

1 **RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

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3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

4
5 **JUNE 5, 2018**
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7
8 9:00 AM Commissioners' Staff Meeting
9 10:00 AM Update – Human Resources / Risk Management – Tanya Craig and/or
10 Debi Hilts
11 10:30 AM Update – Communications / Dispatch – Mike Worden
12 11:00 AM Update – Public Works – Josh Thomson & Ben Rough
13 12:00 PM Citizens Comment Period
14 12:30 PM Approve Consent Agenda
15

16 ****No Quorum in the Afternoon****
17

18
19 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners' met for its regular session on June 5,
20 2018, with Chairman Commissioner Jim DeTro, Commissioner Chris Branch, and
21 Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.

22 Commissioner Andy Hover was absent due to attending the Upper Columbia Salmon
23 Recovery Board meeting in Washington DC this week.

24 Member of the public, George Thornton arrived at 8:58 AM to take notes.

25 **Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

26 David Gecas, Stella Columbia, Joe Poulin, Perry Huston, Cari Hall, Leah McCormack
27

28 Cari Hall explained that the Juvenile Dept. recently purchased a vehicle, but there
29 wasn't cash or budget to pay the invoice which is now due and will incur finance
30 charges if it isn't paid today. Ms. Hall further said the invoice could be paid from Current
31 Expense but normally vehicles are expended from the Vehicle Reserve. Treasurer
32 McCormack explained her surprise as she did not think the vehicle would be purchased
33 until June after the sales tax funds are remitted. Right now the Current Expense fund is
34 carrying over \$34,000 of CJTA fund 160 expenses until more sales tax revenues come
35 in. The expenses are mounting and it was thought that the sales tax revenue may not
36 cover all of it. Commissioner Branch said it is a done deal. If it isn't paid it will incur
37 finance charges. It was recommended that the invoice be paid to avoid finance charges.
38 Ms. Hall said an email would be sufficient to request the cash be transferred to vehicle
39 reserve since there was already in place the transfer in and transfer out BARS within
40 each budget. Ms. Hall will send an email to recap what is needed in the email and then
41 she will take care of the invoice.

42 The Clerk of the Board said she would email the Treasurer requesting the transfer of
43 funds to Vehicle Reserve fund 197 from Current Expense 001.015. Both Ms. Hall and
44 Ms. McCormack exited.

45
46 Joe Poulin updated the board on the irrigation system at the fairgrounds. Apparently a
47 valve broke over the weekend and a big puddle was created. The air valve was
48 replaced and now the pressure is better than before. Mr. Poulin said he could only
49 operate eight sprinklers before and now will see how many more the system can
50 handle. There is also an apparent irrigation leak from a pipe that runs under the pig barn
51 asphalt. The asphalt will need to be cut away to reach the leak for repairs and that will
52 be done this week.

53
54 Mr. Poulin said he received a few applications for the seasonal maintenance positions
55 and will begin interviews tomorrow. Mr. Poulin asked, will there be a surplus sale this
56 year, Commissioner DeTro replied it depends on how much there is to sell. The Clerk
57 of the Board said a lot of the Sheriff vehicles were surplussed before and were not
58 included in the last sale. She said she would send out an email requesting departments
59 send her their list property to be surplussed.

60
61 The garbage truck at the fairgrounds was discussed. Commissioner DeTro would like it
62 to be assessed to find out what is wrong with it and determine from that whether or not
63 to fix it or surplus it. Joe Poulin state the PTO pump that runs the hydraulic is bad. He
64 explained some alternatives to using the garbage truck such as using a roll off truck
65 from the landfill. A 20 yard dumpster would be more useful to hold the garbage during
66 fair.

67
68 There is a pile of fill dirt with big rocks that Mr. Poulin would like to use to fill holes and
69 rough spots on the fairgrounds, but a rock screen is needed before it can be utilized.

70
71 Director Huston explained how the hourly rates might be considered. There was interest
72 by the Roller Hockey group to use one of the buildings during summer. Director Huston
73 said there is still work to be done to lay out the methodology to justify the rate and show
74 a range. Commissioner Branch asked if each building would be rated. Deposits for use
75 and insurance coverage and how those would be handled still need to be worked out.

76
77 Stella Columbia explained a request she received for use of the horse arena, but the
78 daily rate of \$75 was too much for the requestor as she only needed the arena for a
79 couple hours. Ms. Columbia asked if she could do a press release about the
80 Department of Agriculture grant award for replacing the race track and arena. She
81 would like to inform the public about the award. The Clerk of the Board recommended

82 that a press release be submitted as she thought it would generate some renewed
83 interest from the public. It would also show the public the county intends to put forth the
84 money and effort to make the needed changes. The Clerk of the Board will send Ms.
85 Columbia the information for the release.

