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**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

**OKANOGAN COUNTY**

**MARCH 23, 2022**

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9 **1:30 PM State Auditor Exit Conference Financial Statements and Federal Single Audit**  
10 **2:00 PM Discussion-ARPA Funds Process & Uses**

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12 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a Public Hearing at 123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North,  
13 Okanogan, Washington on March 23, 2022 with Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Vice-  
14 Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro; and the Clerk of the  
15 Board, Laleña Johns, present.

16  
17 AV Capture provided audio and video of the meeting held today, while ZOOM provided best  
18 audio accessibility and public interaction.

19  
20 Commissioner DeTro was absent as prearranged yesterday.

21  
22 **State Auditor Exit Conference Financial Statements and Federal Single Audit**  
23 Jake, Cinthya, Josiah

24  
25 Financial Statements and Federal Single Audit was introduced. (attached)

26  
27 Jake Santisteban provided introductions and stated the accountability audit is not quite ready but will  
28 like be presented in April and will be separate.

29  
30 Cinthya went through the Financial Statement Audit Results and the main items to be relayed and  
31 what they looked for during the audit.

32  
33 Federal Grant Compliance Audit Results were discussed. The County lacked adequate internal  
34 controls for ensuring compliance with federal requirements for subrecipient monitoring resulting in  
35 unallowable costs. CFDA number was 20.019, COVID 19 Coronavirus Relief Funds (CARES ACT)

36  
37 The county charged \$246,603 to the program for contracted services that were not performed within  
38 the period of performance required by the grant agreement. The subrecipient did not use these funds  
39 and it did not return them to the County or the granting agency. A corrective action plan is required  
40 to explain the county's plan to make corrections over the issue identified.

41  
42 The audit costs were reviewed and were in alignment with the original estimate.

43  
44 Mr. Josiah stated the reports will be published on the state auditor's website sometime next week.  
45 He thanked those employees involved with the audit.

46  
47 Commissioner Hover discussed the funds that will need to be sent back. He is most comfortable just  
48 sending it back rather than finding costs to apply with in the period of performance.

49  
50 **Discussion ARPA Funds -Commissioners**

51 Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Cari Hall, Lisa Schreckengost, Leah McCormack, Pam Johnson

52  
53 Commissioner Hover discussed the standard deduction rules as it can be applied. It appears to be  
54 an open door for some counties and we are getting feed back from entities as to the category their  
55 request fits. Government services such as fire, public health and any of those things can be applied.  
56 Auditor Hall said it is very broad and could include assessor, auditor, treasurer etc.....  
57

58 Is there any criteria for what a standard deduction is, asked Auditor Hall? Are there any restrictions  
59 on how we utilize since it is a standard deduction? There are four things we cannot use it and those  
60 are listed in the rules. No pensions, cannot put in savings, no back pay, and  
61

62 AGO and the rules are in conflict with regards to retro pay. It could be a difference in the terms used.  
63 Auditor Hall explained the difference between retro pay and back pay. Commissioner Hover explained  
64 why there may not be much concern for entities spending less than \$10 million. He read from the  
65 rules on final rule that provides greater simplicity and clarifications.  
66

67 Commissioners will further consult with WSAC about any additional guidance on infrastructure  
68 projects.  
69

70 Roni stated NACo has clarifying answers regarding use of ARPA funds as well as examples of how  
71 other counties in the state are spending their money.  
72

73 Commissioner Hover discussed standard loss category and then those will be run through a litmus  
74 test. Commissioner Branch stated we are county government and we need to make sure the dollars  
75 are spent under the intent.  
76

77 Auditor Hall wanted to make sure of the commissioners' stance on where the Justice Building falls in  
78 terms of the ARPA funds to be used.  
79

80 Roni discussed the businesses and agencies she assisted with the program. USDA program has  
81 opportunities for grant funds. She has been doing a lot of research. Many have processes already  
82 and examples of what others are using their funds for. Commissioner Hover said it is helpful to receive  
83 the information she finds especially if the county takes the standard deduction.  
84

85 Roni discussed Loomis Fire District Fire Hall feasibility study. One building in the most populated area  
86 then build a satellite building somewhere else. The project had to be realistic because the district can  
87 only afford so much.  
88

89 Alan Fahnestock arrived at the meeting at 2:55 p.m.  
90

91 Commissioner Branch presented the draft ARPA plan showing the different agencies the county is  
92 considering sponsoring and the categories those projects falls under.  
93

94 Alan said he was here to find out what the board was considering. He is scheduled to meet with Josh  
95 Thomson on well site to discuss the siting of the pump house. Commissioner Hover asked, Does the  
96 board wish to authorize up to \$75,000?  
97

98 **Motion Allocation of \$75,000 to Fire District #6 Mazama Well Project**

99 Commissioner Branch moved to allocate up to \$75,000 of the County's ARPA funds to Fire District  
100 #6 to complete their Mazama well project. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.  
101

102 A standard agreement would be the next step to be able to invoice the county. Commissioner Branch  
103 thought the civil deputy could draft the IGA on Monday.

104  
105 When the group finished, the Clerk of the Board informed the commissioners the Certificate of  
106 Appointment and Oath of Office was prepared for commissioners approval that appoints Albert Lin  
107 as Okanogan County Prosecuting Attorney was ready for their signature.

108  
109 **Motion Certificate of Appointment-Albert Lin Prosecutor**

110 Commissioner Branch moved to approve authorize the Certificate of Appointment of Albert Lin as  
111 Okanogan County Prosecutor. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

112  
113 She also informed the board of the results of the Tonasket EMS District audit which is published on  
114 the SAO website.

115  
116 The board adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

117  
118 Dated at Okanogan, Washington this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022.

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120  
121 **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
122 **OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON**

123  
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125 \_\_\_\_\_  
126 Andy Hover, Chairman

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128 \_\_\_\_\_  
129 Chris Branch, Member

130 **ATTEST:**

131 \_\_\_\_\_  
132 Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board

133 \_\_\_\_\_  
Jim DeTro, Member