to public health and public works in a good location with other
54 government buildings and is easy to find. Commissioner Hover said leases with tenants would
55 need to be sorted out. Discussing real estate in executive session does not require the attorney
56 to be present. This is a multi-phase project. The county would be prudent to purchase the building
57 even if for other uses. Commissioner Branch asked for executive session to discuss the site or
58 acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase.

59
60 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b)**

61 Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:25 for 5 minutes inviting Judge Culp
62 to discuss acquisition of real estate under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b). Motion was seconded, all were
63 in favor, motion carried.

64
65 Executive session ended at 9:30 a.m. Judge Culp asked the board for their timeline to purchase
66 the building. Discussion with the finance committee is the next step. He said he hopes the board
67 is further along in the next few weeks or so.

68
69 Planning Director Palmer provided her update. She shared her schedule and said the Comp Plan
70 is ongoing with final impact statement still with the legal team. She said Lorah Super will help take
71 on the committees and advisory boards interest groups to generate letters of interest.
72 Commissioner Hover stated once the group is formed a staff person will be involved and a county
73 body at the table.

74
75 Processing applications and fees to recoup those costs.

76
77 Commissioners asked that Joe Poulin provide a safe place to keep the fairground's keys on site.
78 RV camping upgrades were discussed. In favor of coming up with an all-inclusive plan that
79 includes RV water and electrical upgrades. Commissioner Branch said if renters are coming here
80 and renting spaces, we want them to be our marketers. He is looking at it like a separate account
81 that makes its own money to stand alone and operate.

82
83 Mr. Poulin updated the board on Friday's meeting with Ameresco, Kirsten Wilson at the well
84 heads. An independent engineer (Erin Knowles?) will look at the system and it was suggested
85 that the wells get scoped.

86
87 Naomie Peasley mentioned she had drafted a plan about what the RV parks need right now.
88 Bathrooms have been redone, but Naomie said they still need major upgrades. Commissioner
89 Hover suggested we use the shell of the building and gut to redo it all inside.

90
91 Commissioners discussed the Dept of Ag grant application for the fairgrounds. Ms. Peasley stated
92 since applying for grants was in her job description she would fill out the paperwork. She will need
93 to put this at the top her priority list to submit on time. Commissioner Branch asked if she has
94 applied for grants before. Ms. Peasley replied she has close friends who can help her, but she
95 said she has written them. The board reminded her that Departments still need to come to the
96 BOCC for grant application approval.

97
98 **Motion**

99 Commissioner Hover moved to authorize the order for the needed ecology blocks for the
100 fairgrounds race track. Motion was seconded Commissioner Branch discussed whether public
101 works Gary George is providing the transportation? all were in favor, motion carried.

103 Superior Court contract for fairgrounds is up September 1. Does the board have an idea how
104 much longer the courts would be using the grounds? Commissioners discussed this and it
105 depends on when the state goes all out to phase III.

106
107 The Jr. Rodeo happened and they wish to continue securing the grounds for this use. There were
108 several suggestions for improvements. Maintenance staff will be on the grounds Tuesday through
109 Saturday now so events are staffed on Saturday's.

110
111 **Motion**
112 Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 10:15 a.m. for 15 minutes inviting
113 David Gecas to discuss RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion
114 carried.

115
116 Executive Session ended at 10:30 a.m. no decisions were made.

117
118 **Update- Communications/Dispatch- Mike Worden**

119 Aaron Culp
120 Mr. Worden provided his communications/dispatch update. There was communication with Patty
121 Murray's office regarding the county's request for infrastructure funding. The senate had put a
122 cap of \$2.5 million on each project. We had submitted for full project cost. If awarded the funds
123 would address a needs assessment for a correctional facility to address a lot of things in the jail
124 infrastructure and whether that would include other needs. Moving dispatch to the juvenile building
125 was discussed. It has two floors that could allow high ceiling if remodeled for our dispatch center.
126 Clark County dispatch has a very high ceiling which helps manage the noise.