86
87 Ms. Columbia explained the mess left by the renters over the weekend. The damage
88 deposit of \$350 will not cover the cost to clean it up. Commissioners' believe if the
89 deposit doesn't cover the cost to restore the building to a usable condition then the
90 group should be billed for that. Ms. Columbia said she will change the way she does the
91 walkthroughs and moving forward it will be a more strict process. She suggested hiring
92 a cleaning crew which the renter would pay for. Director Huston explained that perhaps
93 there should be both a damage and a cleaning deposit. Member of the public Mr.
94 Thornton, also suggested before and after photos to be taken of the space for the file.
95 Ms. Columbia said the contract covers the issues.

96
97 David Gecas reported on an Attorney General opinion he request about the vacation
98 process of a particular road that the county isn't certain of its ownership. (attached)

99
100 He requested executive session to discuss potential litigation.

101
102 **Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i)**
103 Commissioner Branch moved to go into executive session at 9:52 AM for 30 minutes
104 inviting Perry Huston and David Gecas to discuss potential litigation the county
105 reasonably believes may be commenced by or against the county. Motion was
106 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

107
108 Executive session ended at 10:12 am with 10 minutes left to run out. The board took a
109 break to use up the remaining time. No decisions were made.

110
111 **Update – Human Resources / Risk Management – Tanya Craig and/or Debi Hilts**
112 Ms. Craig explained the county website demonstration will be conducted next Monday.
113 The Jail trailer was purchased last week and delivered. She said she sat down with
114 Stella Columbia and provided her guidance on the management and responsibilities of
115 the fairgrounds.

116
117 She will attend a conference put on by Alliant Insurance. She will sit in as a guest to
118 learn how they work and she will report on the results.

119
120 The grant for public defense funding was received, but the form gets longer and longer
121 and requires more and more of her time each year.

122 Ms. Craig updated the board on claims received.

123
124 Ms. Craig explained the resolution regarding the salaries of elected officials is up this
125 year. She provided the board with information from comparable counties but did not
126 have the salary info from Douglas or Stevens counties. (attached) She stated the board
127 must adopt a resolution as the current resolution expires at the end of the year. The
128 laws do have restrictions to be considered such as when the board may adjust their own
129 salaries. Commissioner Branch would like to review the meeting minutes where the
130 previous board discussed the matter.

131
132 **Update – Communications / Dispatch – Mike Worden**

133 Joe Somday

134
135 Mr. Worden explained he met with the EMS and Fire Districts on May 23 to discuss
136 dispatch fee increases. The EMS and Fire Districts were not happy, but nevertheless it
137 was a necessary change. Commissioner Branch said there is a cost to provide
138 dispatching services, but a meeting such as that helps the districts understand what
139 they are paying for. Mr. Worden stated the poorest district was on board with the fees
140 as it gives them a chip in the game and now they have a stake and can discuss more
141 freely their concerns. Commissioner DeTro said he encouraged those he spoke to. The
142 commissioners' had asked how the proposed fees compare to the agency budgets. He
143 provided the base information to the board. (attached) Mr. Worden commented that it
144 appeared some districts were budgeting all their cash but then they only spend a
145 fraction of it.

146
147 The agreements with the legal language will be drafted by Mr. Worden then provided to
148 the board for review.

149
150 Mr. Worden provided an update on the communications budget. Joe Somday gave the
151 Jail budget update as of the 29th the Jail is still over budget about \$89,000. He said the
152 Sheriff will need additional funds to outfit their new vehicles at \$10,000. It was noted
153 that the Disaster Recovery funds will be about \$335,000 and will bring the budget to the
154 positive.

155
156 Mr. Worden explained the Fire Homelessness bill funds was approved and the county
157 will get around \$22,000 from that. The funds will be used to purchase basic battery
158 operated desk top radios for the dispatch center.

159

160 Mr. Worden informed the commissioners' that he will try out the new 911 network this
161 week. The HB 2010 update was given by Commissioner DeTro. He said Commissioner
162 McCart is heading that bill up.

163

164 **Update – Public Works – Josh Thomson & Ben Rough**

165 Dan McCarthy, Kent Kovalenko

166

167 Mr. Rough provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there. He invited Pest
168 Control Agent, Dan McCarthy to help support the discussion regarding the Apple
169 Maggot quarantine area. Mr. Rough provided a summary of the situation on the back of
170 his agenda. (attached)

171

172 Mr. Rough asked since Mr. McCarthy is on the front line, what he thinks about the pest.
173 Mr. McCarthy said this whole process will help slow the pest from spreading to other
174 parts of the county, but on the waste enforcement end, he does not see how that can be
175 accomplished. Mr. Rough said the food waste is exempt, by verbal confirmation only. A
176 special permit would outline exactly what and who would be exempt as well as other
177 restrictions.

