

1 **RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

2
3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

4
5 **JUNE 29, 2021**
6

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8 **8:15 AM Update Superior Court- Judge Chris Culp, Admin Dennis Rabidou**
9 **8:30 AM Discussion Travel Policy**
10 **9:00 AM Commissioners' Staff Meeting**
11 **10:55 AM Public Hearing Budget Supplemental Appropriation Vehicle Reserve Fund 197**
12 **11:00 AM Update Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson**
13 **1:30 PM Public Comment Period**
14 **2:00 PM Update Human Resources/Risk Management-Tanya Everett**
15 **2:30 PM Quarterly Update-Okanogan Behavioral Health Care-David Snyder**
16 **3:30 PM Approve Commissioners' Proceedings June 21, 22, 2021**
17 **3:40 PM Approve Consent Agenda**
18

19 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue
20 North, Okanogan, Washington on June 29, 2021, with; Chairman, Commissioner Chris
21 Branch; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns,
22 present.

23
24 AV Capture provided audio and video of the meetings held today, while ZOOM provided
25 best audio accessibility and public interaction.

26
27 Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover was absent.

28
29 **Update Superior Court- Judge Chris Culp**

30 Judge Culp explained his concern about the commissioners disapproving costs associated
31 with airplane tickets for Therapeutic Courts.

32
33 Agriplex must be cleared in time for the fair. Superior Court may be out a month early with
34 July 30th tentatively set. There are some variables. Will keep Fairgrounds Coordinator
35 informed but will not be in there past August 13. There may be a need to use
36 commissioners hearing room for a murder trial jury selection August 31.

37
38 Does the board need anything more from the courts regarding the Forest Service Building
39 to decide to purchase? He assumed the board is just trying to figure out which route to go
40 financially. Commissioner Branch said flexibility is going to be needed due to timeframe
41 for conditional use permit. There are options for relocating offices, but we don't know about
42 the CUP approval and we won't know until we know. The public should be well educated
43 about the plan to relocate. Commissioner DeTro said it is important for the public to know
44 financial impacts and how it will be paid for. Must be transparent to the public about the
45 plan. Judge Culp said there is an incredible amount of work ahead to make it work.
46 Commissioner Branch wants to keep options open, but the location has been used for
47 governmental uses for a long time it would be detrimental to let the property go.
48

49 **Discussion Travel Policy Moved to Next Week July 6**

50

51 **Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

52 Commissioner Branch stated the board should discuss the recent resignation with
53 Commissioner Hover. And discuss with the person if that is really what they want to do.
54 Commissioner Branch visited the fairgrounds yesterday and he suggested maintenance
55 come in earlier so staff can leave earlier due to heat.

56

57 Maurice Goodall provided his update stating switches are being built and installed for
58 Emergency Management in the event power and Wi-Fi goes down. He would love to have
59 a stand-alone server for Emergency Management. The main Emergency Management
60 webpage has current incident data on the front page. Fireworks were discussed but
61 Maurice doesn't know what we can actually say to cities to ban and it takes about a year
62 to ban them.

63

64 Naomie Peasley updated the commissioners about fairgrounds. She sent an email to the
65 board resigning her position as Fairgrounds Event Coordinator and gave her two week
66 notice. Commissioner Branch said the board would like to discuss the situation when
67 Commissioner Hover is back in the office. The conversation with the board may be either
68 in executive session in open session, it was her choice. Ms. Peasley said she is resigning
69 due to coworkers and she preferred to discuss in executive session. Commissioner Branch
70 asked if she would reconsider and asked her to think about it. He would like to see if there
71 is a resolution before accepting the resignation. She said she will always love the fair, and
72 she is excited to see progress on the fairgrounds but she feels she has to back off too
73 much and she is not able to do what she wants and has to fight to do the right thing. She
74 loves it but she is tired. She will wrap up what she can so the transition goes smoothly.
75 She has notified the HR, county auditor, treasurer and central services.

76

77 Joe Poulin gave his maintenance update. He provided quotes to replace the gate on the
78 north end as the gate is in real bad shape. (attached) The Art Barn 3-bay sink got plugged
79 up over the weekend. He'd like to explore either replacing the sink with a smaller one after
80 consulting with the barn superintendent or run a line to the new septic tank since it can
81 take the volume of gray water. All permitting requirements must be followed. Mr. Poulin
82 said running a line might be best. He will explore that option and make sure the rules are
83 followed as these are public spaces. Will discuss further when Commissioner Hover is
84 back in the office. Commissioner Branch asked for the drawings. Maurice will ensure Joe
85 has the sewer drawings to present to the board.

