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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

OCTOBER 24, 2022

8 **9:00 AM** Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda
9 **To Follow** Briefing Among Commissioners – Discuss Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedule
10 **9:15 AM** Public Comment Period
11 **9:30 AM** Commissioners Staff Meeting
12 **10:30 AM** Budget Work Session – Prosecutor – Albert Lin
13 **11:30 AM** Budget Work Session – Coroner – Dave Rodriguez
14 **1:30 PM** Budget Work Session – Planning – Pete Palmer
15 **2:30 PM** Budget Work Session – Noxious Weed – Larry Hudson
16 **3:00 PM** Budget Work Session – Building Department – Dan Higbee
17 **4:00 PM** Discussion – WSU Extension Staffing – Kayla Wells-Yoakum
18 **4:30 PM** Discussion – Surplus of Sheriff’s Vehicles – Undersheriff Culp

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a Public Meeting at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on October 24, 2022 with Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro; and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

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

Review Commissioners Agenda & Consent Agenda

Commissioners reviewed their agenda and consent agenda. The Clerk of the Board recommended reschedule of Wednesday’s budget work sessions since not everyone can attend that needs to attend.

Commissioner Hover updated the board on the Fair Convention attended last week. He said it is really geared towards the Fair Manager and provides guidelines for that responsibility.

The Clerk of the Board was notified this morning that the Planning Commission will now be meeting at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. for winter hours.

Commissioner Hover stated Lodging Tax Advisory Committee wanted to meet with OCTC on the county’s Destination Marketing Plan and provide direction they want the DMO to go. The Clerk of the Board will combine the annual OCTC meeting with the TREAD map training and she invite the LTAC, city chambers and VICs.

Briefing Among Commissioners – Discuss Individual Weekly Meetings & Schedule

Commissioners discussed their schedules.

Public Comment Period

Emily Sisson, member of the public, did not have comment today.

Commissioners Staff Meeting

Maurice Goodall, Pete Palmer

52 Ms. Naomie Peasley provided her fairgrounds update. She asked for guidance on how to move
53 forward with the sewer system there are two breaks that need to be dug up and replace T's that
54 are crushed. She provided some drawings showing sewer lines. Commissioners discussed the
55 drawings and where the issue was identified and how the repair is to be made. Does the board
56 want to approve surplus of the Mahindra Tractor towards a new tractor?
57

58 **Motion Tractor Trade In and Purchase**

59 Commissioner moved that Ms. Peasley work with Public Works Jerry Paul on the trade-in and
60 purchase of the John Deere equipment from Pape. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion
61 carried.
62

63 A budget supplemental will be needed. Additional interest revenue can be used. Commissioner
64 Hover said Boots & Saddle letter for \$30,000, and Sawdust maker funds \$100,000 so
65 commissioners will chat about where the other \$100,000 is to come from
66

67 Maurice Goodall explained his involvement at Nespelem and call outs for SAR on Sunday. He
68 has no other details. A fire on Benson Creek happened over the weekend and response went
69 well and fire was handled.
70

71 On Tuesday, the Corps of Engineers will be in Conconully and they will provide an update at
72 11:30 a.m. to the commissioners.
73

74 Mr. Goodall explained how disappointed he is at how bad the infrastructure is at the fairgrounds.
75 It is sad to see water allowed to drip down the wall and create rust spots in the new bathrooms is
76 disappointed. Valves get shut off or half shut off to create pressure, then there are valves no one
77 knows about that were previously marked but are no longer. Commissioner Hover said the
78 problem is maintenance crews come and go and the knowledge doesn't get passed on. He feels
79 things will get better.
80

81 Adjustment to the current Hearing Examiner contract was requested. Ms. Palmer is researched
82 who provides the services in Chelan, Douglas, and Grant for hearing examiner. Dan Beardslee is
83 currently Okanogan County Hearing Examiner services and his contract renews automatically.
84 Commissioner Hover said to out with RFQ for hearing examiner services because our current
85 examiner asked for a wage increase. Ms. Palmer will create the RFQ notice to be published.
86

87 The county prosecutor's office is providing public records training in December and she would
88 like all staff in her office to attend. Commissioner Branch stated any new elected official should
89 also attend.
90

91 Planning Commission is having Public Hearing for mapping correction and starting this month
92 they will be meeting at 6:00 p.m. from now on. The meeting notice was published in the newspaper
93 and on the planning website. Kickoff meeting November 1 with Oneza. The Shoreline Master
94 Program will follow before the Critical Areas can be worked on.
95

96 Ms. Angelina explained her concern about the "Patriot Group" and what they've manifested in
97 Okanogan County. They have access to the Omak school district, stopped critical race in the
98 school. She said how they are in the churches. She is concerned the group says they represent
99 people in the county but they do not represent her and people she knows. Commissioner Hover
100 said people can back whatever candidate they want. He isn't sure what kind of group they are.
101 Can a commissioner be part of the group and still represent the citizens in the county? Operation
102 Oath Hawk actively seeking elected officials to serve their group while they are at church. It is

103 illegal to seek membership while at church. Commissioner Branch said he will do some research
104 WSAC or MRSC to research the legalities.

