

1 **RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

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3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

4  
5 **MARCH 29, 2022**  
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9 **8:15 AM Update-Superior Court-Judge Chris Culp, Admin. Dennis Rabidou**

10 **9:00 AM Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

11 **10:00 AM Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)**

12 **11:00 AM Update Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson**

13 **1:30 PM Public Comment Period**

14 **To Follow Commissioners to set Wednesday's Agenda by 1:30 PM**

15 **To Follow Approve Commissioner Proceedings- March 21,22,23**

16 **To Follow Approve Consent Agenda**  
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18 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a Public Hearing at 123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North,  
19 Okanogan, Washington on March 29, 2022 with Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Vice-  
20 Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro; and the Clerk of the  
21 Board, Laleña Johns, present.  
22

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

26 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve today's agenda. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,  
27 motion carried.  
28

29 **Update-Superior Court-Judge Chris Culp, Admin. Dennis Rabidou**

30 Judge Chris Culp, Dennis Rabidou  
31

32 Mr. Rabidou updated the board on several items.

33 Another Break-in at the new Justice building happened to the Forest Service portion of the building  
34 with reserve fuel being taken. Commissioners asked for three proposals for a security system to  
35 review and discuss.  
36

37 A draft resolution was reviewed by the board to transfer the Juvenile Dept. 2016 Ford Interceptor  
38 SUV to the Sheriff's office for administrative fleet replacement purchase. Commissioner Hover  
39 asked that all vehicle titles be brought to the commissioners' office for safekeeping. Mr. Rabidou  
40 stated his disagreement. Commissioner Hover would like to discuss this further with the county  
41 auditor. Judge Culp said it has to do with Superior Court being a separate branch of government.  
42 The commissioners are responsible for all county assets including county owned vehicles.  
43

44 A draft resolution to authorize Judicial Assistant II positions was reviewed. Judge Culp explained  
45 the positions have not been reviewed in over ten years. It is appropriate to establish JA II's  
46 because current JA's have been with Superior Court for many years and have maxed out their  
47 step increases so this is an ideal time to consider moving them to the JA II positions. New staff  
48 would still start at JA I. Judge Culp compared the JA II positions to para legal positions.  
49 Commissioner Hover asked about the grade 22 step 4 request. Mr. Rabidou explained there  
50 would be very little impact on the current budget. Commissioner Hover is comfortable authorizing  
51 at step 3 rather than step 4. Mr. Rabidou requested consideration for those JA's whose  
52 anniversary date is coming up. Mr. Rabidou explained the required proficiency test and the above

53 acceptable standards in order to be eligible for the advancement. Judge Culp thanked the  
54 commissioners for their consideration in equalizing employee salaries.  
55

56 Commissioner Hover stated the bond payment is coming in April, so the contract with Beaman  
57 Architecture could be drafted for consideration. The construction portion of the remodel of the  
58 Justice Center isn't planned for another two years. A meeting with the Architect should be held  
59 first. This is Judge Culp's last day. Commissioners thanked him for his service.  
60

61 **Discussion-Commissioners**

62 The Clerk of the Board discussed moving forward with the legal review of the county code by  
63 Code Publishing/General Code. She explained Chapter 2.96 regarding the Tourism Advisory  
64 Board (TAB) was not updated when the new Lodging Tax Rules were adopted by the county in  
65 2014. Commissioners discussed code changes that would include changes regarding the criminal  
66 penalties to civil penalties of enforcement within the code. Commissioner Branch discussed Public  
67 Health code and suggested how to deal with it within the county code as the board considers legal  
68 review and recodification.  
69

70 **Motion Code Legal Review**

71 Commissioner Branch moved to go forward with the legal review of the county code as proposed  
72 by Code Publishing/General Code. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried. The  
73 Clerk of the Board will present a modified scope of work for board authorization once it is received.  
74

75 Commissioner Branch discussed a group that is assembling to discuss the county's animal code  
76 as they wish to establish shelter provisions and other animal control mechanisms. The Sheriff's  
77 office would need the capacity to do the work. The group was told by the Sheriff's office that there  
78 is not an assigned animal control officer. Commissioner Hover suggested Deputy David Yarnell  
79 discuss the details of animal control with the group.  
80

81 Commissioner Hover said a Twisp River area resident requested that a small area be removed  
82 from the stock restricted designation because they want to graze their cattle in the areas without  
83 restrictions.  
84

85 **Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

86 Pete Palmer, Joe Poulin  
87

88 Mr. Poulin explained the decommissioning of the courthouse boiler fuel tank is happening today.  
89 The well pump went out on the geo thermal system due to having no alarms as a squirrel short  
90 circuited the power in the conduit. An HVAC compressor went out in dispatch. It is an older unit  
91 and uses the old freon. There are power lines in the way for the removal so does the board wish  
92 to replace all four units on the roof at the same time? Some serve the jail. There are ten units on  
93 the VG building. DIVCO is working up a quote to replace all the old systems at around \$250,000.  
94 Commissioner Hover said we should start phasing them out doing one per year since the cost is  
95 too high to do all at once. Mr. Poulin will request a quote for one and for four. Commissioner  
96 Branch suggested a prioritized replacement program. The Dude is assessing the systems.  
97

