

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, May 11, 2021 AM

Present:

Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC Chair, District 1

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

Jim DeTro (JD) – BOCC, District 3

Lanie John (LJ) – Clerk of the Board

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer via Zoom. Every attempt to 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/Commissioners/Minutes%202020/2020%20Minutespage.html>

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: Discussion of rentals at the County Fairgrounds, price with and without chairs and tables – having consistent pricing and other fairground updates, Planning Dept discussion of advisory groups, especially in the Methow Valley, update with County Auditor; water district & flood control districts inactive, discussion of communications upgrade for Sheriff's Dept and Public Works, utilization of taxed monies for emergency communications. Approval of Vouchers and payroll.

9:04 – Maurice Goodall, Emergency Services – COVID update, met with Corps of Engineers re: Lost River Dike issue and flood insurance., replacing bridge on Salmon Creek.

9:06 – Naomie Peasley (NP), County Fairgrounds Event Coordinator, Hired employee to work at office from May until October.

Pricing of building rentals with and without chairs, needs to be consistent

There was a consensus that tables and chairs to go with building rentals, but pay extra for chairs and tables if just renting the courtyard. Full day rentals vs ½ day rentals.

Renting of arena and use of equipment on the track. Program needs to be worked out. Will make this an agenda item. Moved, seconded, and carried to allow the National Barrel Horse Association to use equipment for the May 22nd event.

9:30 – NP brought up updating the MOU for the Red Barn/ Cattlewomen's Association. Needs to be amended. Would like to sub-lease this building to the Rotary Club, and possibly others.

Jean Berney from the Cattlewomen's Association here to discuss this change.

9:40 – Pete Palmer (PP), County Planning Director – Discussion of Advisory Committees assignments.

There is nothing in code governing this. Do we want to use sub units?

AH – is this just relating to the Methow.

PP- yes, mostly. Oroville planning area is mostly taken care of by planning dept.

CB – if more emerge, we can deal with that later.

AH sees primarily, 3 planning areas; north valley Winthrop-Mazama, Winthrop-Carlton, Lower Valley Upper, middle, and lower.

CB – is open to PP interacting with Methow people to find out what they recommend/want.

AH states a minimum of 2 groups – probably 3

10:00 to 10:30 – More discussion of fairground rentals and creating consistent policy/pricing.

10:30 – Cari Hall, County Auditor – quarterly reports, looking into making Oroville water district and flood control inactive, researching back to 1985. They do have some funds however. Looking for guidance/decision by BOCC

CB – We could talk to some landowners that would be affected by these districts. - need to find history.

Cari Hall – also talk with Josh Thomson and run by Prosecuting Attorney

These are too old and inactive to be auditable.

10:39 – 112 positions coming up for election. Hoping the new website will either be up and running or not available until after filing for positions.

Cari Hall – Auditors portion of new website should be easier to navigate.

10:50 – Moved, Seconded, and carried to appoint George Brady of Pateros to the Solid Waste Advisory Board. Frank Herbert as alternate.

11:00 – Josh Thomson, County Engineer – nothing specific from Solid Waste.

Road conditions – stabilizer mostly completed. Only Cape Labelle left.

Cost of stabilizer - \$6000 per mile. + other costs. Some landowners have paid for product themselves.

Discussion of Miller Pit – in business, working on getting it hydro-seeded.

AH – public asking about access.

Josh Thomson stated there was word from the Sheriff's Office re: Protest?

Mike Worden, Communications Director and Josh Thomson discussing ownership of McClure tower – possibly to go to the Sheriff's office as they maintain. Looking for single radios with single channels for Sheriff's office and Public Works.

11:35 Josh Thomson – more road updates. Hwy 97 project – problems with traffic control

Consultant fees have increased.

Board Adjourned and reconvened to pay vouchers and payroll - \$2,154,279.31, and for the Public

Health District Payroll \$64,211.87.

11:48 – paid vouchers to Tonasket EMS, Oroville EMS \$9,680, Methow Valley EMS District \$58,876.75 to Aero Methow.

11:51 Board adjourned until Monday @9AM.