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RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OKANOGAN COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

8 **8:15 AM** **Update-Superior Court/Juvenile-Dennis Rabidou**
9 **9:00 AM** **Commissioners' Staff Meeting**
10 **10:00 AM** **Review/Discuss RFQs-Courthouse Building Envelope Assessment-Cmrs**
11 **10:30 AM** **Discussion-Noxious Weed Staffing Request-Larry Hudson**
12 **11:00 AM** **Update Public Works- Engineer- Josh Thomson**
13 **1:30 PM** **Public Comment Period**
14 **2:00 PM** **Update Human Resources/Risk Management-Tanya Everett**
15 **2:30 PM** **Public Hearing- Budget Supplement Appropriation-Various**
16 **(Building, Planning, Homeless & Affordable Housing)**
17 **2:40 PM** **Approve Commissioners Proceedings September 1, 2021**
18 **2:45 PM** **Approve Consent Agenda**
19 **3:00 PM** **Quarterly Update-Tonasket Forest Service District- Ranger, Kathleen Johnson**
20 **4:00 PM** **Discussion-RBDG Fire Dist. #10 Fire Hall Feasibility Study**
21 **Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Nathan Wehmeyer**

23 The Okanogan County Board of Commissioners met in Regular session at 123 5th Avenue North,
24 Okanogan, Washington on September 7, 2021, with Chairman, Commissioner Chris Branch;
25 Member, Commissioner Jim DeTro and the Clerk of the Board, Laleña Johns, present.

26
27 AV Capture provided audio and video of the meetings held today, while ZOOM provided best
28 audio accessibility and public interaction.

29
30 Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Andy Hover was absent this week and will return on September 20.

31
32 **Update-Superior Court/Juvenile-Dennis Rabidou**

33 Superior Court Judge Chris Culp and Administrator Dennis Rabidou updated Commissioner Branch
34 on the courts' desire for the county to move forward with the purchase and remodel of the Forest
35 Service Building because the Agriplex will not work beyond January 2022. Judge Culp asked that
36 this meeting be rescheduled to September 21 due to no quorum today.

37
38 Commissioner Jim DeTro arrived at 8:35 a.m. after Superior Court left.

39
40 Commissioners are working with Emergency Management and Public Health to ensure a safe fair
41 this year. Commissioner Branch provided the public safety statement he prepared in favor of
42 educating people at the gate on the public safety protocols to follow. (attached)

43
44 **Staff Update**

45 David Gecas, Naomie Peasley, Pete Palmer

46
47 Attorney Gecas explained legal matters he is dealing with regarding resolution 443-2009 that he
48 said all three commissioners should be present to hear. He said additional matters regarding the
49 Comp Plan case should be discussed in Executive Session today.

50
51

52 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)**

53 Commissioner DeTro moved to go into executive session at 9:10 AM for 20 minutes inviting
54 Planning Director Pete Palmer, and Chief Civil Deputy David Gecas to discuss legal matters as
55 allowed under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

56

57 Commissioners exited executive session at 9:30 a.m. no decisions were made.

58

59 Ms. Peasley explained Tollefson and 24/7 donated the use of two tractors and a water truck for
60 use at fair. Additional contracts were submitted for commissioners' approval along with the special
61 fair AP vouchers. Commissioner Branch stated the board does not wish to cancel the fair in
62 response to public suggestions to cancel it due to COVID. Ms. Peasley said signs and all safety
63 protocols for COVID are being placed around the grounds.

64

65 Ms. Peasley said the Okanogan County Fair is setting a precedence for public health and safety
66 and being recognized nationally due to use of Ms. Peasley designs. Refunds to vendors who
67 cancelled their contract was discussed and whether refunds should be processed even though it
68 is after the deadline. Commissioner Branch and DeTro would like to wait and discuss with
69 Commissioner Hover. He was inclined to give the refunds.

70

71 Ms. Peasley stated she is tracking fair expenses and keeping COVID measures costs separated.

72

73 **Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners**

74 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those
75 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on
76 a list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote,
77 to approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$6,400. Warrant numbers as cited on the
78 attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

79

80 **Motion - Voucher Approval - Commissioners**

81 Vouchers certified and audited by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those
82 expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on
83 a list, and made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board did vote, by unanimous vote,
84 to approve the regular vouchers in the amount of \$75,218.98. Warrant numbers as cited on the
85 attached blanket voucher list. Motion seconded and carried.

