

1 **RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

2
3 **OKANOGAN COUNTY**

4
5 **NOVEMBER 6, 2018**
6

7
8 9:00 AM Commissioners' Staff Meeting
9 10:00 AM Update –Human Resources & Risk Management
10 10:45 AM Public Hearing- Supplemental Appropriation-Homeless Housing Fund 142
11 10:50 AM Public Hearing-Supplemental Appropriation-Various Funds
12 11:00 AM Public Hearing Dual Use Roads to Snowmobiles-JoAnn Stansbury
13 To Follow Update-Public Works-Josh Thomson, Ben Rough
14 1:30 PM Citizens Comment Period
15 2:00 PM Budget Work Session Commissioners' & Misc Funds
16 3:30 PM Budget Work Session –District Court
17 4:30 PM Approve Consent Agenda
18

19 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners' met for its regular session on November 6,
20 2018, with Chairman, Commissioner Jim DeTro; Vice Chair Commissioner Chris Branch;
21 and Laleña Johns, Clerk of the Board, present.
22

23 Commissioner Hover was absent today due to attending to personal business. George
24 Thornton, member of the public, taking notes for Okanogan Watch Group.
25

26 **Commissioners' Staff Meeting**

27 David Gecas, Stella Columbia and Director Perry Huston were present.
28

29 David Gecas updated the board on legal matters he is involved in. He explained the public
30 records requests he is responding to. Mr. Gecas inquired about the scoping notice. Director
31 Huston replied it has been published in the newspaper of record which started the 45 day
32 comment period. Mr. Gecas stated an executive session would be needed later today to
33 update the board on legal matters.
34

35 Stella Columbia updated the board on the fairgrounds well drilling project which started this
36 week by Hubbards Well Drilling Company. This weekend is the last event scheduled for a
37 while. The Wenatchee Valley College requested use of the Agriplex in January for a roller
38 skating event focusing on homelessness. The decision has not been made yet by the
39 college for the use. The Wine and Cheese event went well with the decorations being the
40 highlight. The disco ball was a real hit.
41

42 The Planning Department Administrative Secretary position received many applicants so
43 interviews will begin for that position soon.
44

45 An agreement was drafted between the County and Okanogan County Conservation
46 District. It will be presented for commissioners' signature in the near future. The permit and
47 deed was discussed with regard to the TV District #1 site on Pickens Mt. Mr. Gecas
48 discussed the statutes giving authority to TV District #1. With only two members of the five
49 member board there isn't enough members to give authority for the transfer of the property
50 to the county.

51 The Clerk of the Board updated the board on matters that need further direction from the
52 board. Forest Service requested use of the Virginia Grainger parking lot.

53
54 Joe Poulin updated the board on surplussed metal desks that will be disposed of that were
55 not sold at auction. MS. Columbia stated instead of disposing of a few of the desks, she
56 proposed using them in the commercial building as a flat surface for projects etc.... The
57 irrigation system will be winterized. B&B will likely be called in for the service. She will work
58 with Mr. Poulin regarding the security cameras.

59
60 **Update –Human Resources & Risk Management**

61 Tanya Craig and Debi Hilts were present.

62
63 Ms. Craig updated the board on Risk Management issues. She stated she has been
64 receiving comments on the county’s insurance comparison from employees but today is the
65 last day to comment so she can compile them for dissemination. She explained an accident
66 happened when a Sheriff Deputy backed into another vehicle.

67
68 Commissioner Branch asked about the status of the person who fell into the landfill trash
69 bin. Ms. Craig relayed the status of the situation. Commissioner Branch explained some of
70 the dangers that staff should be aware of. If addressed regularly by staff, may prevent
71 another from falling in.

72
73 Ms. Hilts reminded the board of annual evaluations that need to be turned in. Commissioner
74 Branch stated he is still working on them. Open enrollment has begun. She has spent some
75 time with departments providing Q & A. Ms. Craig will sit in during the Planning
76 Administrative Secretary position interviews on the 15th of November.

77
78 A request from the Forest Service to be able to park 2-4 FS vehicles in the Virginia Parking
79 lot was relayed to Ms. Craig. There is the snow plowing issue with piling snow on the
80 Western and Southern edge of the parking lot as well as the liability issue of leaving the
81 Forest Service and personal vehicles on the lot. An MOU would be drafted to lay out the
82 specific agreement and liability risks.