127
128 Mr. Worden provided a Power System West invoice for the Generator that is to be paid from
129 Capital Improvement funds, a budget supplemental appropriation might be needed later if the
130 project wasn't budgeted for. The invoice must be paid within the month. The Clerk of the Board
131 will pay the invoice.

132
133 Does the board authorize purchase of the second switch, which we need to get the generator
134 system up and going? Worden will work with Cari Hall to see if a supplemental is needed and the
135 Clerk of the Board will schedule the public hearing once it has been determined.

136
137 **Motion**
138 Commissioner Hover moved to authorize the jail switch purchase for the generator project. Motion
139 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

140
141 Mr. Worden stated he has two positions open and only have two applicants. He stated it has been
142 difficult to find candidates. Hazard mitigation grant was submitted. The concrete structure will be
143 relocated to the site and will improve fire durability on the Tunk site.

144
145 Quinn Owen, a member of the public, dropped off additional information for the board to review
146 regarding his objection to RCW 4.04.010 Breach by WSBA Rico Civil Procedure. Mr. Owen said
147 the DOD has accepted service by signing their card and putting their number on it.

148
149 **Update- Public Works- Josh Thomson**
150 Engineer Thomson provided his public works agenda.

151
152
153

154 *Maintenance & Road Conditions*
155 Engineer Thomson said we are in the dog days of summer with normal routines. He explained
156 some blading and shoulder work is happening, but a wish for rain is needed. The river shouldn't
157 be a problem if it does rain.

158
159 *Old 97 Construction Project*
160 Status of the project was given, with expectation that it be almost complete by cherry harvest. A
161 deputy helped with traffic since many were ignoring the flagger.

162
163 *B-4 Bridge Replacement Project*
164 The plans and specs are done, and hoping to advertise soon with a complete bridge by Thanks
165 giving. Keeping to the schedule. Hiring local programs director and Engineer Thomson was on
166 the hiring panel. There are a few more interviews he will be attending through the end of the week.
167
168 Next week is an Engineer conference so he will be gone Tuesday for that.

169
170 Engineer Thomson said Loup Loup Creek bridge was looked at because Commissioner DeTro
171 was concerned because hauling trailers through is difficult due to the slope. Is a culvert to be
172 installed on Green Acres Rd? Yes, it will have about 100 feet of disturbance which will be paved
173 over.

174
175 Commissioners adjourned at 11:10 a.m. for lunch until 1:30 p.m.

176
177 The Clerk of the Board discussed the request from Homeless Housing Coalition from Homeless
178 Housing funds to help renters who are not eligible for Public Service funds or CV1 Or CV2 funds
179 due to income levels

180
181 Would like an outline of what they are going to do for the money for A19 in the future.

182
183 **Motion Homeless Housing Request**

184 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Homeless Housing Coalition emergent request of
185 \$40,000 to be used for folks not eligible to receive other funds. Motion was seconded, all were in
186 favor, motion carried.

187
188 **Public Comment Period**

189 No public wished to comment during today's comment period.
190 The Clerk of the Board asked the Board where they would like the bill from Kruse Electric bill to
191 be paid from. Cari Hall, Lisa Schreckengost, and Karen Beatty were contacted and they came up
192 to discuss the bill and subsequent billings. Commissioner Hover asked how much the UPS's were.
193 Ms. Beatty replied that she paid \$1 for the UPS's, which Kruse Electric wired in. The logical place
194 to pay the bill from is fund 001.026. Ms. Beatty said when we lost power last week a switch didn't
195 work which contributed to recent computer problems. Kruse Electric came and looked at the
196 switch and recommended we contact Eaton. It would cost around \$3600 annually for Eaton to
197 maintain but we are required to buy batteries at a cost of \$15,000 and refresh. Also asked them
198 to look at the switch that failed for replacement costs and then budget for the switch next year.
199 Do we want to spend the \$15,000 this year or next year?

