

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 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 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 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: Discussion of lighting and cameras for security of the courthouse and new building, other work on the wells, discussion of contract with Romeo Entertainment Group for procuring entertainment for the fair, other projects at the fairgrounds; fencing and railing. Whether to do interviews for a court position at an open meeting, planned for December 13<sup>th</sup> in the PM – 3 candidates, Personnel changes in Central Services, promotion of current employee and hiring of entry level position, some interesting discussion of fish-bearing streams in the County, and population growth.***

9:01

*Meeting began with JD and CB only. AH arrives around 9:10*

*Joe Poulin (JP) – County Maintenance Supervisor, Discussing the light of parking lot at the new Judicial building and also 2 new light @ the Courthouse parking light.*

*Forest Service had a couple of break-ins in their building recently. JD states that he knows who is doing it, but the Sheriff's Office can't do anything about it. CB wants to know if we have identified anyone by camera? JP would like to consult the neighbors of the newly purchased FS building about the lights and security cameras and possible siren. LJ also brings up that the Senior Center may also be concerned.*

9:10 AH questions about the jail itself for long range planning. - not growth potential and maintenance going forward.

9:13 – JP is checking the Fire Alarms in new building. There will be a virtual demonstration @ 1:00 (*unsure what day*) Would like the BOCC to attend. All 3 will attempt to accommodate this.

JP also reports that Fogle Pump came to look at the wells for the courthouse needs to do some sealing up.

9:22 LJ has a couple of items to discuss with the BOCC. The contract with Romeo Entertainment Group for procuring entertainment at the fair. It states that there be no free or unpaid talent at the fair – only what they procure. BOCC will study this contract further and make changes – CB only wants consultant services for one day.

9:25 Naomie Peasley (NP), Fairgrounds Manager, also discussed contracting with this group, will need to be careful to have correct verbiage so as not to breach the contract. Dave Gecas (DC) – Chief Deputy PA to advise.

9:32 NP reports waiting for Asplund quote for tree removal. Also in the RV park. NP states that she is moving forward with the grant, hoping to get work started by Feb/March 2022. This is for fencing and failing. We already have some of the materials.

9:42 Moved, Seconded, and carried to authorize NP to purchase outer railing from Equinox and continue working on grant project. Suggested to keep the project to under \$300,00 or needs to go out to sealed bids and be a prevailing wage job.

AH thinks it should come in under \$300,000.

9:48 NP attempting to grasp that this is just one project, rather than many. LJ states policy is that if total cost of project more than \$300,000, then it needs to be prevailing wage and go out for sealed bids.

NP reports that she has 6 applicants for Maintenance Position at the Fairgrounds.

10:00

Tanya Everett (TE), HR & Risk Manager would like the date to schedule interview for court position that is planned to start on 1/4/2022. There are 3 candidates. She has formulated the questions for the interviews and wants to know whether this should be in an open meeting or not. It appears it will be in open meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup> in the PM.

10:04 \*\*\*\*\*BOCC went into Executive Session under 110.1i with David Gecas regarding Comprehensive Plan Issues\*\*\*\*\* lasted until 10:30

10:32

TE, Lisa Schreckengast (LS), Treasurers Office, and staff from Central Services Discussing personnel changes in Central Services. 2<sup>nd</sup> Network Analyst position to be filled by current employee and wants to hire an entry level systems support person. There will be no more systems administrator position. BOCC is good with that. Resolution needed after consulting with TE from HR to work out the logistics and cost, AH wants HR to do research then come back to BOCC with plan and recommendations.

AH also discussed the fact that BOCC needed to fix the disparity between bargaining and non-bargaining employees

TE states that the new position would be Step 1

10:50 some discussion with LS regarding budget.

11:00 Josh Thomsen (JT), County Engineer discusses road maintenance – working on the burned trees in the Cameron Lake area. Also, discussed about security cameras. \*\*\*Someone drilled a hole in the gas tank of a vehicle\*\*

*Once again, JD states he knows who is doing this. There are 2 guys.*

There is need for lights and camera. JD wonders if the security alarm could go to someone's phone...?

JT also reports that winter shut down is next week. Cache Creek burn area to be closed, short consent agenda.

11:08 Discussion among the BOCC regarding fish bearing streams. Also, JT will be meeting with the CRAB (County Road Advisory Board) with other County Engineers about the results of the survey being sent around. CB questions need for him to complete.

Also, BOCC and JT discuss the political agenda of climate change and social justice.

AH states that he spoke with a realtor who stated that home buying is more prevalent than land only purchases in our county. More discussion of county growth and building. JD questions how population is counted, particularly with a transient population such as Gebbers' workforce.

11:23 Recess until afternoon session.