83
84 The Risk Pool will be onsite to perform appraisals of those county owned buildings worth
85 more than \$100,000.

86
87 **Public Hearing- Supplemental Appropriation-Homeless Housing Fund 142**

88 Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to staff, seeing no staff to testify he closed
89 staff and opened up to citizen comment, seeing no one wished to comment he closed public
90 comment and opened up to commissioner discussion.

91
92 **Motion Resolution 119-2018 Supplemental Appropriation-Homeless Housing Fund**
93 **142**

94 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 119-2018 a supplemental appropriation
95 within fund 142 in the amount of \$2750 to provide sufficient budget for remaining
96 expenditures. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

97 **Public Hearing-Supplemental Appropriation-Various Funds**

98 Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to staff, seeing no staff to testify he closed
99 staff and opened up to citizen comment, seeing no one wished to comment he closed public
100 comment and opened up to commissioner discussion.

101
102 Commissioner Branch discussed the source of revenue and what the funds will support.

103
104 **Motion Resolution 120-2018 Supplemental Appropriation-Various Funds**

105 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 120-2018 with in Current Expense in
106 the amount of \$240,790 which will be used for various purposes. Motion was seconded, all
107 were in favor, motion carried.

108

109 **Public Hearing Dual Use Roads to Snowmobiles-JoAnn Stansbury**

110 Josh Thomson, JoAnn Stansbury

111

112 Commissioner DeTro opened up the hearing to staff. Joanne Stansbury provided her staff
113 report on the proposal to allow certain listed roads to dual use for snowmobile use. She
114 explained the public notice process and where the postings were done. No comments have
115 been received.

116 Commissioner DeTro closed staff and opened up to citizen comment, seeing no one wished
117 to comment he closed public comment and opened up to commissioner discussion.

118

119 Josh Thomson stated the resolution is normally adopted annually, but the wording of this
120 resolution allows it to be in place until it changes.

121

122 **Motion Resolution 117-2018 Dual Use Roads to Snowmobiles**

123 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 117-2018 approving dual use roads to
124 snowmobiles from November 1 through April 1 annually. Motion was seconded, all were in
125 favor, motion carried.

126

127 **Update-Public Works-Josh Thomson, Ben Rough**

128

129 Josh Thomson provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there. (attached)

130

131 Highway 20 may stay open longer due to expected snow accumulation being later in the
132 year.

133

134 *Road Fund Budget and Level of Service*

135 Right now with levy shift and Statler bridge he has 3.7 beginning fund balance going
136 410,000 in the wrong direction leaving less funds to consider pit purchases. It brings up the
137 question of what we will do in the future to cut costs. Chip seal projects could be reduced
138 but it really should be on a 6-8 year rotation. Snow plowing services accumulate costs due
139 to over time, decreasing that would be changing our level of service. Expectations have
140 been made based on our level of service. If we reduce the level of service, we will get calls.
141 He asked for commissioners' opinion on whether to follow the policy which states plowing
142 occurs after 4 inches of snow accumulation

143

144 Commissioner DeTro explained the PUD Privilege tax will change soon due to being part of
145 the Wells Pool percentage. He believes we could expect to see another million in revenue

146 phased in for current expense. If we can hold the line there is light at the end of the tunnel
147 that will provide some relief where the county won't need to do the road levy shift.

148

149 *Public Works Admin Building Maintenance*

150 Engineer Thomson explained he would wait until the windows get replaced before providing
151 other maintenance to the building. Commissioner DeTro asked if the building qualified for
152 the PUD incentive program. Mr. Rough explained we would only qualify for insulation
153 incentive.

154

155 Pits for Road Materials was discussed.

156 *WATV Routes*

157 Engineer Thomson is working with Director Huston on this item. Commissioner DeTro
158 explained the list of roads the Tribe would consider for WATV use.

159

160 The Public Works items, listed on the consent agenda, were discussed. Engineer Thomson
161 explained on-call services and how those are secured.

162

163 Engineer Thomson explained he was asked to sit on a panel at the WSAC conference this
164 week.

165

166 Ben Rough provided his agenda and discussed the items listed there. (attached)

167

168 Open position status for M2 truck drivers for Area 2 and winter temps was discussed. There
169 were a fair number of applications received.