200
201 Commissioner Hover stated pay the bill from 001.026 and wait until the remaining costs come in
202 then do one supplemental for it all.

203
204

205 **Update Human Resources- Shelley Keitzman**
206 CANCELLED

207
208 **Public Hearing- Budget Supplemental American Rescue Plan Fund 170**

209 Commissioner Branch opened up the hearing for the supplemental having to do with American
210 Rescue Plan. Seeing no one to comment. He opened and closed the hearing and opened up to
211 board discussion.

212
213 **Motion Resolution 64-2021 Budget Appropriation American Rescue Plan Fund 170**

214 Commissioner Hover moved to approve resolution 64-2021 a budget supplemental Appropriation
215 in the amount of \$8,190,000. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

216
217 Commissioner Hover would like hort & county meeting minutes on this, motions, minutes from
218 public hearing, formal.

219
220 The Clerk of the Board mentioned that historically the courthouse complex maintenance
221 responsibilities were isolated to just the main courthouse, VG, and Juvenile/Prosecutor buildings
222 and grounds. Adding budget for weed control costs in the maintenance budget will be necessary
223 should the board add this new cost to the maintenance budget.

224
225 Commissioner Branch reviewed the over 200 parcels under Okanogan County ownership and
226 asked if the county wished to divest its various properties scattered around.

227
228 Assessor Larry Gilman said there were inquiries about patent mining claims on fee simple land.

229
230 **Quarterly Update- Tonasket Forest Ranger District- Kathleen Johnson**

231 Tonasket Forest Service Ranger Kathleen Johnson

232
233 Ms. Johnson provided an update of the Tonasket Ranger District. Robin DeMario is holding a
234 RAC meeting June 16 and she provided Ms. Johnson has a list of projects that have been
235 submitted for Okanogan County and would like to know what our top 4-5 projects. The list was
236 provided but there were no project descriptions. The commissioners reviewed the list and
237 discussed certain projects listed there.

238
239 A second list was opened up for fire contracts. The rest of the district is going well, hired four
240 botanists but two found a different job. They can be down a couple people but they need at least
241 18 to go out. It's the forest as a whole so they help each other in whatever area help is needed.

242
243 Commissioner Hover asked, if Tonasket Ranger District will be covered under the Colville Travel
244 Management plan or the one discussed last week with Forest Service. Ms. Johnson said they
245 are looking at Tonasket coming under the Colville forest plan first then other things will follow
246 nicer.

247
248 The only active logging right now is on Mt. Hull.

249
250 Larry Gilman asked about WATV recreation funds and whether those can be used to help with
251 road maintenance to access roads. Is there a function or mechanism for this at Forest Service
252 because the Salmon Meadows road is deteriorated to the point motor homes and camp trailers
253 cannot use. Work with engineers and permittees to have road maintenance done that FS can't get
254 to. Ms. Johnson explained there are two road crew members still in Tonasket because they don't

255 have another place to put them. Larry Gilman stated the WATV recreation funds are from the
256 ORV tab funds which is the recreation fund. Okanogan county used the funds before on signage.

257
258 Mr. Gilman explained valuations based on models used to value everyone. The moratorium
259 properties were afforded a 25% reduction until the area is analyzed. He explained how impacted
260 lands are assessed going forward. Mid subdivisions projects are valued at the time the
261 construction is complete.

262
263 **Approve Commissioner Proceedings May 24 & 25, 2021**

264 Commissioners need more time to review their meeting minutes. Commissioner DeTro has
265 already looked at them.

266
267 **Approve Consent Agenda**

268 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the consent agenda item as listed. Motion was seconded,
269 all were in favor, motion carried

- 270 1. Agreement- Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board Class B- Designate Noxious
271 Weed Control

272
273 Commissioners would like to be notified prior to county property being sprayed for noxious weeds
274 under the agreement.

275
276 The board adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

277