86

87 **Review/Discuss RFQs-Courthouse Building Envelope Assessment-Commissioners**

88 The clerk of the board explained three responses were received on time for the Courthouse
89 Building Exterior Envelope assessment. Responses were received from:

90

91 Pioneer Waterproofing Company, Inc.

92 WJE

93 Cortner Architecture

94

95 The county's project consultant Russell Holter and the Clerk of the Board recommended Pioneer
96 Waterproofing based on experience and qualifications working with historical buildings.

97

98 Cortner Architecture responded that his company would prefer to assist the county's on-call
99 architect Beaman Architecture with the architectural design elements of the construction portion
100 of the scope of work.

101

102

103 **Motion**

104 Commissioner DeTro moved to accept Pioneer Waterproofing Company, Inc. response for RFQ
105 for the Courthouse Building Envelope Assessment. Motion was seconded, all were in favor,
106 motion carried.

107

108 **Discussion-Noxious Weed Staffing Request-Larry Hudson**

109 Noxious Weed manager Larry Hudson stated some changes in staffing that would provide training
110 and advancement to the field position going into 2022. The proposal was fully approved by the
111 Weed Board. Budget wise these proposals will help address the needs of the department.

112

113 **Motion Resolution 117-2021 Noxious Weed Field Technician**

114 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 117-2021 that converts the vacant Noxious
115 Weed Lead Field Technician position to a Field Technician position. Motion was seconded, all
116 were in favor, motion carried.

117

118 Mr. Hudson explained he worked with HR on some additional changes he'd like authorized for
119 2022 for a three-step position Field Technician, Field Technician II, and Field Technician III
120 and would allow people in those positions to add endorsements for educational purposes.

121

122 **Motion Resolution 118-2021**

123 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 118-2021 that will create three classifications
124 of Noxious Weed Field Technician. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

125

126 **Update Public Works- Engineer- Josh Thomson**

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

128

129 *Maintenance & Road Conditions*

130

131 *Fires*

132 Engineer Thomson said a meeting was set with officials to discuss the condition of county roads
133 after the fire. There are dead hazardous trees that need to be cleaned up along the road. The
134 trees on North Fork will need to come down to allow the county to plow the snow park in winter.
135 Cedar Creek is part of the FMAG, but Engineer Thomson is uncertain if Cub Creek fire met the
136 threshold.

137

138 *Bailey Creek Culvert @Aeneas Valley Rd*

139 Is in place and looking good. Will need to chip seal over it this week.

140

141 *Omak Mtn Rd August 2021 Traffic County @ MP 0.75*

- 142
- 143 • 86 ADT
 - 144 • Average Speed 29 mph
 - 144 • 85th percentile speed 42 mph

145 An extra ADT count was done and it was found to be fairly high.

146

147 *2022 Equipment Purchases*

148 Engineer Thomson explained he'd like to get started on next year's equipment orders because
149 trucks ordered last November are still not delivered. Commissioners were in favor of getting the
150 order started.

151

152

153 *Bridge B-4 Construction Begins October 4*
154 The bridge had settled over an inch in a week and so it is now closed.
155
156 *2021 Safety Call for Projects*
157 We have our first guardrail project on the south end of Cameron Lake Rd and Oroville that is out.
158 It will be a few more months to get all the paperwork gathered.
159
160 *Consent Agenda items*
161 Engineer Thomson summarized the items listed on the consent agenda then exited the meeting.
162
163 Commissioner DeTro asked about the para mutual assessment. Commissioner Branch voiced
164 his thought that Ms. Peasley should conduct the walk around for the Para Mutual funds process
165 and assessment. Commissioner DeTro said that was fine with him.
166
167 **Public Comment Period**
168 No public comment was given.
169
170 **Update Human Resources/Risk Management-Tanya Everett**
171 Ms. Everett provided her update. A Work Source meeting with Human Resources happened to
172 discuss Okanogan County's open positions with potential employees. Several upcoming Civil
173 Service testing dates are open.
174
175 Enrollment is open until Sept. 15 for long term care plan.
176
177 Ms. Everett stated there are employees and their families still affected by COVID.
178
179 A meeting with the courts to discuss the burden we are taking on due to the Blake Decision.
180
181 Training for Cyber Security is underway. She is looking into funding opportunities that the Sheriff
182 can benefit from to upgrade training equipment. There is \$5,000 to be utilized.
183
184 **Public Hearing- Budget Supplement Appropriation- Various**
185 *(Building, Planning, Homeless & Affordable Housing)*
186 Commissioner Branch opened up the hearing to staff report. The Clerk of the Board explained
187 the Affordable Housing and Homeless Housing budget supplemental will provide funds for the
188 Meadow Lark Senior Housing project.
189
190 Commissioner Branch closed the hearing to staff and opened up to the public, seeing no one to
191 comment, he closed public comment and opened up to commissioners' discussion.
192
193 **Motion Resolution 116-2021 Budget Supplemental Appropriation Various Budgets**
194 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve resolution 116-2021 a budget supplemental
195 appropriation with in several budgets in the amount of \$354,000. Motion was seconded, all were
196 in favor, motion carried. The hearing was closed
197
198 **Approve Commissioners Proceedings September 1, 2021**
199 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the commissioners' proceedings of September 1, 2021.
200 Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.
201
202
203

