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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

JUNE 7, 2021

9:00 AM Review Agenda and Consent Agenda

9:30 AM Discussion American Rescue Funds Next Steps for Receipt -Commissioners et al

11:00 AM Discussion Methow Watershed Council Town of Twisp Town of Winthrop Mayors

1:30 PM Discussion Courthouse Curvilinear Project-Consultant Russell Holter

2:30 PM Discussion-DIVCO Maintenance-Joe Poulin & DIVCO Kevin McDonald

3:30 PM Review Meeting Minutes

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on June 7, 2021, with; Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Member, and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

Commissioner Jim DeTro was absent today due to personal reasons.

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

Review Agenda and Consent Agenda

Commissioner Branch explained he wanted the board to discuss the Conservation District and the Forest Collaboration.

Commissioners reviewed their agenda and consent agenda. No changes were needed at this time.

Commissioner Branch discussed a recent fire on Fish and Wildlife Golden Doe, and he was told it was a control burn. The county had not been notified of the fire. How does that information come to the county? Commissioner Branch called and it wasn't a control burn. Fish & Wildlife would have contacted the county if was a control burn.

Discussion American Rescue Funds Next Steps for Receipt -Commissioners et al

Cari Hall, Lisa Schreckengost, Pam Johnson

Commissioner Branch stated he requested this discussion to sort out and prepare for the receipt of ARPA funds. Commissioner Hover proposed contact with the State Governor's office to find out the process and requirements for receipt. The Clerk of the Board was requested to contact Commerce to ask for information about how Non-Entitlement units will receive its share of the ARPA funds.

Auditor Hall explained he will request definitions and answers to questions such as what is "Entity wide basis" to see what they will audit for. Units of general local government was discussed.

The group discussed the guidance given by the Treasury for the non-entitlement units versus entitlement units. The non-entitlement units have populations of 50,000 or less.

50 The fiscal information requested may be difficult to calculate due to the fires over the last six years as
51 Okanogan County has been impacted by those fires. Values of burned property were lowered by the
52 assessor therefore the county was receiving less value on those reduced properties.

53
54 The group discussed how to prioritize allocations of the ARPA funds in accordance with the bullet
55 points for fund uses in order to visualize.

56
57 Pam Johnson will review the past county budgets and come up with the fiscal budget info for the ARPA
58 calculations.

59
60 **Discussion Methow Watershed Council Town of Twisp Town of Winthrop Mayors**
61 Mayo Soo Ing-Moody, Mayor Ranzau, Sarah Lane, Travis, Paul's iPad

62
63 The group attended the meeting via Zoom to discuss the Watershed Council request for funds to pay
64 for administration of the council.

65
66 Commissioner Hover explained Watershed Council came to the county to ask for funding. Mike Fort
67 and Alyssa Jumars made the request. Commissioners and Mayors discussed the role of the council
68 and how the county would fund an entity like that and what it would look like.

69
70 Commissioner Branch discussed the relationship and said in terms of that the watershed foundation
71 is the lead, what is the relationship between them. If there is a problem would the foundation would be
72 sued?

73
74 The only way to fund the council is under RCW 90.82 and that is for watershed planning, said
75 Commissioner Hover. By default, we are tied to the council but a mechanism hasn't been established.

76
77 Mayor Ing-Moody said from what she hears, she said the work is established by the council and the
78 county has a really defined role in that. Commissioner Branch said we do not have a contractual
79 relationship that outlines that work.

80
81 Are the towns okay with the entities relationship right now all the IG's and foundation? Mayor Ranzau
82 said the council brings everything together so its important to work together. The council has trouble
83 in the past making decisions, but the foundation would help consolidate and help. Mayor Ing-Moody
84 agreed on the value of the governments working together with the council. She agrees there are
85 limitations to not having a foundation prior as only certain tasks could be done funded by ecology
86 grants. The administrative person is nothing less than what the town did when they provided the clerk
87 treasurer to do that work. If the county contracts with the foundation it would be something one of the
88 initiating governments would be the responsible lead agency of the watershed process. If the county
89 decides to contract with the foundation as lead they would be working on the behest of the. If the
90 county is making decision on what happens in the watershed and we aren't having a discussion with
91 the council or planning unit, and things have changed since the plan was adopted, the plan should be
92 guiding the county in the decision it makes. When the recommendation from the council that
93 recommendation would be for changes or implementation of the plan.

94
95 The watershed plan still works. The group thought something should lay out the understanding
96 between the entities outline how it all works between the entities. It is important each entity's role and
97 the relationship be established.

98
99 Mayor Ing-Moody asked that the county outline its objectives in a summary to towns for another
100 meeting.

101
102 Adjourned at noon.

103
104 **Discussion Courthouse Curvilinear Project-Consultant Russell Holter**

105 Mr. Holter is a cultural resource specialist working with the county on its courthouse curvilinear parapet
106 project.

107
108 Mr. Holter explained he contacted Chris Moore with DAHP and he provided a draft contract between
109 DAHP and the county is expected. The DAHP doesn't have the staff to manage and administer the
110 grants so they contract with Washington Trust for that purpose.

111
112 No reimbursable expenses can be incurred before July 1 or before a contract is in place whichever is
113 the latter. They will be working through the process of contract signing as soon as the agreement is in
114 place and before June 30th.

115
116 Mr. Holter reviewed the draft contract sample and went over the responsibilities. The effective date of
117 the grant would be from 7/1/2021 through 6/30/2022 biennium cycle. There are three sections he went
118 over with the Board. Duty to notify the tribe and issues will be meeting the standards of the interior.
119 Cant use the funds to get more money from the legislature etc.....Spend all county funds before
120 requesting funds from the grant. There are certain things that can be spent now using our soft match
121 money but non-reimbursable. Affidavit with supporting documentation carried out bids and solicitation
122 of bids for the reimbursements over \$25,000, proof of advertising of the solicitation will be needed for
123 the capital expenditure match portion of the project. A project report at the end of the grant will be
124 required as well as quarterly updates beforehand. Budget allows for 15% inflation?? RCW 49.60 and
125 RCW 39.19.

