

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, February 14th, 2023, 3:25 p.m.

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Present:

Andy Hover (AH), BOCC District 2

Chris Branch (CB), BOCC District 1 (*via Zoom*)

Jon Neil (JN), BOCC District 3

Joe Poulin (JP), Maintenance Supervisor

Time stamps refer to the time on the wall clock. An AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date is available at: https://okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live_streaming_of_meetings.php

Summary of Important Discussions:

- Process advances for hiring Public Records Officer
- Maintenance Supervisor gets rental agreement renewal for July-October cooling system, passes on recommendation that county buy \$250,000 plate heat exchanger—untreated well water bad for jail's heat pumps
- Renewal of agreement for automation system—adjusts energy use and detects if well pump not working—\$11,800/year for five years
- Instead of seasonal full time recruit, year-round post, flexible, for 20 plus hours/week?

3:28 - AH mentions Resolution 23-2023, attachment A, on the fee scale for a Public Records Officer.

3:30 - JP presents cost for rental renewal for cooling system in jail, same as last year: \$5,500. It includes delivery charge and crane for the 25-ton system. It will cost \$2,900 for the three units down at the Justice Center. The agreement is from July-October.

JP: The next thing— Northwest Engineering recommends that we not use untreated or improperly treated water. It could damage the water-to-water heat pumps. The water comes right out of the well. We've had that argument before about the screens/filters not designed to be an open loop system like that. They're recommending to put a plate heat exchanger, water-to-water heat pumps and circulate that through the well water to cool the plate heat exchanger, like we do in the Courthouse. It takes water from the Courthouse and runs it inside the loop; water from the well cools the heat exchanger. AH says the cost, \$250,000, could be taken out of interest on the bond they've taken out for \$12M over 30 years. JP: They recommend putting a plate heat exchanger like they have upstairs in the Courthouse. They have one downstairs that we could add more plates to. AH: Could you find out (*if it's an option*)? He can. Is the rental system decent? JP: Borderline. Last year for awhile we had to add a sprinkler system to keep cool. Where the cooling tower used to be there's like a hole in the top of the jail. "They put that down in there— it gets hot but the temperatures weren't unbearably hot. AH: We would have to put it out for a bid. ...A design bill, from the basement of the Courthouse to cool water across the top of the jail and back into the jail. Don't know if we'd be adding heat to the jail.

JP: Last thing - ATS controls (automation for efficient energy use) in the jail. It's the same price as the last five years. **LJ:** Effective February 1st. **JP:** They give us so many hours a year for training for problems. One of the problems we have in the jail is we have a controller in the bottom of the Courthouse that isn't connected to the ATS controls so, if the pump goes out in the well, we have no way of knowing. ... *He suggests using money from their unused training hours.* They gave us some cables to run from (*inaudible*) to the jail because we have no way of knowing if it goes out. (*Also*) other sensors. If fans go out from a power outage, it tells us. *It's a 5-year deal, starts out \$11,800/year for 2023, escalates at a rate of 3%.* **AH:** I would move to sign an agreement between ATS Inland Northwest LLC and Okanogan County for services outlined in the agreement.

JP: One other thing - We have three applicants applying for a third seasonal maintenance position, 8 hours/day. We would like to change it to 4 hours/day so we can have them year-round, through the winter... **JP:** ...We can use it like a flex-time, work them eight hours one day and they have Friday off. (*JN agrees.*) **AH:** Talk with (*Human Resources*) about what you can do, about benefits. If they work more than 80 days we pay more (*for their benefits*). **LJ:** There's a resolution involved that will have to be amended... You don't see a need for additional hours? There's a lot of ground work to be done. **JP:** 20 extra hours would be okay. **CB:** Talk with Shelley (*HR*) anyway and come up with a strategy.

3:53 - Meeting adjourned until Tuesday, Monday being a holiday.