

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, October 31, 2022

JD—Jim DeTro, BOCC, District 3
AH—Andy Hover, BOCC, Chair, District 1--Absent
CB—Chris Branch, BOCC, Vice Chair, District 2
LJ—Lanie Johns, Clerk of the Board
Lisa—Financial Management
MG—Maurice Goodall, Emergency Management
PP—Pete Palmer, Director of Planning
CH—Cari Hall, County Auditor
LG—Larry Gilman, County Assessor
JT—Josh Thomson, Director of Public Works

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note takers comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at <https://www.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

The time stamps refer to the times on the AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date at https://www.okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live_streaming_of_meetings.php. To locate items in real time, the clock on the wall in the AV Capture screen can be helpful.

CB had been to a science forum in British Columbia that had finished up Saturday afternoon. He felt his attendance was useful. Due to problems with AV Capture, this early part of the meeting was not recorded.

Summary of significant discussions:

*Maurice Goodall and Pete Palmer give brief updates to the Commissioners.
Commissioner Branch and Lanie Johns discuss an Oroville Housing Authority Project.*

23:35—Maurice Goodall gives his update.

MG—I went to the Twisp Civic Center ribbon cutting on Saturday. The Civic Center is pretty nice, very functional, well set up. Spoke with Hilary Franz (Commissioner of Public Lands) who was there. Several other state legislators there. Mike Steele, Condata (?) Keith Goehner.

MG—House fire in Omak. Displaced the residents, so I called the Red Cross for them.

MG—Also controlled burn, but the wind was blowing and they had to get control of.

MG—Burn restriction lifted on Friday.

MG—Looks like they're doing well on the culvert.

MG—Any questions?

CB—Thanks for going to the Twisp grand opening.

29:10—Pete Palmer gives her update.

PP—At an earlier meeting, I was asked to draft a job description and Request for Qualifications (FRQ) for the Hearing Examiner. I emailed that to you this morning, just as a starting point for discussion. The average the salary is about \$35.06 to \$53.26 per hour. Our guy is getting more like attorney wages--

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\$150.00/hour. Most of the jobs advertised on MSRC (Municipal Services and Research Center) require a law degree.

CB—I think I said this to JD last week—I’ve been to a Hearing Examiner retreat and most have a JD, but a few are not lawyers but are senior planners. The decisions are reviewable by a court. I’ll look at your email.

JD—Someone in a Thursday morning coffee group went to the Barnholt Loop meeting asked me to give accolades to PP for how well she conducted the meeting.

PP—Great. Thanks. That’s all I’ve got.

CB—We’ll have to review the RFQ together, Pete. We’ll try to get it our quickly.

CB—The phone call I had earlier was from Oroville’s Engineer, or at least used to be. Wondering about ARPA funds. I told them they were pretty much decided by now. But they wondered when Oroville Westlake Project could be considered. City took the system over at one time. Benefits the city to keep the rates down.

CB—Customs and Border Patrol wanted to hook up to the system. But City of Oroville didn’t apply to the Economic Alliance about this project. They didn’t understand the process—that it wasn’t an entitlement to the cities. Also someone asked about the “Miracle Mile” funding. Up in Osoyoos, the main street is perpendicular to the highway. It’s good for business. Traffic oriented business is located on the highway and other businesses are on the Main Street.

CB and JD exchange stories about currency exchange between US and Canada.

42:40—LJ—I spoke to Ashley Range about the Oroville Housing Authority project. Will be rebuilding the Ag Housing footprint additional housing units. Awarded \$5,500,000 before prices went sky high. They just got the bids back. One was somewhat high but was thought was the most reasonable. Asked if we knew of any additional pots of money. Affordable Housing Funds, and you can talk to the Commissioners. So she’s scheduled on the Agenda.

CB and LJ continue to discuss this housing project.

1:11:40—JD—I move to approve vouchers in amount of \$1,670,591.95. Motion passes 2-0.

JD—Move to approve more vouchers for \$1,371,997.05. Motion passes 2-0

JD—Move to approve payroll vouchers for Public Health for \$56,062.68. Motion passes 2-0.

1:15:00—Budget Work Session—Larry Gilman, County Assessor.

1:45:00—Budget Work Session—Cari Hall, County Auditor.

Recess for lunch at 11:35.

2:19:20—Afternoon session begins.

CB—Hearing for budget supplemental resolution:

1. Contingency funds moved to vehicle reserve fund--\$56,000 for assessor’s vehicle
2. Investment interest fund to (?) for \$250,000 for MUNIS Accounting Software
3. Capital Improvement Fund to Capital Expenditure for \$9,996,247 for Judicial Services, Public Works, etc.
4. County Assistance Fund to County Prosecutor’s Office for \$305,065 for salary and benefits, etc.

No public comment.

JD—Move to approve Resolution 160-2022 to approve 1 & 2. Motion passes.

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JD—Move to approve Resolution 161-2022 to approve 3. Motion passes.

JD—Move to approve Resolution 162-2022 to approve 4. Motion passes.

CB—Close the Public Hearing.

2:27:10—Hearing for budget supplemental resolution for Public Works.

JT—This corrects a typo I made when I submitted the budget for 2022. Also, we're replacing a roof this year instead of next year.

No public comments.

JD—Move to approve Resolution 163-2022 for Public Works. Motion passes.

CB—Hearing closed.

2:35:35—Executive Session inviting Human Resources and Chief Civil Deputy for 15 minutes for RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) (To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency.) Be back at 2:03 PM.

2:52:15—CB—We're back. Nothing else to do, so we adjourn at 2:04.