98 Planning Director Palmer provided her update. The Planning Commission met had annual  
99 elections with Albert ending up being Chair with George Thornton being voted as vice-chair. There  
100 were issues discussed of their concerns with zone code update periodic review, cannabis code  
101 etc... Gave the commission a copy of their by laws with examples of parliamentary procedures  
102 from MRSC and Jurassic Parliament that they can review and come up with additional policy.  
103 There seems to be some static going on there, said Director Palmer. She doesn't have authority

104 over the board and doesn't want to tell them what to do. Commissioner Branch suggested there  
105 be a section on the agenda for the Director so they are not surprised. She will suggest that to  
106 them. Overall it was a good meeting last night. She is preparing what is coming down the pipe for  
107 them to do. Is there a list of priorities? Yes. There are also suggestions from Futurewise and  
108 others that are pretty consistent with the survey with four or five priorities to be addressed rapidly.  
109

110 The state has responded to the letter sent regarding cannabis operations not having valid county  
111 addresses. A meeting is scheduled between the state cannabis employees and county staff.  
112

113 Discussed requests for draft maps and working documents. Commissioner Hover suggested the  
114 process be discussed with Chief Civil as to what is disclosable. It is complicated.

115 Discussed Planning Dept. file storage as 130 boxes will be moved to retention. For additional file  
116 storage, the Clerk of the Board suggested the file room in the basement for some of the planning  
117 files. Commissioner Branch thought the original idea using space for meetings and trainings would  
118 be good. Commissioner Hover said arrangements for storage will be made.  
119

120 Director Palmer stated there needs to be a trails person to replace the work and coordination  
121 provided by Ted Murray who has retired. She said her current staff does not have the time. She  
122 said this should go back under Public Works as it was several years ago. Commissioner Branch  
123 said a discussion with Public Works will identify what they are capable of.  
124

125 Applications being reviewed by the board need to come back to the Planning office since Planning  
126 is getting calls. Commissioner Branch is done reviewing them.  
127

#### 128 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)**

129 Commissioner Branch moved to go into executive session till 10:20 am inviting Chief Civil Deputy  
130 Milner and Planning Director Palmer to discuss RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Motion was seconded, all  
131 were in favor, motion carried.  
132

133 Executive session was extended another 15 minutes.  
134

135 Executive session ended at 10:35 a.m. no decisions were made.  
136

#### 137 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.100(1)(g)**

138 Commissioner Branch moved to go into executive session until 11:00 a.m. to discuss RCW  
139 42.30.110 (1)(g) review of the performance of a public employee. Motion was seconded, all were  
140 in favor, motion carried.  
141

#### 142 **Update Public Works-Engineer Josh Thomson**

143 Engineer Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there.  
144

145 Commissioner Hover stated he asked Engineer Thomson to put the NC WATV Club ATV routes  
146 request onto a GIS map.  
147

148 *Maintenance & Road Conditions:* Engineer Thomson stated there are many road restrictions  
149 being lifted.  
150

151 *Havillah Rd Speed Limit/Tonasket Signs:* Engineer Thomson is working with the City of Tonasket  
152 as they are looking at installing a radar sign at Pivotal Rd. There is a 35-mph sign that does not  
153 have an ordinance attached to it, but looking at placing it further out.  
154

155 Commissioner DeTro was requested to have the Green Acres Road speed limit lowered as people  
156 are going 80 miles per hour and the traffic at lunch is heavy and fast. The road could be on the  
157 list to be considered soon. Guidelines will be developed, said Engineer Thomson. Commissioner  
158 Branch thought it might be opportunity to create some conditions for those subletting their  
159 property.

160  
161 *Twisp Request to Extend Riverside Ave:* There is a small block that Methow Housing Trust is  
162 developing but they need two accesses. The next parcel over is our transfer station and a street  
163 was requested to be punched out to provide the needed access. Commissioner Hover stated  
164 Tonasket asked the board for access to the sports fields, but the county said no. Is it far enough  
165 away from the station not to impact future county needs? Engineer Thomson explained what could  
166 be included in the arrangement.

167  
168 *North Central Washington ATV Club-WATV Routes Request:* Some of the listed roads requested  
169 to be opened are above 35 mph. Legislature did not pass rules to address this year.  
170 Commissioners discussed variable speed limits. These will be mapped out to see what it looks  
171 like.

172  
173 *Public Works Admin Building Window Replacement:* Zero bids were received for this project due  
174 to businesses being shorthanded and supplies short.

175  
176 *OCOG Planning & Support:* RFP that would do the management work, but zero response. A  
177 county position was suggested such as a Transportation Planner might be a better way to handle  
178 the work. It would be paid with OCOG funds. It would not fully fund the position, however.  
179 Commissioner Branch thought the position could be combined with the Parks and Trails planning  
180 work. Commissioner Hover thought those go hand in hand anyway. Engineer Thomson said it  
181 makes sense. Commissioners suggested this be brought to the OCOG and Human Resources.