170

171 Solid Waste Operator Mechanic position was discussed. He was requested to fill in a
172 position temporarily while the permanent employee is away. A resolution can be drafted to
173 memorialize the temporary situation. This will be an additional cost because the permanent
174 employee is still being paid and the temporary person would also be paid while filling in. He
175 would be very upfront with whoever is hired to fill the position. The budget impact should not
176 require a supplemental appropriation. It does create an additional position during that time.

177

178 This would be an additional temporary mechanic for solid waste division for the winter
179 season. Commissioner Branch would prefer the situation be authorized via resolution. Mr.
180 Rough stated he would draft one for today or next week.

181

182 *Finance Division Assistance*

183 Fine point on this determined the exact duties of the position. Back up to finance for
184 vacations busy times primarily focused on payroll, accounts payable, and solid waste cash
185 handling and cash flow in addition to administrative tasks for the Solid Waste manager. He
186 said the position would be similar to a clerk III position.

187

188 The public works fee schedule is on the consent agenda. He explained the fees and
189 changes and what was new in this schedule versus the last one. Implementation date would
190 be March 1, 2019, but Kent Kovalenko requested 90 days' notice for notification. March 1st
191 is well after the 90 days and will allow those affected to be notified.

192 Mr. Rough explained some complaints coming from the Public Health employees about the
193 building being cold and not maintained well. The department does have plans to address
194 the concerns.

195 **Citizens Comment Period**

196 Chris Fischer, WDFW

197

198 Mr. Fisher explained the requirements from the buyout and they paid entities to address
199 issues of instream dams. Tribe is a sub-contractor of Bonneville in order to meet their
200 obligation.

201

202 The tribe has been working on restoration actions in the tributaries of the Okanogan River. If
203 the mainstream of the river is too warm it can be lethal to the fish but the fish can use the
204 tributaries to cool down. He was informed and it has been discussed. The pit tags
205 information was provided to the commissioners' showing pit tag codes. (attached) it is down
206 loadable information. The info is used for special distribution. Not all fish are tagged. There
207 was a concern that they had done something to access Johnson Creek and that isn't true.
208 In 2013 the fish were already there before they did anything in 2016. The 2014 map showed
209 detections as red dots. When the state looks at this they look at culverts that can pass a six
210 inch fish. Fish can project themselves quite a height and distance. The fish were detected
211 before the obstruction was removed. Mr. Fisher provided another map showing the
212 detections He has never released hatchery fish in Johnson Creek. They have had a fish in
213 Loup Loup creek spent 10 days there then went up Omak Creek then went into Johnson
214 Creek. They had no idea how wanderlust the steelhead fish are. They are ideo parody
215 spawn and come back a second or third time. The highway 97 culvert is the main
216 impediment. In the past there was concern about removing barriers. He has heard of the
217 concern. They have a conveyance system for water with no cost to them, and they appear
218 very content. He said contact the board members of Okanogan irrigation district. A project is
219 happening on North Fork of Salmon Creek for a 70cfs pipe to deliver more water for
220 irrigators. There is an estimated 340 acre feet that could be available to them with normal
221 snow pack and everyone wins in that situation. Commissioner DeTro asked if he was aware
222 of the dam in jeopardy, there is a concern about that. The Bureau has not made a decision
223 on that. He described a win win situation regarding the dam and ideas he relayed that he
224 thought would work.

225

226 Mr. Fisher feels like the tribe or him has been vilified untrustworthy etc.... everywhere he
227 steps he tries hard to make things whole. The stream irrigation intakes that were not in
228 compliance there were 143 and now they are all screened and in compliance.
229 Commissioner DeTro mentioned the Salmon Creek dump that was cleaned up and he
230 expressed thankfulness for the cleanup. Commissioner DeTro asked if Mr. Fisher was
231 aware of the land owners concern about the fish. Nonnative species in the creek are
232 German Brown, where Summer Steelhead is native, what happened to Salmon Creek?
233 They authorized a different bag limit. It is a liberal bag limit. It did get restrictive as to what
234 could be used to catch them they didn't want snags. Similar regulations would occur on
235 Johnson Creek. The tribe has not been in control of what happens to the German Brown.

