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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

MARCH 27, 2023

8 9:00 AM Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Esther Milner, Shelley Keitzman
9 9:15 AM Public Comment Period-Fairgrounds Waiver-Leone Hoover
10 9:30 AM Legislative Update-Zak Kennedy
11 9:45 AM Commissioner’s Staff Meeting
12 10:15 AM Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda
13 10:20 AM Briefing Among Commissioners – Discuss Weekly Meetings & Schedule
14 10:30 AM Update Veterans Relief Committee-Thomas Even
15 11:00 AM Discussion/Update-Zone Code Proposed Changes-Oneza, Pete Palmer
16 1:30 PM P H Okanogan County Code Amendment Section 1.0410(2) Definitions
17 1:35 PM Public Hearing Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 1.08.010 Res. 8-76
18 1:40 PM Public Hearing Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 1.24.010-Prisoners
19 1:50 PM P H Repeal Okanogan County Code Chapter 1.28 General Penalty
20 2:00 PM P H Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 2.08 Fair Association
21 2:10 PM P H Repeal OCC Sect 2.42 Indemnification Of Co Personnel for Insurances
22 2:15 PM Discuss Blake Refund Bureau-Reallocation of Money-Superior Court Clerk
23 2:45 PM Discussion Fairgrounds Race Horse Barns-Naomie Peasley
24 3:15 PM Discussion-Joint Grizzly Bear Comment Letter Draft-Commissioners
25 3:45 PM Discussion-2022 Arbitrage Compliance Services Agreement-Pam Johnson

27 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a regular meeting at 123 5th Avenue
28 North, Okanogan, Washington on March 27, 2023 with; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy
29 Hover; Member, Commissioner Jon Neal; and the Clerk of the Board, Crystal Hawley, present.

30
31
32 AV Capture and Zoom provided audio and video accessibility for public interaction.

33
34 Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch attended via zoom.

35
36 **Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Esther Milner, Shelley Keitzman**

37 Commissioner Hover moved to go into Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) at 9:00
38 A.M. for 15 minutes inviting Esther Milner and Shelley Keitzman. Motion was seconded. All were
39 in favor. Motion carried.

40
41 Executive Session ended at 9:15 with no decisions made.

42
43 **Public Comment Period-Fairgrounds Waiver-Leone Hoover**

44 Andrea Hochleutner and Leone Hoover were present

45
46 Leone Hoover, wanted to see if the commissioners would be willing to waive the fairgrounds fee
47 to rent the Agriplex. The parents of Omak seniors 2023 plan on having a banquet to fundraise on
48 June 7th. Commissioners’ asked Mr. Hoover to rewrite his request showing what the school does
49 and the percentage of what the state pays for lunches.

51 Andrea Hochleutner works at Central Washington Home Builders Association, which is a
52 Membership Organizations company. She explained that she is wanting to get more involved with
53 the county, so she is just listening in.

54

55 **Legislative Update-Zak Kennedy**

56 Mr. Kennedy explained that they are nearing the next set of cutoffs for the two houses; the
57 committee of origin cutoff comes this Wednesday the 29th for policy bills and then the following
58 Friday (April 8th) for fiscal and transportation bills.

59

60 There are a few bills that will linger on for the rest of session with the hope of resurrection in budget
61 negotiations but there is dissent in the ranks and it will be causing problems, especially for the
62 majority, as we near the end of session and budget negotiations.

63

64 Budgets in both houses are either out or are coming out this week. The House released its
65 transportation budget and is set to hear it in committee Monday @ 4:00 PM, the rumor is that the
66 Senate will release theirs on the 30th (Thursday this week), we'll see how the two budgets match
67 up when we have both in hand.

68

69 The tentative budget schedule:

70

71 The House operating budget will be released Monday the 27th and heard in committee on Monday
72 the 27th.

73 The House capital budget will be released Monday the 27th, heard Tuesday the 28th with
74 executive session Wednesday the 29th.

75 The Senate transportation budget will be released and heard in committee on Wednesday the
76 29th or Thursday the 30th

77 The Senate operating budget is scheduled to be released this Friday the 24th at 2pm.

78

79 The House Committee on Law and Justice is scheduled to hold an executive session on 3/28. This
80 hearing will include body worn cameras and firearms bills.