204 **Approve Consent Agenda**

205 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the consent agenda items 1-5, as presented. Motion was
206 seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

- 207 1. Authorization to Go To Bid-2021 Wildfire Guardrail Repair Project
- 208 2. Resolution 112-2021 Twisp River Bridge Rehab Project
- 209 3. Resolution 113-2021 Twisp River Rd Overlay Project
- 210 4. Resolution 114-2021 Twisp River Rd Reconstruction Project
- 211 5. Resolution 115-2021 Budget Amendment Commissioners Budget

212

213 **Quarterly Update-Tonasket Forest Service District- Ranger, Kathleen Johnson**

214 Forest Ranger Johnson provided the Tonasket Forest update. There are still fires burning in the
215 district. Additional excavator equipment is needed on the Muckamuck fire. Both fires are going
216 into mop up stage with the cooler weather.

217

218 Commissioner DeTro brought Tonasket Ranger Kathleen Johnson up to speed on information
219 that the Muckamuck fire was unmanned during the first few days. He checked around and the
220 jump base had jumpers that were not called and the reason he was given that in 2015 they had
221 a situation with a jumper and cut a green tree and let go, but they have not jumped a fire since
222 then. He wondered if the FMO is a person of bias and if that is the case he'd like someone to
223 have a heart to heart with them.

224

225 Ranger. Johnson said the Spur fire had called jumpers for that fire and at that time they had all
226 air resources had a stand down due to accidents to make everyone aware of preventions. They
227 didn't get jumpers in on that fire but she had not heard about that being the last jump since then.
228 Commissioner DeTro discussed an accident in Arizona that could have affected how Forest
229 Service is handling the jump base. But if there is bias going on then that is a different issue.
230 Ranger Johnson had not heard of the concern on the Muckamuck, she'll get back to the board on
231 that. Commissioner DeTro said besides that many compliments on the hot shot crews that came
232 in at 1:30 a.m. and saved the Town of Conconully from burning down.

233

234 **Discussion-Rural Business Development Grant Fire Dist. #10 Fire Hall Feasibility Study**

235 **Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Virgil Newton**

236

237 Ms. Holder-Diefenbach explained a feasibility study RFQ process was completed for the Loomis
238 Fire District #10. There were several consultants who requested the document and had one
239 responsive submittal. The consultant was interviewed and it was felt by the interview team that
240 Cortner Architecture would be able to meet the financial constraints and provide a valuable study.
241 The study will identify the reality of what Loomis afford and what they can apply for. The biggest
242 challenge is that the district is 100% volunteer which adds an additional level of restriction. With
243 October 1 being the contract start date, the feasibility study should be complete by March.

244

245 The Clerk of the Board will work with Jim Cortner on the contract between Okanogan County and
246 Loomis Fire District for the feasibility study. The contract start date would be October 1, 2021.

247

248 Commissioner DeTro thought Representative Maycumber could help identify funding for the
249 project.

250

251 **Motion**

252 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve Cortner Architecture as the consultant for the Loomis
253 Fire District Feasibility study. Motion was seconded, all were in favor motion carried.

254

255 Virgil explained some equipment the district would like to surplus. The district would like to surplus
256 its 1937 truck and an old tanker truck. The Clerk of the Board explained the county's process.
257 The District would need to surplus the items by resolution. If the value is \$2500 or more a public
258 hearing on the matter would be held, if less than \$2500 a resolution approved by the board to
259 surplus the specific items.

260
261 **Motion**

262 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve and authorized the chairman to sign the following 2021
263 Fair contracts: Jana Griffith, Al Parsons, Teresa Good, Gold Buckle Rodeo, Christian Peak Valley
264 Cleaning Services, and Julie Hulbert. Motion was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

265
266 Engineer Thomson provided an amendment to a Local Agency Agreement for the Twisp River
267 Bridge Deck Repair project the commissioners approved last week. The amendment does away
268 with the required project match money.

269
270 **Motion**

271 Commissioner DeTro moved to approve the Local Agency Agreement between Okanogan County
272 and Dept of Transportation for the award of the Twisp River Bridge Deck Repair funding. Motion
273 was seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

274
275 The board adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

276
277