86

87 Public Works building need additional HVAC units in addition to the three replaced last
88 year. There are about 8-9 units altogether. He will explore the best options and bring them
89 back to the board for discussion.

90

91 **Approve Consent Agenda**

92 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-7. Motion was
93 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

94 **1. WSLCB Notice Special Occasion Liquor License-8/21 Fairgrounds-Zach Meyer**

- 95 2. WSLCB Notice Special Occasion Liquor License-7/10 J Doran Ranch-Amanda Mott
96 3. Agreement Amendment #1-Snow Park Plowing & Grooming-WA ST Parks &
97 Recreation
98 4. Reimbursable Work Request-Chip Seal - City of Omak
99 5. USFS Grant Close Out -Methow Trails Vaulted Toilet
100 6. Contract-SmartGov -Permit Tracking Software-Dude Solutions
101 7. Contract E22-029 911 Dispatch Operations Expense Reimbursement-WA ST
102 Military Dept.

103

104 **Public Hearing Budget Supplemental Appropriation Vehicle Reserve Fund 197**

105 Commissioner Branch opened up the hearing to staff. Seeing no staff, he opened up to
106 the public for comment, seeing no one to comment he opened up to commissioners'
107 discussion.

108 **Motion Resolution 78-2021 Budget Supplemental Vehicle Reserve**

109 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 78-2021 a budget supplemental
110 appropriation within Current Expense Contingency Reserve and Vehicle Reserve fund in
111 the amount of \$10,342 for a house keeping issue. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
112 motion carried.

113

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

115 Kent Kovalenko

116

117 Engineer Thomson provided his staff report and discussed the items listed there.

118

119 *Paradigm Scale Software Update*

120 Mr. Kovalenko explained we went active with the scale software at all the facilities. The
121 operators said it was easier simpler and user friendly and they liked it very much. So far,
122 180 days further along than we were before.

123

124 *WSDA Steam Treatment Validation Postponed*

125 The validation process will ensure the equipment is working well, but with temperatures in
126 the triple digits the process was postponed.

127

128 *Pond 2 Update*

129 The previous issue was with Pond 1, but a tiny hole was found in Pond 2 liner.

130

131 *Maintenance and Road Conditions*

132 Engineer Thomson gave his road report with construction projects underway.

133

134 Coordinated with Joe Poulin on the HVAC system units on Public Works to identify what
135 is needed and provide some options.

136

137 The State Auditor is renting space in the Public Works building.

138

139 *Tawls-Foster Bridge Footing Erosion*

140 This is still being coordinated.

141 *Old 97 Construction Project*
142 Engineer Thomson said we still don't have striping paint. Other jurisdictions are having the
143 same issue.

144
145 Other materials needed for projects such as our bridge project are very difficult to come
146 by this year. Abutments may be constructed this fall and the rest in the spring.

147
148 Guardrail near Havilah is wrapping up and majority of Methow project to be completed
149 next week.

150
151 *ARPA Funds*

152 Engineer Thomson explained funds that were lost due to COVID and how ARPA funds
153 can be used to make up short falls. Commissioner Branch explained all 39 counties are
154 receiving funds from the Treasury rather than the state. We lost some funding in CAP, the
155 state will allocate to CRAB to make up for what was lost last year, but it won't bring us up
156 totally in the road fund. Commissioner Branch would like a list of revenue losses for the
157 county matrix. The funds can also be used for sewer systems. All systems need some kind
158 of repair and rehab beyond regular maintenance such as Conconully replace tanks,
159 Edelweiss force main needs to be replaced, Liberty Woodlands is building their sand filter
160 outside of ordinary maintenance at \$90,000.

161 Commissioner Branch discussed the East Lake Sewer and implementation and
162 administration of the system by Planning Department. He believes Public Works should
163 be involved instead to make sure the system development fees are paid. Planning sees
164 development where Public Works doesn't. Planning has been strapped with not enough
165 staff to manage. He would like to make it more efficient for them. Engineer Thomson said
166 Public Works explained what would be needed in order for Public Works take this on. If it
167 makes sense he can figure out how to make it happen.