81

82 Mr. Kennedy explained that the Governor is really pushing affordable housing right now.

83

84 **Commissioner's Staff Meeting**

85 Planning Director, Pete Palmer Maintenance Manager, Joe Poulin

86

87 Planning Department

88 Planning Director, Pete Palmer updated the commissioners on the County Code.

89 Ms. Palmer explained that she had emailed the first draft of the zone code revision that is all
90 inclusive. It was suggested from MVCC and Future Wise and Planning is hoping to add YN as
91 soon as they are received. Other changes were based on Staff who work with the document on a
92 daily basis to address deficiencies in the code such as, "special uses", Nightly Rentals, etc.

93

94 Ms. Palmer is anticipating public information request will start rolling in. She has created links on
95 their webpage, so the public can easily assess information and follow along thought process,
96 However, she reluctant to release their working documents, because they are far from complete.
97 Her concern is that the public would get confused, resulting in her staff spending time putting fires
98 out and filling PIR's. Once, the revision is complete, she would post on the county website for the
99 public to review.

100 Ms. Palmer updated the commissioners on the No Paws Left Behind complaint. She had sent
101 staff up there to evaluate the situation. Staff reported No Paws Left Behind had 15 dogs over the
102 amount allowed; they had total of 90 dogs and there was not enough indoor space for all the dogs.
103 She will be following up with a finding.

104
105 Planning has been dealing with Okanogan Sales and Recycling for several years, they have about
106 five stock orders on them. They have removed all fencing that was needed to meet code
107 requirements. There is now stuff spilled over on the other side of the road. Ms. Palmer would like
108 to revoke their permit for health and safety conditions. The commissioners agreed with Ms.
109 Palmer to revoke the company's permit.

110
111 Maintenance Department
112 Maintenance Manager, Joe Poulin explained the compressor went out in the Justice Building, so
113 there is no cooling right now. Commissioners asked Poulin to get some options for them to review.

114
115 **Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda**
116 The Commissioners reviewed their agenda and consent agenda.

117
118 **Briefing Among Commissioners – Discuss Weekly Meetings & Schedule**
119 Commissioner Branch explained he has an appointment this afternoon and wanted to talk about
120 the Grizzly Bear draft letter.

121
122 The commissioners discussed the Grizzly Bear draft letter.

123
124 **Update Veterans Relief Committee-Thomas Even**
125 Thomas Even, Katrina Cates, Malinda, Jim, Dale White and Michael Stewart was present

126
127 Entellitrak Veterans Reporting System is going well.

128
129 Mr. Even said that the outreach for homeless is in the north end of the County is on April 19th.
130 They are partnering with the association of HUD/VASH, Community Action, and a few other
131 groups. Outreach Program has been going well, especially in the Twisp area. Veterans really
132 appreciate their visits. They have been getting a larger turnout lately with the PACT Act
133 introduction.

134
135 Mr. Even explained that they had a meeting with OBHC and Community Action. They were able
136 to get a tour of the facilities and introduction to the programs they offer. Mr. Even explained that
137 he will be working more hand-in-hand with them. They will be sharing ideas with each other.

138
139 ZOOM meetings between a few different counties has been going well. Mr. Even explained that
140 it is nice to compare different experiences and how they are handled with each other, it broadens
141 their knowledge.

142
143 Mr. Even expressed his concerns that they still have no driver for the DAV vans. TRANSGO is
144 offering a bus to Wenatchee once a week. He would like to inquire if TRANGO is open to
145 emergency requests for Veterans who can't get an appointment scheduled for that specific day.
146 Veterans have a hard time making appointments just on Thursdays.

147
148 Ms. Cates explained they were granted Supportive Services for Veteran Families Grant. For very
149 low-income Veterans, SSVF provides case management and supportive services to prevent the
150 imminent loss of a Veteran's home or identify a new, more suitable housing situation for the

151 individual and his or her family; or to rapidly re-house Veterans and their families who are
152 homeless and might remain homeless without this assistance.

153
154 Dale explained that there is a high rate of suicide for veterans and would like to know the actually
155 numbers. Commissioner Hover said to reach out to the Coroner or Public Health to see if they
156 know the numbers.

157
158 **Discussion/Update-Zone Code Proposed Changes-Oneza, Pete Palmer**

159 Ferdouse Oneza and Director Palmer were present

160
161 Ms. Oneza looked over the entire code for the county and gave a summary to the commissioners.
162 The commissioners will need approve all of the red line items. Ms. Palmer suggested that the
163 commissioners carefully look over section 17.