178

179 Mr. Rough explained the impacts if the department had the responsibility of separating
180 the woody debris from homegrown food scraps. He explained what would need to be
181 separated and retained in the Methow valley and what could be transported through the
182 quarantine area. We were first told green municipal waste was just woody debris, but
183 over time the definition changed to include food waste. Commercial hauler Waste Wise
184 expressed concerns at a meeting with Public Works and Department of Ag on May 24
185 where the group discussed the issue with the definition. The overall operation costs of
186 Waste Wise would increase their expenditures would increase and their revenue would
187 decrease. He would like to know from the board how he might move forward in terms of
188 restricting certain raw plant based waste. Commissioner Branch asked how one would
189 determine the difference between store-bought fruit and homegrown fruit. Educating the
190 public will key to a successful process. Someone will be onsite to inspect, but it is really
191 the educational part right from the start that will help the most. There are many
192 unknowns as to the quantity of waste to be sorted and disposed of. There is a Public
193 Hearing scheduled by the Department of Ag on July 19th in the commissioners' hearing
194 room where this very issue will be discussed.

195

196 Commissioner DeTro explained the issues with the fairgrounds garbage truck and the
197 idea that roll off trucks be used instead of the garbage truck. Commissioner DeTro
198 stated the roll off boxes would be best and a goal to look forward to for fair this year. Mr.
199 Kovalenko asked if it would be better or more affordable to have public works

200 periodically drop off a box during the fair. Mr. Rough will speak to Joe Poulin about the
201 situation and come up with ideas to address the problem.

202
203 Mr. Rough explained he received the draft resolution from the Clerk of the Board
204 regarding the disposal fee waiver that Colville Tribes requested for the clean-up project
205 on the Salmon Creek property. He and Mr. Kovalenko went to the site to the level of
206 garbage there. He said he read through the resolution and agrees with the reason for
207 wanting to help out.

208
209 Mr. Kovalenko would like to see some language in the resolution about household
210 waste being first separated from other waste so that it can be dealt with appropriately.
211 Waste cans that are more than a gallon containing household hazards shall be
212 separated from other waste before disposal. He will keep an accounting of the costs for
213 the waste.

214
215 Mr. Rough gave the leachate pond project status update as the project just about done
216 with final checklists and final back fill finishing it out. We still need to purchase the
217 valves and extend the pipeline to reach the site.

218
219 The SWAC update was given. Membership was discussed and how to address
220 alternative positions and why those are needed.

221
222 *Open Positions*

223 Mr. Rough said he is moving forward with filling the engineer tech assistant position and
224 is looking at candidates from the last go around. Interviews will be set once applicants
225 are selected for interview. He continued informing the board about department
226 resignations and that position being open to be filled. The Area 3 shop is in the greater
227 Twisp Methow valley and it has been difficult to fill the position due to the remote area
228 and most not able to live 20 minutes from the shop. The beginning salary was increased
229 this year to attract applicants. He believes our salary range is pretty comparable to other
230 drivers.

231
232 **Citizens Comment Period**

233 Commissioner DeTro opened up citizen comment. George Thornton commented on the
234 water availability study and his unease about the commissioners' burning up time when
235 they know the senate bill has a limited time frame for use of the funding. Now, it is going
236 on 6 months and we still have no enabling document. He doesn't want to be in a rush
237 situation when it gets down to the deadline and then have to redo it or take too much
238 time to then not have access to the funds when we need to complete it.

239

240 Cari Hall and Treasurer McCormack came back to discuss their concern about
241 resolution 56-2018 regarding costs of reclassification of the food coordinator position, as
242 the costs have not yet been budgeted. A supplemental appropriation to the respective
243 budgets will be needed later on and with the Juvenile Dept. vehicle purchase issue the
244 board should be aware of the impacts to Current Expense due to these unplanned
245 expenses. The Board discussed a need for a checklist flow chart which would be
246 attached to resolutions and would show the board the item has gone through all the
247 necessary preliminary processes before the board approves it. The Clerk of the Board
248 said she would create a flow chart attachment for the board's review.

249

250 **Approve Consent Agenda**

251 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the consent agenda items 2-6
252 excluding item #1 as further review time is needed. Motion was seconded all
253 were in favor, motion carried.

- 254 ~~1. Commissioners' Proceedings May 29, 2018~~
- 255 2. Interlocal Agreement – Solid Waste Disposal System – Town of Winthrop –
256 Public Works
 - 257 3. Local Agency Agreement Supplemental #2 – Peter Dan Road 3532-04 –
258 Public Works
 - 259 4. General Services Agreement-Fairgrounds Camp Host-King & Timm
 - 260 5. Agreement –CDBG Public Services Grant-Dept. of Commerce
 - 261 6. Resolution 56-2018 Reclassification of Collections Coordinator

262

263 ****No Quorum in the Afternoon****

264

265 The board adjourned at 12:30 pm.

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