168
169 *WSACE Managing Director Interviews*

170 Engineer Thomson will attend the Director Interviews tomorrow.

171
172 *Consent Agenda*

173 The consent agenda was approved earlier this morning.

174
175 The board adjourned at 11:40 a.m. for lunch.

176
177 **Public Comment Period**

178 No public comments were provided.

179
180 **Update Human Resources/Risk Management-Tanya Everett**

181 Shelley Keitzman

182
183 Ms. Keitzman provided an update stating she's working with Work Source who is helping
184 to offset some new employee salary costs. In the Assessor's office we have contracts
185 worth \$6080 and have received most of those payments. The final invoice has been
186 submitted and that will finish up those contracts. Two additional contracts for Noxious

187 Weed have been approved and so she is beginning to submit those invoices. Putting
188 employees through the process to see if we can get additional funds. Meet the Employer
189 event power point presentation that includes our new website and how to apply through it.
190 It will be a live event specifically for Okanogan County.

191
192 Ms. Keitzman said she is ready to publish the fairgrounds coordinator position once the
193 board gives that direction. Commissioner Branch wants to ensure any system changes
194 are made beforehand, ensure the person has qualifications to supervise others, but he
195 isn't sure if the job description includes that. He believes the fairgrounds coordinator
196 position should be able to direct the work of the maintenance workers since the work being
197 performed is directly related. She can post it noting that a revised update will be posted
198 later.

199
200 It can be posted up to step three DOE? Commissioner Branch said yes, the board wants
201 someone with experience.

202
203 Ms. Everett gave her staff update. She said Dr. Craig handles the jail medical needs and
204 his contract was renegotiated at the same rate for another three years. She presented it
205 for signature.

206
207 **Motion Employment Agreement Dr. Craig**

208 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the employment agreement between Okanogan
209 County and Dr. Craig for another three years. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
210 motion carried.

211
212 **Approve Commissioners' Proceedings June 21, 22, 2021**

213 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the commissioners' proceedings of June 21, 22,
214 2021. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

215
216 **Quarterly Update-Okanogan Behavioral Health Care-David McClay OBHC CEO**

217 Ms. Rhonda Colbert Secretary to the OBHC Board of Directors

218
219 Ms. Colbert invited the BOCC to the OBHC board retreat on July 21-23 at Sun Mt lodge.
220 Commissioner Branch looks forward to attending the retreat.

221
222 Mr. McClay said OBHC is reevaluating its operations to see if the model can be improved.
223 Part of the process is replacing the electronic health records software with a more efficient
224 program. He explained many reports have to be compiled manually that are tied to the
225 county and the software makes that a very inefficient process. Staff is beginning to warm
226 up to the changes. OBHC is gathering results of a survey that will help inform a role out
227 of the changes. The organization wants to have more of a growth mind set. Have a plan,
228 be conscientious, and mindful of what we need.

229
230 OBHC is in every school in the county except Grand Coulee. It has been a hectic year for
231 kids with COVID. They were out there before under BHO and they could only serve in

232 certain regions and Grand Coulee school was right on the border of three counties. The
233 tribe and Grant County expanded to serve the few kids in those schools.

234
235 Mr. McClay explained OBHC has just under 100 employees, he's been in touch with
236 OBHC's insurance company to sort out renewal. Ms. Colbert said she looks forward to
237 the progress and new expectations set by OBHC and she sees the changes as a positive
238 step forward.

239
240 Available housing in Okanogan and surrounding areas is non-existent. Looking at
241 strategies to provide housing, but many professionals do not qualify for affordable housing
242 units. Commissioner Branch said all employers should be studying the housing study
243 document to find ways to strategize housing availability for workers. Think about creative
244 solutions to provide housing for all levels of income and interests. Commissioner Branch
245 explained participation in the workforce development group helps generate ideas and
246 connections with others.

247
248 Commissioner DeTro asked if Judge Culp had reached out regarding the Sales Tax
249 Oversight Committee. Mr. Snyder attends the drug court to listen to those inducted. It's a
250 good positive experience.

251
252 Ms. Colbert provided something very positive about the fairground's arena and track.
253 There wasn't a place with good ground for horse events and the fairgrounds has amazing
254 ground for barrel racing. She commended Ms. Peasley as she is a delight to work with.
255 The improvements to the grounds are very positive including Ms. Peasley and the
256 grounds should be made a center piece of the county and the community works together
257 to make it that way.

258
259 The board adjourned at 3:33 p.m.
260