105
106 Auditor Hall explained a district that is pushing back on submitting their budget by the deadline.
107 They have been difficult to work with. Commissioners set the date their budgets are due into the
108 county by. She reached out to the State Auditor about this. Commissioner Hover said if they don't
109 get their budget in by the required deadline, then the commissioners just won't pass it. It is their
110 problem, not the county auditor's problem.

111
112 Levy certification is to be completed on or before November 30th, the budgets are separate and
113 different, and many think the two are due at the same time.

114 115 **Budget Work Session – Prosecutor – Albert Lin**

116 Auditor Hall, Treasurer McCormack, Lisa Schreckengost, Prosecutor Lin, Christa Levine

117
118 The group reviewed the prosecutor's 2023 revenue and expenditure budgets. Resolution 88-2022
119 was reviewed as was RCW 36.17.020 which described the way the prosecutor's salary is derived.
120 It is very confusing the way it is set up now. Commissioner Hover explained the increase from
121 this year to next year and what portion the state contributes versus the what the county
122 contributes. Prosecutor Lin is concerned about future elected's because we are falling behind.
123 Okanogan County salary is higher. He suggested changing the county's share compared to other
124 counties of similar nature. The Prosecutor's salary should be adopted by its own resolution and
125 tie it to the judge's resolution so it changes when theirs change. Treasurer McCormack noted our
126 comparable counties Kittitas and Mason prosecutor wage is \$203,169 and Okanogan County's
127 prosecutor is paid \$50,000 less at \$159,356.

128
129 Auditor Hall said this discussion about the prosecutor's salary should be continued to a different
130 meeting as a resolution will be needed once a decision has been made on the particulars.

131
132 The group discussed purchasing a pallet of paper to get a better price or ordering from the state
133 contract. Budget for upgraded tables and chairs is new and so old will be replaced with new a
134 little bit each year.

135
136 The \$100,000 professional services-civil budget was reviewed as big things are going on we need
137 budget for to get us through the litigation. Commissioner Branch suggested an additional \$50,000.

138
139 Purchase of new cell phones were added to the budget.

140
141 The group will look at the budget for Fund 129 Crime Victims and will let the prosecutor know of
142 any changes.

143 144 **Budget Work Session – Coroner – Dave Rodriguez**

145 The group reviewed the Coroner's revenue and expense budgets. Coroner Rodriguez explained
146 a request for deputy coroner position which would affect his current budget. An additional budget
147 for training, exempt salary, vehicle, and other ancillary costs was shown. There are multiple
148 classification tests and this would fall under a professional exemption. The nature of the job, does
149 not fit within an hourly job designation.

150
151 On schedule for the Sheriffs equipment and Coroner Shed build.

152

153 Coroner Rodriguez explained that authorizing a deputy would allow coverage when he takes time
154 off. It will also help with succession training since no one can just come in and do his work. A
155 vehicle estimate was \$71,000 plus the upfit.

156

157 The group discussed whether the deputy position would be exempt or not.

158

159 **Motion**

160 Commissioner Branch moved that Coroner Rodriguez work with HR to develop the deputy
161 coroner job application and description. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

162

163 The commissioners recessed until 1:30 p.m.

164

165 When the group came back Commissioner Hover discussed the fairgrounds tractor. He stated the
166 county wanted to trade it in towards a John Deere one. He consulted with Engineer Thomson on
167 the arrangement. He said the quote for the John Deere Tractor was under the Sourcewell
168 #110719-JDC which is a state cooperative buying contract. Many organizations use this over the
169 state contract between Deere and DES. The John Deere quote was submitted. (attached)

170

171 **Motion Accept John Deere Tractor**

172 Commissioner Branch moved to accept the John Deere Tractor quote from Pape in the amount
173 of \$44,559.76 before trade-in (\$10,440). Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

174

175 **Motion Mahindra Tractor**

176 Commissioner Branch moved to surplus the Mahindra Tractor towards the trade in cost for new
177 John Deere tractor and directed the Clerk of the Board to create the resolution to finalize the
178 arrangement. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

179

180 A budget supplemental will follow to complete the purchase.

181

182 **Budget Work Session – Planning – Pete Palmer**

183 Planner Rocky Robbins and striped shirt??

184

185 The group reviewed the planning department's 2023 revenue and expenditure budgets and the
186 group discussed the details with the department.

187

188 The Lake Management District is handled like other Jr. Districts where the commissioners adjourn
189 as the BOCC and reconvene as the Lake Management District to address that budget.
190 Commissioner Hover said if people are calling the Planning to be taken off the rolls, can the
191 planning also take care of the other public notices? Yes. Treasurer McCormack said her office
192 has many Jr. District to process and December is pretty late for this. The public hearing is on
193 December 6 to certify the roles.

