

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday, April 26, 2022 AM**

**Present:**

**Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC Vice Chair, District 1**

**Andy Hover (AH) – BOCC Chair, District 2**

**Jim DeTro (JD) – BOCC, District 3**

**Lanie Johns (LJ) – Clerk of the Board**

**These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer via Zoom. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note taker comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at <https://countywatch.org> and are not the official county record of the meeting. For officially approved minutes, which are normally published at a later time, see [https://okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners\\_proceedings.php](https://okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners_proceedings.php)**

**Time stamps below are in real time. To locate specific topics, a clock on the AV Capture video screen at <https://okanogancounty.org/avcapture.html> can assist in finding the correct spot on the video recording.**

**Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions: Fairgrounds update; problems with security system – will be meeting with vendor, working on budget and projects; Grandstand replacement and gravel project, working with Public Works on bidding/request for quotes process. Pedestals in the RV Park not expected to be completed this year due to difficulty getting the materials. New hire for fairground maintenance, still no new staff for the office. Planning Director update; thanked CB for attending Planning Mtg, answering questions, and clarifying Growth Management Act (GMA), recommendation for Shoreline Review & Update; Highland & Associates, LJ has 2 letters for Liquor & Cannabis Board that need BOCC letterhead, zoning up next. Presentation by the Okanogan County Long Term Recovery Group, formerly Carlton Complex Long Term Recovery Group – now 501 (c)3 non-profit. Public Hearing on Public Works recommendation of speed limit changes on certain roads based on study conducted, Public Works update.**

9:00

Meeting opened. AH asked LJ if she had anything to present to the Board; 2 letters from Planning to go to Liquor & Cannabis Board for County letter head, AH comments that their response regarding their permitting and County Zoning difference was they are not concerned about that. JD states maybe we need stricter code.

9:04

Naomie Peasley (NP), Fairgrounds Manager gives update. She is working on spreadsheet regarding budget and projects, helping do vendor applications. There are big plans and big announcement next month. Fair Advisory Committee needs to see the different Auction application to be able to make a recommendation. NP reports having problems with the Security keypad, will be meeting with the vendor. This should be under warranty. Gena Tech. NP has been working with Public Works (Josh Thomson) regarding requests for quotes and mandatory site visit for vendors.

NP working on the Grandstand project. LJ asks if it will be ADA accessible? Per Yes. There will be a railing around the handicapped access, which is part of the grant. NP is not moving forward with the handrail project until the grandstand is completed. 1 project at a time.

9:15

Per NP, a couple projects on hold due to inability to get materials; the pedestals for the RV park, The Grandstand is not part of the grant, but the handrails are. NP asks BOCC for direction. She just needs to bring back quotes and the BOCC will go from there, regarding funding. Cutter Rains, member of FAC, has been helping with the grandstand and gravel pad. Crushed surfacing top course.

NP reports a barrel race scheduled May 7<sup>th</sup>. NP has a new hire for maintenance at the Fairgrounds – currently meeting with HR.

9:21 Maurice Goodall (MG) in briefly to see if BOCC has any questions of him. None

9:23

Pete Palmer (PP), Director of Planning in for update. First of all, thanks CB for going to Planning meeting last night to explain more about Growth Management Act (GMA) and how to better communicate with the BOCC

Planning for 2 RFQ's for Shoreline Review & Update. Planning recs local knowledge recommends Highland & Associates (Kurt Danison). Chosen for his local knowledge and relationship building. Other consultant had good proposals too. Moved, seconded, and carried to approve Director of Planning to move forward with contract negotiations. CB abstaining due to close friendship.

9:27

CB gives synopsis of his sharing at the Planning meeting last night. Some recommendations for better communication – having joint meetings, planning to write a letter to BOCC. Planning to begin Zoning review in May. Will schedule tentative joint meeting.

9:40

Discussion between BOCC regarding why the fair pays a rental fee when this is a County event. Fair pays \$45,000 to County for fair event. *Lots of discussion regarding making this a better fair, and how best to handle the funding. Should they actually need to pay rent? Or, use the money for more repairs, etc.*

10:00

Okanogan Long Term Recovery Group gives a presentation. Carlene Anders, Jessica Palmer, Amie Vanderworth, and Barry Hansen. They showed a video and slide presentation regarding their work with victims of the different fires since 2014 Carlton Complex Fire. Carlene Anders thanks Maurice Goodall, Emergency Services Manager, for asking to present to the BOCC. In 2017, this group was changed to a 501(c) 3, and that status went back to 2014. The Group has had 617 referrals in 2014, 751 referrals in 2015, 731 referrals in 2020. The group has completed 153 projects since 2014 with all volunteer labor. There is no government money in this organization. They coordinate volunteers and casemanage some residents in need. Barry Hansen states they are building 4 houses, so far, this year. 3 of them on Tribal land. *BOCC was able to put the presentation on Zoom and AV Capture.*

11:00

Public hearing with JoAnn Stansbury, Public Works and Josh Thomson (JT) County Engineer. Based on the results of their federally funded study for safety, certain roads speed limits have been requested to change. JT explained the point system that was used to determine which roads to change; # of

accidents, unpaved or paved, and short roads. 1 public comment (myself) concerned that Old Hwy 97 between Malott & Brewster was not included as many deer are hit in this section of the Old Hwy. Moved, seconded, and carried to approve Ordinance 2022-5

*Some discussion after the hearing. In order to change speed limit, a study needs to be done. Possibly this is something the Mule Deer Foundation could do*

*11:14*

JT reports on road maintenance and current chip seal projects. Area 3 & 5 shops are in process. 1 has the Septic System design approved so far.

Yakama Nation is working on the Foster Creek Bridge.

JT reports that CRAB board is not willing to increase their funding.

11:25

JD heard from a constituent regarding the hauling of debris at the dump, getting blown around. .

JT brings up a re-development of some parcels in Oroville on Westlake. Sewer project needs.

11:29

Adjourned for lunch.