126
127 There is a requirement for 50% hard and 50% soft match which the details as to what actually qualifies
128 will need to come from Chris Moore.

129
130 May ask to change the \$25,000 bid min.

131
132 Mr. Holter stated there might be subsequent biennium grant requests to focus on the upper rooms and
133 making them useful again. Need to speak with our architect to design the specifications prior to
134 advertising. Wait till there is a contract in place with DAHP before spec'ing out the project.

135
136 Commissioner Branch asked if Mr. Holter charges by the hour, no he said by the quarter hour.

137
138 **Discussion-DIVCO Maintenance-Joe Poulin & DIVCO Kevin McDonald**

139 Kevin McDonald and Chad Halvorson from DIVCO were on zoom.

140
141 Commissioner Hover asked if DIVCO was familiar with our geo thermal system, and if DIVCO knew
142 they would be doing the maintenance portion once the project was complete. No, their understanding
143 was that the AMERESCO had a warranty and any repairs would be covered under that. Commissioner
144 Hover is trying to understand what the county is responsible for. It didn't seem like it was actually built
145 to easily back flush the heat exchanger system so he was wondering if a maintenance schedule was
146 provided by AMERESCO to maintain the system. Chad did spend a lot of time back flushing the system
147 and learning the process.

148
149 Chad said when we started having problems Ameresco came in and back flushed and then DIVCO
150 installed the were below manufacture specs the issue was always been the water flow. Commissioner
151 Hover asked why the water pressure was turned up. Joe said it was tested and during the test the

152 temperature quit tripping off, with opening it up the temps dropped, but when shut back down after that
153 he isn't sure why it doubled. It has always been a problem with those in the jail. It supposed to have a
154 minimum operating pressure that was not achieved which Joe had tried to explain to Salcido. The
155 pump is variable speed.

156
157 After warranty ended, DIVICO put the pressure gages to show if things were plugging up. Chad said
158 there has been no plugging up in the Jail system.

159
160 Commissioners discussed returning the system to spec, all filters are clean, assuming the very first
161 filter in line is also clean. That has been no material found in that filter when DIVICO has checked.
162 Then there is a place to open it up at the well heads. There are pressure gages at each well head.
163 How were those set at 10psi? Gpm is how flow is determined. Commissioners asked several questions
164 about the pressure gages are read and when.

165
166 Trying to find out why we have water boiling out of the wells and why the heat exchangers are not
167 working well.

168
169 Chad said when this problem surfaced two years ago that water wasn't being accepted by the wells
170 and parking lot flooded, it has gotten worse over the last year. It was putting the water back into the
171 ground that is the issue. We cannot achieve the required flow. There is no restriction in the heat
172 exchangers, we just haven't got the water flow, and now we have units that are damaged because
173 they've been running too hot, said Chad. Kevin stated DIVICO has always been in a supporting role
174 and learning on the fly. They were taking direction from Okanogan County as to that role. We had a
175 warranty period and things built into the system, but they did jump in when the county requested. The
176 heat exchangers were running well over specs, said Chad. It is just getting worse and worse. Keep
177 trying to make things work and when it gets hot nothing is going to work properly. The problem is
178 moving the water back into the ground.

179
180 One heat exchanger has been replaced under warranty and one compressor under warranty. The new
181 compressor isn't going to last that long under the current situation because it has moisture in it.

182
183 Commissioner Branch gathered that the wells were not adequate in the first place. Throttled down the
184 system to try and make it work but it didn't. If the system is not meeting the specs then.

185
186 Commissioners discussed whether or not we ask AMERESCO to reset the system exactly the way it
187 was in the beginning then start asking the questions about running on spec. Eventually we have to
188 address the wells. The rest of the conversation should happen in executive session. Commissioner
189 Branch thought getting away from using those two wells is where we needed to go. Joe said we may
190 need a closed loop system with a cooling tower to help provide the right temps. We used to have a
191 cooling tower before. Need estimate on what we need to make it run correctly.

192
193 Risk pool was going to bring an independent engineer to look at the system. Scoping of the wells was
194 discussed. Ideas were discussed to utilize the water.

195
196 Commissioners suggested Joe not contact AMERESCO for anything but also get the system set back
197 to the original settings. Other short-term solutions were discussed. In an emergency what are we going
198 to do?

199
200 **Discussion**

201 Commissioners requested the Finance Committee discuss the request of the Sheriff to purchase two
202 remaining vehicles at \$128,400 slated for second half that is part of the original allocation for 2021.

203 The board wanted to make sure we had available cash to move. Does the board wish to do one
204 transfer of \$160,000 to cover the short fall?

205
206 Commissioners are trying to figure out the balance of the Vehicle Reserve fund to consider approving
207 the Sheriff's request for the purchase of the two remaining vehicles.

208
209 **Motion**

210 Commissioner Hover moved to direct the treasurer to transfer \$160,000 from non-departmental to
211 vehicle reserve fund. Motion was seconded, discussion. Motion died for lack of second.

212
213 **Motion**

214 Commissioner Hover moved to transfer \$283,078 from non-departmental to vehicle fund 197. Motion
215 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

216
217 A budget supplemental will be needed for remaining. Auditor Hall will draft the request from
218 contingency reserve.

219
220 Undersheriff Culp joined the group to discuss vehicle reserve fund.

221
222 **Review Meeting Minutes**

223 Commissioners reviewed their meeting minutes.

224
225 The board adjourned at 4:05 p.m.