194

195 **Budget Work Session – Noxious Weed – Larry Hudson**

196 The group went through the Noxious Weed 2023 revenue and expenditure budgets. Mr. Hudson
197 went through carryover funds reserved and unreserved. The Noxious Weed board is
198 recommending a levy increase for 2023 collections. The increase in collections is estimated to be
199 \$143,492. He would like to fill an assistant manager position and provide increase to employees.
200 He thought salary increase at 5% was reasonable.

201

202 Commissioner Hover asked if anyone uses the Weed Board for anything positive. Complaints are
203 the only thing he hears about. Some people do not believe they should pay the assessment.

204 There is another aspect that people are not understanding. The way it works is what people do
205 not understand. Treasurer McCormack explained miscellaneous assessments.

206
207 Commissioner Hover would like to revisit the budget until after the Noxious Weed Board holds
208 their public hearing on Wednesday, October 26 and compiles their recommendation for levy
209 increase.

210
211 **Budget Work Session – Building Department Fund 423– Dan Higbee**
212 The group looked over the 2023 Building Dept. revenue and expenditure budgets. Before building
213 staff retires the salary for additional staff for training purposes was discussed.

214
215 The costs to run the new building permit program is really unknown at this time. He hopes it will
216 be up and ready in 2023.

217
218 **Discussion – WSU Extension Staffing – Kayla Wells-Yoakum**
219 Kellie Conn, Shelley Keitzman

220
221 The group discussed the 4-H Coordinator wage question that Ms. Wells-Yoakum was here to
222 follow-up on for the WSU position. The county bills for the costs so it isn't actually a salary line. A
223 wage increase will be presented as attachment A for the BOCC budget consideration.

224
225 Commissioner Hover asked Ms. Keitzman to look into what category a deputy coroner salary
226 would fall, exempt or hourly, and work alternative schedules? Ms. Keitzman said if hourly there
227 could be a lot of overtime. An analysis of the position classification is going to be needed to
228 provide the most flexibility.

229
230 **Discussion – Surplus of Sheriff's Vehicles – Undersheriff Culp**
231 Commissioners reviewed a resolution that would surplus a Sheriff's vehicle that had been
232 wrecked and help with the upfit of the new vehicle. Undersheriff Culp said he wasn't 100% sure
233 but pretty sure the Geiko payment was receipted as Ms. Everett handled it. He further explained
234 the arrangement with the company for the vehicle and it will help pay for the new one and its
235 retrofit. He should have come to the board before now to have the commissioners' surplus the
236 vehicles. The surplus value will go towards the upfit of the new car.

237
238 Undersheriff Culp said there is a receipt for the reinvoice from the vendor and for the sale of the
239 vehicle.

240
241 Commissioners discussed holding the public hearing to surplus the equipment because its value
242 is above \$2500 and the cost is not going towards the exact like item.

243
244 **Motion Resolution 152-2022 Authorizing Building Dept**
245 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 152-2022 authorizing a temporary building
246 position for training. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

247
248 **Motion Oroville Rural EMS District**
249 Commissioner Hover moved to adjourn as the BOCC and reconvene as the Oroville Rural EMS
250 District. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

251
252 Commissioner Hover moved to approve the Voucher certification and authorize the Oroville Rural
253 EMS District voucher for auditor assessment to be paid in the amount of \$1,973.70. Motion was
254 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

255
256 Commissioner Hover moved to adjourn as the Oroville Rural EMS District and Reconvene as the
257 BOCC. Motion was seconded all were in favor, motion carried.

258
259 **Motion - Voucher Approval #1- Commissioners**

260 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those
261 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a
262 list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to
263 approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$1,346,915.85. Warrant numbers as cited on the
264 attached blanket voucher list and here CE: 216642-216770, PW: 216600-216641. Motion
265 seconded and carried.

266
267 **Motion - Voucher Approval #2 - Commissioners**

268 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those
269 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a
270 list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote, to
271 approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$14,376. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached
272 blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

273
274 **Motion Public Health Voucher**

275 Commissioner Branch moved to approve the Public Health Vouchers including regular vouchers
276 in the amount of \$14,701.79. Warrant numbers as cited on the attached blanket voucher list.
277 Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

278
279 Commissioners discussed the Oroville Similkameen trail clean up by the Oroville Initiative and their
280 request for reimbursement of the clean-up of garbage left by a "homeless" camp on the trail.
281 (attached) Commissioner Branch discussed location of temporary homeless camps by Community
282 Action Council.

283
284 The Clerk of the Board asked if letters of intent for ARPA funds should be drafted regarding the
285 cities the commissioners are allocating funds to. Yes.

286
287
288 The board adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

289