164
165 **Public Hearing Okanogan County Code Amendment Section 1.0410(2) Definitions**

166 Commissioner Branch opened the Public Hearing to staff. Esther Miner explained this is AN
167 ORDINANCE revising Okanogan County Code (OCC) Section 1.04.10(2) Definitions. "BOCC" or
168 "Board" means the board of county commissioners of Okanogan County, Washington. "All its
169 members" or "all commissioners" means the total number of commissioners provided by the
170 general laws of the state of Washington. Commissioner Branch closed to staff and opened to
171 public. There was no public comment. Commissioner Branch closed to public and opened it to
172 the Board of County Commissioners.

173
174 **Motion- Ordinance 2023.03 Definitions. "BOCC"**

175 Commissioner Hover moved to approve Ordinance 2023.03 revising Okanogan County Code
176 (OCC) Section 1.04.10(2) Definitions. "BOCC" or "Board" means the board of county
177 commissioners of Okanogan County, Washington. "All its members" or "all commissioners"
178 means the total number of commissioners provided by the general laws of the state of
179 Washington. Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

180
181 **Public Hearing Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 1.08.010 Res. 8-76**

182 Commissioner Branch opened the Public Hearing to staff. Esther Miner explained it is AN
183 ORDINANCE repealing Okanogan County Code (OCC) Chapter 1.08 County Classification,
184 Section 1.08.010 Official classification and population. Commissioner Branch closed the public
185 hearing to staff and the opened to the public. There was no public comment. Commissioner
186 Branch closed it to public and opened it to the Board of County Commissioners.

187
188 **Motion- Ordinance 2023.04 Repealing Okanogan County Code**

189 Commissioner Neal moved to approve Ordinance 2023.04 repealing Okanogan County Code
190 (OCC) Chapter 1.08 County Classification, Section 1.08.010 Official classification and population.
191 Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

192
193 **Public Hearing Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 1.24.010-Prisoners**

194 Commissioner Branch opened the Public Hearing to staff. Esther Miner explained it was AN
195 ORDINANCE repealing Okanogan County Code (OCC) Chapter 1.24 Prisoners, Sections
196 1.24.010 Working Prisoners and 1.24.020 Authority to Release. Commissioner Branch closed staff
197 and opened to public. There was no public comment. Commissioner Branch closed to public and
198 opened it to the Board of County Commissioners.

199
200 **Motion- Ordinance 2023.05 Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 1.24.010-Prisoners**

201 Commissioner Hover moved to approve Ordinance 2023.05 repealing Okanogan County Code

202 (OCC) Chapter 1.24 Prisoners, Sections 1.24.010 Working Prisoners and 1.24.020 Authority to
203 Release. Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

204

205 **Public Hearing Repeal Okanogan County Code Chapter 1.28 General Penalty**

206 Commissioner Branch opened the Public Hearing to staff. Esther Miner explained it is AN
207 ORDINANCE revising Okanogan County Code (OCC) Chapter 1.28 General Penalty, Section
208 1.28.010 Designated. Commissioner Branch closed to staff opened to public. There was no public
209 comment. Commissioner Branch closed to public and opened it to the Board of County
210 Commissioners.

211

212 **Motion- Repeal Okanogan County Code Chapter 1.28 General Penalty**

213 Commissioner Neal moved to approve Ordinance 2023.6 revising Okanogan County Code (OCC)
214 Chapter 1.28 General Penalty, Section 1.28.010 Designated. Motion was seconded. All were in
215 favor. Motion carried.

216

217 **Public Hearing Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 2.08 Fair Association**

218 Commissioner Branch opened the Public Hearing to staff. Esther Miner explained Ordinance
219 2023.08 is AN ORDINANCE repealing Okanogan County Code (OCC) Chapter 2.08 County Fair
220 Association, Section 2.08.010 Created – Powers and duties. Commissioner Branch closed to staff
221 and opened to public. There was no public comment. Commissioner Branch closed it to the public
222 and opened it to the Board of County Commissioners.

223

224 **Motion- Repeal Okanogan County Code Section 2.08 Fair Association**

225 Commissioner Hover moved to approve Ordinance 2023.08 repealing Okanogan County Code
226 (OCC) Chapter 2.08 County Fair Association, Section 2.08.010 Created – Powers and duties.
227 Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

228

229 **PH to Repeal OCC Section 2.42 Indemnification of County Personnel for Insurances**

230 Commissioner Branch opened the Public Hearing to staff. Esther Miner explained Ordinance
231 2023.11 is an ORDINANCE repealing Okanogan County Code (OCC) Chapter 2.42
232 Indemnification of County Personnel for Insurance Purposes and Section 2.42.010 County
233 employees held harmless. Commissioner Branch closed to staff and opened it to the public. There
234 was no public comment. Commissioner Branch closed to the public and opened it to the Board of
235 County Commissioners.