182  
183 *Fire District #6 Mazama Well:* Still working with the district on this and what they want to do.

184  
185 *B-4 Bridge Replacement:* Contractor will pretty much be done in May.

186  
187 *Area 3 & 5 Shops:* Moving ahead with septic designs. Working on permitting and advertising.  
188 Accepted offer to fill GIS position. Four good applications were received.

189  
190 *Consent Agenda:* Engineer Thomson listed the items for approval.

191  
192 Commissioner Hover discussed using the Mazama Water Quality fund for the Methow Watershed  
193 work.

194  
195 Working on Interlocal agreements with Stevens County. Chelan County is working on an update  
196 to the interlocal agreement for Antoine Cr Rd.

197  
198 Will be gone next week during Spring Break.

199  
200 Recessed until 1:30 p.m.

201  
202 **Public Comment Period**  
203 No public provided comment.

204  
205

206 **Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners**  
207 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those  
208 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a  
209 list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to  
210 approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$279,694.62. Warrant numbers as cited on the  
211 attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

212  
213 **Motion Public Health Voucher**  
214 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers  
215 in the amount of \$4,024.70. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list. Motion  
216 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

217  
218 **Commissioners to set Wednesday's Agenda by 1:30 PM**  
219 Commissioners discussed business to discuss on Wednesday and decided there was none.  
220 Thursday's Special Meeting is at 6:00 p.m.

221  
222 **Approve Commissioner Proceedings- March 21,22,23**  
223 Commissioners wanted more time to review the meeting minutes and did not approve at this time.

224  
225 **Motion Resolution 41-2022 Authorizing Vehicle Transfer Juvenile to Sheriff**  
226 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 41-2022 authorizing a 2016 Ford Interceptor  
227 SUV vehicle to be transferred from the Juvenile Dept to the Sheriff's Dept. Motion was seconded,  
228 all were in favor, motion carried.

229  
230 **Motion Resolution 42-2022 Authorizing SC Judicial Assistant II Positions**  
231 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 42-2022 which creates Judicial Assistant II  
232 positions within the Superior Court. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

233  
234 **Motion Employment Agreement Susan Baur**  
235 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Employment agreement between Okanogan County  
236 and Susan Baur. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

237  
238 **Motion Interagency Agreement WSU Extension**  
239 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the interagency agreement to formalize a continued  
240 joint funding relationship between WSU Extension and Okanogan County. Motion was seconded,  
241 all were in favor, motion carried.

242  
243 **Motion WSU Appendix A**  
244 Commissioner Branch moved to authorize the chairman's signature on Appendix A of the above  
245 agreement between WSU and Okanogan County to memorialize the 2022 annual funding of the  
246 Administrative Professional. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

247  
248 **Letter WSLCB -Buddha Buds LLC**  
249 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the letter to Washington State Liquor and Cannabis  
250 Board regarding the approved application of Buddha Buds LLC for marijuana license. Motion was  
251 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

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257 **Letter WSLCB Sativa LLC**  
258 Commissioner Branch moved to sign the letter to Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board  
259 regarding the disapproval and objection of Sativa LLC's application for marijuana license due to  
260 invalid location address. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

261  
262 **Approve Consent Agenda**  
263 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve to approve the consent agenda items 1-7 as presented.  
264 Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 265 1. **Cattleguard Franchise Renewals 2022: Gebbers Farm Inc. CGF# 01-02; Gebbers Farm Inc. CGF# 03-07;**  
266 **Gebbers Farm Inc. CGF# 34-73; Oberg Bros. CGF# 48-73; Oberg Bros. CGF # 49-73; Oberg Bros. CGF# 50-73;**  
267 **BIA Range, M.P. CGF# N-73; BIA Range, M.P. CGF# 02-02; BIA Range, M.P. CGF# N-171; BIA Range, M.P. GF#**  
268 **1-81; BIA Range, M.P. CGF# N-189; BIA Range, M.P. CGF# N-209; BIA Range, M.P. CGF# N-41**
- 269 2. **Contract-2022 Liquid Asphalt- Idaho Asphalt Supply, Inc.**
- 270 3. **Digital Submittal Certification- 2021 County Road Administration Board Reports-CRAB**
- 271 4. **Approve- Agency Agreement & Prospectus-Cameron Lake Road 2020 Fire**
- 272 5. **Approve- Agreement-Terminate Contract Re-Bid 2022 Gravel Crush Project- Public Works**
- 273 6. **Special Occasion Liquor License- Okanogan County Fairgrounds-5/19,6/6,7/21/2022- Marilyn**  
274 **Taylor**
- 275 7. **Contract-Legal Printing 2022-2023-Okanogan Valley Gazette-Tribune & Methow Valley News**

276  
277  
278 Commissioners discussed a need to revisit premium pay using ARPA funds. Commissioner  
279 Branch suggested revisiting guidance from WSAC to confirm.

280  
281 The board adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

282  
283