236

237 Commissioner Branch said there is also the implication the tribe was trespassing. Mr. Fisher
238 said to his knowledge they always contacted the landowner to ask for permission. In 1998
239 Mr. Fisher said he was in the creek but it was unknown who actually owned the streambed
240 at that time. He said if anyone has questions or would like to discuss further he is open to it.

241

242 **Motion Executive Session**

243 Commissioner Branch moved to go into executive session at 2:05 p.m. for 20 minutes
244 inviting Chief Civil Deputy David Gecas and Perry Huston to discuss legal matters to which
245 the county may be a party. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

246
247 Director Huston relayed his research of the TV District #1 conveyance of property on
248 Picken's Mt. He said a permit was put through for Cell One. There did not appear to be
249 conditions or challenges regarding the property. David Gecas explained what his found in
250 statute regarding the dissolving of the district. The property reverts to the county when the
251 district is dissolved. The lease agreements for use of the site would need to be revamped.
252 Director Huston explained his interpretation of the statute. Mr. Thornton commented that the
253 county provide for continued maintenance of the site should it be reverted to the county and
254 used to generate revenue when the dissolves the district. The Clerk of the Board has
255 already requested from the District Secretary and remaining board members all contracts
256 and agreements, all paperwork yet to be finalized or filed, payroll status, and any other
257 items that are needed in order to wrap up the dissolution.

258
259 **Motion Resolution 121-2019 Authorizing a Temporary Position**
260 Commissioner Branch moved to approve resolution 121-2018 authorizing one additional
261 temporary operator mechanic in Public Works Solid Waste Division. Motion was seconded
262 all were in favor motion carried.

263
264 **~~CANCELLED Budget Work Session Commissioners' & Misc Funds~~**
265
266 **Budget Work Session –District Court**
267 Treasurer Leah McCormack, Cari Hall, Judge Grimm, Judge Short and Darla
268 Schreckengost were present.

269
270 The District Court 2019 budget 001.011 was reviewed and line items discussed. Jury and
271 Witness fee expenses were discussed. It was a line item several instances where the court
272 was unhappy when jurors were called in and the parties for various reasons were not able
273 come on the court specified date yet jurors came in and had to be paid. The two reasons
274 the budget is different is because of salaries and benefits and the jury & witness fee
275 expenses.

276
277 The Penalty Traffic Infraction revenue line was discussed. Ms. Schreckengost explained the
278 line was reduced because expected revenue was thought to be less. Judge Short stated
279 reduced revenue lines were due to state laws or bills that changed and are considered
280 unfunded mandates. Public defense costs were one of the top three issues being presented
281 during legislative session. It was uncertain whether the LFO Reimbursement would be
282 realized. It was meant to offset some of the other revenue reductions but it was being
283 recalculated by the state.

284
285 Judge Short explained his request for salary increase of the court admin. Internal and
286 external review regarding the court administrator position and it the external review of
287 comparable counties showed the average wage is 5314. The internal comparisons based
288 on chief officials includes chief deputy clerk in the clerk's office. He believed the fairness

289
290

291 pwas based on the requirements of the position. The \$5040 is what the chief deputy
292 positions earn and what is being requested for the court administrator. Currently the
293 administrator position earns \$4312 plus benefits. The overall annual impact for both
294 benefits and salary would be \$10,500, Ms. Hall stated.

295
296 Judge Grimm stated she oversees a staff of over 9 people, oversight responsibilities.

297
298 The Probation budget 111 was reviewed. Ms. Hall recommended there be more carryover
299 than \$598 going into January. It was recommended that number be adjusted. That is the
300 money used until regular revenue comes in.

301

302 **Approve Consent Agenda**

303 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-8. Motion was
304 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 305 1. Commissioners' Proceedings October 30 & 31, 2018
- 306 2. Contract-18-LTAC-022 Tonasket Chamber of Commerce \$2055
- 307 3. Agreement-Survey Services-Cameron Lake Road-Erlansen & Associates
- 308 4. Appointment Letter-Civil Service Commission-Celeste Pugsley
- 309 5. Resolution 114-2018 Fairgrounds Rental Fee Schedule
- 310 6. Resolution 115-2018 Additional Noxious Weed Field Inspector for Training
- 311 7. Resolution 116-2018 Public Works Fee Schedule
- 312 8. Resolution 118-2018 Public Works Organizational Chart

313

314

315

316 The board adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

317