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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

OCTOBER 9, 2023

9:00 AM Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Agency Litigation-Esther Milner, Shelley Keitzman

9:15 AM Public Comment Period

To Follow Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda

9:30 AM Commissioners Staff Meeting

10:00 AM Discussion-Watershed Planning Appointment-County Commissioners

10:30 AM Continued Discussion-Zone Code Review-Planning Director Palmer

To Follow Briefing Among Commissioners-Discuss Weekly Meetings & Schedule

1:30 PM Budget Work Session-Infrastructure Fund 117-Cari Hall, Pam Johnson

2:30 PM Budget Work Session-Communications-Mike Worden

The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a regular meeting at 123 5th Avenue North, Okanogan, Washington on October 9, 2023 with Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Member, Commissioner Jon Neal; and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

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

Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Agency Litigation-Esther Milner, Shelley Keitzman

Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 9:02 a.m. until 9:17 a.m. inviting chief civil deputy Esther Milner and Risk Manager Shelley Keitzman to discuss RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Agency Litigation. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioners extended executive session at 9:17 a.m. for another five minutes until 9:22 a.m.

Public Comment Period

Emily Sisson via zoom had no public comment.

Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda

Commissioners reviewed their agenda and consent agenda.

Commissioners Staff Meeting

Planning Director Pete Palmer, Planner Rocky Robbins

Director Palmer explained the exceptional work Ms. Robbins has demonstrated for the Planning Department and the certifications achieved. Director Palmer submitted a resolution to reclassify Ms. Robbins to Senior Planner via resolution 137-2023 for commissioners' consideration.

Commissioner Hover asked about the Methow area water approval processes.

if there was anything asked about the water issues in the Methow and the time needed to get through site analysis and wondered what the commissioners need to do to help speed it along or can more info be provided to customers up front to let them know the time line. The only ones that take a long time are the reviews and those have more issues due to what they are trying to do and identify legal water. It also takes time for the applicant to provide the necessary documents. On the normal ones, 9 out of 10 are being processed in the 28 days. Under law the planning has 28 days from site analysis

54 to deeming it vested. There is usually a three-day turnaround from the time Director Palmer gets it and
55 the time it is passed to staff for processing. Commissioner Branch stated often time the surveyors are
56 the agent of the applicant and the information isn't always relayed to the landowner from the surveyor.
57 People don't understand that once documentation is provided, planners cannot drop everything they
58 are working on it has to wait until it gets to the top again. The surveyor can be involved as the person
59 in-between that doesn't convey the info along the way that the applicant and planner need.
60

61 Director Palmer let the board know about two upcoming comment periods for EIS one on the 17th
62 regarding extending the boundaries of Pearrygin lake state park and another on 30th on the release of
63 Grizzly Bears on the North Cascades Ecosystem. Does the board want her to provide comment?
64 Commissioner Hover would like to see the details on the Pearrygin state park proposal.
65

66 Commissioner Hover provided his opinion on the Grizzly bear EIS and 10 (J) rule. Commissioner
67 Hover stated he doesn't want to see them introduced. He also stated a grizzly bear was captured in
68 the Colville area.
69

70 Ms. Palmer discussed a Code amendment with stringent timelines and wants to make sure we are
71 meeting the timeline requirements. The planning office will be losing their secretary due to maternity
72 leave. The planning budget will need a supplemental due to 2023 contracts for costs of Modis and
73 access to Modis Cloud where things are stored and indexing is done properly. The budget of \$128,210
74 is short due to the contracts. A budget supplemental will be submitted to cover those costs. The 50%
75 Planning position for the Parks and Rec 50% will need to be budgeted in the Planning budget. The
76 other 50% will come from Parks and Rec 125 budget. Most of what Ted Murray did was cleaning up
77 of the paths and maintaining them. The history of the position was discussed. This needs to be
78 discussed further with Public Works, Planning and the commissioners to figure this out. Yes, discuss
79 at 11:00 tomorrow with Engineer Thomson.
80

81 Emergency Management Maurice Goodall stated burn restriction will lift on October 15th The fire
82 advisory committee will discuss before October 15.
83

84 Mr. Goodall updated the board on the fairgrounds as there is an ongoing issue with noise beyond the
85 required timeframe. The video pics of the grounds show the damages and disgusting mess left by the
86 renters. The upcoming events were told to get their own security instead of the county's contracted
87 security. The damage done to the building is a concern and with only \$250 damage deposit it won't
88 cover the cost of the damages, the renters did not have insurance. Why didn't the security protect the
89 grounds? Commissioner Branch stated the BOCC will need to review the contract and security
90 requirements. The dance permit allows certain things that the renters receive from the Sheriff, but all
91 should be consistent. Being a good neighbor in the neighborhood. Commissioner Branch asked that
92 these complaints come to the commissioners not just Mr. Goodall.
93

94 **Budget Work Session-Infrastructure Fund 117-Cari Hall, Pam Johnson**
95 Current Infrastructure funds has \$2,469,218.81 and includes cash on hand as well as investment.
96 The group discussed current expenses and revenues of fund 117. Ms. Johnson stated GO Bond being
97 paid from Fund 117 includes 08 Bond and Eastlake Sewer Loan.
98

99 We have a certain amount of cash on hand and obligations to figure out the carryover for 2024.
100

101 Commissioners discussed funding the .09 projects every three years, and holding money aside for
102 emerging opportunities annually. Keeping a two-year reserve payment amount, plus Infrastructure
103 projects.
104

105 Commissioner Hover stated to pay any invoices from Infrastructure project would take an act of the
106 BOCC to move the funds from a set aside fund to the fund number for the expense. This would be a

107 budget supplemental appropriation process; set a public hearing and the public can comment on it.
108 Allocate for each year as those come from the agency awarded. Reserve the committed money over
109 the three-year period for the awarded entity so they only request what they need and can't ask for
110 everything if its not needed. Commissioners need a written policy about how these funds will be
111 reserved for Infrastructure awarded projects year to year. The BOCC's intent is to commit funds for
112 future Emerging Opportunities, ranked Infrastructure projects and two years of bond payments.
113

114 Recitals in the resolutions that allocate funds to committed amounts will be very important. Auditor
115 Hall stated the revenue section of the committed fund categories will not be separated but will be in
116 the expenditure side. When allocating funds to ranked projects the Current year receipts are not
117 included so the fund builds back up over the three-year period.
118

119 Commissioner Branch asked about the status of the County's ARPA fund and what is left to allocate.
120 Commissioner Hover stated is was close to \$296,000 yet to be obligated.
121

122 The \$1 million for Broad band is split between each Methow and Okanogan for Broadband of \$500,000
123 each. ARPA contracts require entities to incur costs until October 24, 2024.
124

125 **Budget Work Session-Communications-Mike Worden**

126 Sheriff Budrow, Chief Communications Worden, Auditor Hall, Treasurer Johnson and Finance
127 Manager Schreckengost
128

129 The group reviewed Emergency Communications fund 161. Commissioner Hover went over the
130 revenues and expenditures to determine beginning fund balance. Changes were made as
131 requested.
132

133 Commissioner Hover left the office at 2:05 p.m. for personal business.
134

135 ~~**Discussion-Watershed Planning Appointment-County Commissioners**~~

136

137 **Continued Discussion-Zone Code Review-Planning Director Palmer**

138 Planning Director Pete Palmer and Chief Civil Attorney Esther Milner and the commissioners went
139 over the zone code and reviewed the documents. (attached)
140

141 The board adjourned at 3:36 p.m.