236

237 **Motion- Indemnification of County Personnel for Insurance Purposes**

238 Commissioner Neal moved to approve Ordinance 2023.11 repealing Okanogan County Code
239 (OCC) Chapter 2.42 Indemnification of County Personnel for Insurance Purposes and Section
240 2.42.010 County employees held harmless. Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion
241 carried.

242

243 **Discussion Blake Refund Bureau-Reallocation of Money-Superior Court Clerk**

244 Commissioner Branch received an email from March 14th at 11:25 from Shannon Swanson from
245 Washington Courts requesting to see if Okanogan County would consider readjusting the county's
246 funds to give another county. She wanted to discuss with him the need for the Blake Refund
247 Bureau to reallocate some of the monies appropriated for Okanogan County. Previously, AOC
248 entered into a reimbursement agreement with each of the 39 counties. They allocated monies for
249 the repayment of LFOs and for any extraordinary costs associated with the processing of Blake
250 related vacates.

251

252 To date, they have not received a request for reimbursement from Okanogan County. They do
253 have other jurisdictions that are running low on their funds and wanted to request a readjust of
254 the monies appropriated to Okanogan County for extraordinary expenses, \$454, 200 and subtract
255 \$130,000 for AOC to apply to other accounts. That would leave Okanogan County with a total of
256 \$559, 784 for LFO reimbursements and \$324,000 for extraordinary expenses.

257
258 County Clerk, Susan Speiker, explained that she should have hard number by Friday to see if the
259 County could accommodate some of Ms. Swanson's request. Ms. Speiker also wanted to let the
260 commissioners know that after June 30th, they would be starting another contract for the Blake
261 Refund Bureau.

262
263

264 **Discussion Fairgrounds Race Horse Barns-Naomie Peasley**

265 Fairground Manager, Naomie Peasley, explained that Race Horse Barns at the north end of the
266 Fairgrounds will take 10 to 12 weeks to receive. The fairgrounds will need to purchase stain as
267 well, so that is an additional cost. We do have a letter from Boots and Saddle.

268
269 Commissioner Hover read the following minutes:

270 Back on October 3rd 2017, Richard Wilcox and Bob Wall from the Lumbering Employees Trust
271 (Sawdust Makers Union) came in to discuss the 20-year-old Lumbering Employees Trust donation
272 of \$100,000 to the Fairgrounds for an indoor riding arena. Mr. Wilcox explained he contacted
273 several of the union members discussed with them the release of the funds. He said not all of the
274 7 remaining members were available, but he did have several signatures from: Betty Smith,
275 Richard Cook, Tom Gallagher, and Bob Wall plus he checked with attorney Ted Reinbold about
276 a letter Rob Reinbold drafted about release the fund restrictions. The letter stated the funds were
277 to be used for public purpose and not for profit only and not benefit any members financially.
278 However, the letter burned when Frank Carpenter's house burned.

279
280 When the members were contacted, most members thought the best use of the funds would be
281 a new cover for the grandstands, but they would like to release the money to the commissioners
282 and fair board. Mr. Wilcox called the original members and spoke to most of them. The members
283 are Anne Fleming, Betty Smith, Richard Cook, Frank Carpenter, Shag Hauf, Tom Gallagher, and
284 Gene Gates. There was a question about whether or not Ted Olson was a member.

285
286 The commissioners explained the county's Civil Deputy would need to be consulted with on this
287 matter. The commissioners reviewed resolution 54-2004 which originally accepted the donation
288 and outlined the Statement of Purpose and Conditions of the Donation. We need to ensure the
289 funds entrusted to the county are handled properly.

290
291 Commissioner Hover stated the cover over the grandstands would be a wonderful use of the
292 money. However, we do need new grandstands first. The commissioners thanked the men for
293 coming in and discussing this.

294
295 After discussion, the commissioners requested Ms. Peasley to seek permission from Rob
296 Reinbold and Anne Fleming. Once received permission for the funding, reach out to the Civil
297 Deputy to make sure we have our ducks in a row.

298
299 **Discussion-2022 Arbitrage Compliance Services Agreement-Pam Johnson**

300 Treasurer, Pam Johnson, provided the commissioners engagement letter for the 2022 Arbitrage
301 Compliance Services Agreement and needed direction if the commissioners would like to sign
302 the agreement or would they like her to.

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Motion

Commissioner Hover moved to authorize, Okanogan County Treasurer, Pam Johnson, to sign the engagement letter for the 2022 Arbitrage Compliance Services Agreement. Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The board adjourned at 3:45 p.m.