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**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

**OKANOGAN COUNTY**

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2022**

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8 **9:00 AM** Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda  
9 **9:15 AM** Public Comment Period  
10 **9:30 AM** Commissioners Staff Meeting  
11 **10:30 AM** Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)  
12 **11:00 AM** Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)  
13 **11:15 AM** Discussion- Resolution Consideration for RCW 4.96 – Esther Milner/Shelley Keitzman  
14 **11:30 AM** Update Fairgrounds – Naomie Peasley

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16 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met for a Public Hearing at 123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North,  
17 Okanogan, Washington on September 19, 2022 with Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover; Vice-  
18 Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch; Member; and the Deputy Clerk of the Board, Crystal  
19 Hawley, present.

21 Commissioner Jim DeTro was absent.

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

25 The pledge of allegiance was recited.

27 **Review Commissioners Agenda and Consent Agenda**

28 The commissioners review the agenda and consent agenda.

30 **Public Comment Period**

31 Emily Sisson, a member from the public was present.

33 Commissioner Hover opened public comment period.

35 Emily Sisson asked if commissioner DeTro was going to be in today? Commissioner Hover  
36 responded that he would not be in the office.

38 There was no other public comment.

40 **Commissioners Staff Meeting**

41 Planning Director, Pete Palmer, Emergency Management, Maurice Goodall were present for staff.

43 Emergency Management

44 Emergency Management, Maurice Goodall, provided the commissioners his department update.  
45 He explained he is looking into the CWDG USDA Community Wildfire Defense Grant with DNR.  
46 The CWDG is a federal grant program that is intended to help at-risk, local communities and tribes  
47 with planning for and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire. Applications are now open for  
48 the USDA Community Wildfire Defense Grants and must be submitted by October 5 at 8:00 p.m.

50 There are three types of projects for which the grant provides funding:

- 51 • The development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans
- 52 • The updating of Community Wildfire Protection Plans

- 53 • The implementation of projects described in a Community Wildfire Protection Plan and/or  
54 Hazard Mitigation Plan with a Wildfire Section that is less than ten years old.  
55 • Funding is not available for fire suppression training, equipment, or supplies.  
56

57 Mr. Goodall believes the county would qualify for a 50/50 match. Once he knows more information  
58 on this grant, he will let the commissioners know.  
59

60 Mr. Goodall explained DNR has a meeting tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. If DNR lifts the band for  
61 campfires, Mr. Goodall would like to lift the same band as well. Commissioner Hover thought it  
62 would be good to make a resolution that go in conjunction with DNR for the future, so Mr. Goodall  
63 would be able to change it by resolution instead of coming to the commissioners every time. Mr.  
64 Goodall will find the correction language it needs to have on the resolution and get back to the  
65 commissioners.  
66

67 Mr. Goodall asked for direction on Fairgrounds, they are requesting him to help blow out the  
68 waterlines on October 19th and 20<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Hover would appreciate if Mr. Goodall would  
69 meet him at the fairgrounds those days. Commissioner Hover also asked if he could come up with  
70 list of things that need to be done every fall, so the fairgrounds would have a checklist.  
71

72 Planning Department

73 Planning Director, Pete Palmer provided a Fall 2022 Planning Commission Schedule and  
74 Statement of qualifications for Okanogan County zoning code review.  
75

76 Ms. Palmer would like direction on Tunk Basin water studies on density changes and mapping  
77 error. First public hearing will be the 1<sup>st</sup> week in October and the 2<sup>nd</sup> public hearing will be in the  
78 first week of November. Commissioner Hover asked Ms. Palmer to take it off the schedule until  
79 there was a time and day of those months.  
80

81 Update on the Advisory Committee- The county has received 10 complete applications.  
82

83 The Planning Department received the Statement of qualifications for Okanogan County zoning  
84 code review and update that was submitted by Oneza & Associates.  
85

86 **Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)**

87 Commissioner Branch moved to go into Executive Session for pending litigation under RCW  
88 42.30.110(1)(i) inviting Chief Civil Deputy, Esther Milner and HR Director/Risk Manager, Shelley  
89 Keitzman, until 10:45. Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion was carried.  
90

91 Commissioners extended Executive Session at 10:45 for ten more minutes.  
92

93 Executive Session ended at 10:55, with no decisions made.  
94

95 **Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)**

96 Commissioner Branch moved to go into Executive Session for potential litigation under RCW  
97 42.30.110(1)(i) until 11:15, inviting Chief Civil Deputy, Esther Milner and HR Director/Risk  
98 Manager, Shelley Keitzman, Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion was carried.  
99

100 Executive Session ended at 11:15 a.m. with no decisions made  
101

102 **Discussion – Consideration for RCW 4.96 – Esther Milner/Shelley Keitzman**

103 Chief Civil Deputy, Esther Milner and HR Director/Risk Manager, Shelley Keitzman were present.

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**Motion**

Commissioner Branch moved to approve the denial of defense letter to deny a defense to Isaiah Holloway. Okanogan County and Isaiah Holloway have been served with a civil complaint, 2:22-cv-00195-TOR, in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Washington. Isaiah Holloway is a past employee of Okanogan County. Motion was seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Update Fairgrounds – Naomi Peasley**

Fairground manager, Naomi Peasley provided the fairground update.

Ms. Peasley provided the commissioners Fair Food Vendor Contracts that were left on her desk over the fair weekend. She had asked if the commissioners would sign the Lifeline Ambulance Contract today, so she would be able to pay it right away.

**Motion- Lifeline Ambulance Contract**

Commissioner Branch moved to approve and authorized the chairman to sign the Lifeline Ambulance Contract providing transport coverage for fair. Motion was seconded. Commissioner Hover explained the contract amount was \$1,026. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

The Fair Advisory Committee still needs to pay \$13,667.41 in expenditures, that doesn't include \$14,000 for premiums. There was a budget supplement for the Fair Advisory Committee was submitted last week to cover those costs.

Ms. Peasley provided 35 pages of complaints from the public. The complaints are from the Fair Facebook's page, emails, and a survey that was put out. Last week she had forwarded all complaints to the Fair Committee, as well.

Ms. Peasley had applied a Washington State Fair Events Association Grant for fairground reimbursement of entertainment for \$15,000. The Fairground should receive the funds in November. She has also received nearly \$15,000 in donations and sponsors for the fair.

The fairgrounds have spent \$548,733.85 from Capital Improvement 134 for the fairgrounds.

The board adjourned at 11:55