

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday July 5, 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

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.

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Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions: Isabelle Spohn in public comment period; concerned about people not having the information soon enough for the (700 page) All Hazards Mitigation Plan(AHMP) Public Comments this Friday and concern regarding the Methow Valley Advisory Groups, also public records request for Designated Non-Significance (DNS) & checklist from AHMP. Emergency Services reports on damage from flooding in Conconully over the weekend, Juvenile Department having difficulty retaining employees; 8 employees left with 4 more coming, Board determined to replace existing door locks in the court house, rather than purchasing new, New charter for the Health Department being worked on, update from Public Works, Meeting adjourned 11:20 AM.

9:00

Some discussion between AH and CB regarding a piece, along the roadway, of County property by the Okanogan Airport needs to be sprayed for Scotch Thistle.

9:09 Short discussion of the flood in Conconully this past weekend.

9:15

Public Comment Period: Isabelle Spohn (IS) on Zoom thanks LJ for her help Requests callback from AH regarding the 5's and 20's use chart before or after advisory group meetings. She states the groups are losing people by attrition. IS gives a little history and current status of the Comprehensive Fire Plan. This is required to be updated every 5 years. 5 days was not enough time for commenting on the latest update because it was during the fires last year. Current concern in the public comment period for 700 page All Hazards Mitigation Plan (AHMP) for the Designated Non-Significance (DNS). IS has send a Public Records request for the DNS and Checklist required in the AHMP. It needs to be available by this Friday if anyone is expected to comment on this.

9:21

Auditor, Cari Hall (CH) reports problems with the voter's pamphlet for the upcoming primary, and

needs to be re-done. A company in Cashmere will be expediting this, on short notice. 20,000 need to be printed ASAP. There is nothing wrong with the ballots and they should be in the mail by July 15.

Thanks to AH for helping CH do a special batch to get this paid for.

CB asked question – How much is postage every election? *I believe I heard the answer to be \$10,000 to \$14,000*

9:26

Maurice Goodall (MG) reports about the big flooding, due to rain & previous fire damage, in Conconully and also a fire on the reservation. 1.70 inches of rain received. Record high in the water – running across the road. At first, there was concerned about not enough water in the Conconully reservoirs but now full and overflowing with lots of debris/silt in the ditches. The north bridge does not have much clearance.

MG will check with Army Corps of Engineers, and he is asking for investigators to come from County to check it out.

9:38

CB asks MG about the Highlands. No real problems there. Curlew had some flooding, however.

9:41

Dennis Rabidou, Jail Administrator in for a conversation regarding the Juvenile Department due to staffing problems. They are having a difficult time retaining employees. We have already lost 8 people and there will be 4 more. One employee, whose been with the county for 20 years would like to demote so as not to have management duties. DR has been working with Shelley from HR on drafting up a new resolution for this.

AH is concerned that this will cost some money until we get all positions filled. DR states that he is not asking for any new positions. We're just needing to shift some duties to retain employees. This has to do with workload issues. DR states there is enough in the budget to do what he is requesting.

9:56

CB discusses that he attended a Mid Valley Hospital board meeting, and they are having some issues. 3 board members have already resigned, therefore there was a lack of quorum. Staff are presenting problems and may resign also. CB will attend a special meeting with the Board/Staff. CB will try to monitor that meeting. He has some concerns. It appears they are having trouble with communication issues. Management came to speak with the Board, and they may walk. Mid Valley Hospital is a major part of our local healthcare system.

10:04

LJ reports receiving proposal from Otis (Elevator Company) for \$41,000 for 4 units to change the hydraulic oil in each. LJ reports that a pump was changed a few years back and that was \$8,000 and the oil wasn't changed.

LJ proposal from ADT (Door security system) needs to be amended. It will take 20 to 40 weeks to get new locks. It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept the proposal to repair the existing locks, rather than purchase new.

10:14

LJ received e-mail from the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board. LJ also reports that Michael Beeman is gathering comments on the 20-year plan from staff.

Also, LJ reports receiving 3 RFQ's for the jail HVAC system. Bids due at noon today.

LJ is interviewing for a Records Clerk position. Most recent interviewee was not able to work on

Thursdays, so is going to advertise position again.

10:19

LJ sent board the new change of Charter for the Health District that is effective 7/1/2022. Chuck Zimmerman is working on that. Some discussion about who will be the legal counsel.

10:23

LJ asks for any agenda items that need to be included for the Health Dept.

AH states they are over budget We (BOCC) put \$650,00 into their budget this year, nearly doubled from previous year.

10:35

Budget discussions between AH & CB.

CB will be on vacation August 15th, 16th, 22nd, and 23rd.

10:55

Josh Thomson (JT), County Engineer gives update on Public Works.

Lots of rain – no major issues other than flooding in Conconully. The most major issue is debris/silt.

AH asks about plan for road up by Bonaparte..? JT states we have to wait for it to stabilize before we determine the direction to go.

JT states chip seal was cancelled for today due to the rain. Hoping to be back on schedule tomorrow.

JT responded to JD request of DOT traffic count by Pine Creek Rd. Not published yet.

JT is working on the interlocal agreement with Fire District 6 regarding infrastructure upgrade on County property in Mazama. No idea of cost yet.

11:05

AH states that he thinks we (the County) should own the building and anything on the site, but should share costs with Dist 6

AH talks to JT about noxious weed 'thing' to sign along the road toward old landfill.

JT has some items on the consent agenda including cattleguard renewals, cattleguard relinquishments, and vacation of a platted road in Oroville.

Some discussion regarding ATV approved roads – Someone is concerned about JH Green Road.

11:20

Meeting Adjourned until 1:30