

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday May 14, 2024, AM

Present:

Jon Neal (JN) – BOCC Chair, District 3

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

Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC, District 1 (On Zoom)

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.

Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions:

- No Public Comment.
- The clerk establishing dates for bid process on the 2nd phase of the courthouse exterior renovation.
- Treasurers Report: filing certificates of delinquency on unpaid property taxes from the 2021 year. Contract approved for Omak Chronicle to be the newspaper of record for County legal notices.
- The Board signs a proclamation that May 2024 is Mental Health Awareness month -Mental Health Color Walk this weekend.
- Bid Opening for Loomis-Oroville Road Drainage project.
- Public Works: BOCC needs to grant easement for Town of Twisp access to sewer treatment plant. The contractor to add more snow breaks on the new County shops, chip seal is happening mostly in Oroville and Omak this year, explains cattleguard relinquishment and requirement to be 20 foot wide.
- No business for Wednesday.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:41.

9:00

Flag Salute

LJ reports that the meeting with HR/Risk Manager was cancelled today.

BOCC begins to review the proceedings for 4/29, 5/6 & 5/7.

9:15

No Public Comment

LJ will be meeting with the judges tomorrow, Friday. LJ is doing 3 interviews for the Deputy Clerk Position.

LJ also reports that she is in the process of establishing dates for the bid process on the 2nd phase of the courthouse renovation to include pressure washing, painting, and application of sealant. She is currently working with Rainier on a \$197,000.00 contract.

9:25

LJ reports that maintenance and information systems staff will be pulling wire this week. Luckily, it is just electrical wire and not internet wire.

9:30

***Executive Session under RCW 42.30 110 (1)(i) for Legal Risk of potential action. The Board is meeting with the Planning Director, Deputy Civil Deputy, and other interested attorneys. ***

9:50

Pam Johnson (PJ), County Treasurer in for an update. PJ reports on interest rates. PJ is working on certificates of delinquency for people, irrigation districts, etc. who have not paid their back taxes from 2021. They have until the end of May before they are mailed the delinquency notice.

JN asks PJ about the contract with contractor TD&H for water system work at the fairgrounds. PJ hasn't seen that yet.

9:58

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve \$1513.00 vouchers for the Water Conservancy Board

10:00

Board approves County vouchers in the amount of \$628,282.

10:01

The Board approved a Memo of Understanding (MOU) between Okanogan County and the Communications/Dispatch of the Sheriff's Office on the Radio Improvement Project. \$100,000 of equipment.

10:03

Contract approved for legal notices to be advertised in the Omak Chronicle – Between Ok County and the Chronicle.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve proclamation that May 2024 be designated as Mental Health Month. LJ asks if one of the Commissioners could attend the MH/Color walk this weekend. CB volunteered to do this – the other 2 have previous engagements.

It was also moved, seconded, and carried to approve the chair to sign, electronically for the coordination of the Low-Income Housing Block Grant with Growth Management Services.

10:06

The Board approved \$1502.00 for the Methow Valley EMS District for their audit.

10:08

The Board approves \$18, 445.00 for April contract services in April for the Oroville EMS District

10:09

Board approves \$16,200.00 voucher for April contract with Tonasket EMS District

10:10

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve the consent agenda as presented:

1. Agreement -Reimbursable Work -Ok Co Public Works & City of Omak
2. Relinquishment – Cattleguard Franchise -Mike & Carmen Nelson. CGF No 33-73
3. Cattleguard renewal – WDFW. CGF # 16-76
4. Amendment – CDBG Public Services Contract -22-62210-011 Dept of Commerce
5. CDBG -Public Services Request #22
6. ARPA Funds Request #10 Food Crisis
7. ARPA Funds Request #12 Equipment
8. Resolution 62-2024 Amending Resolution 62-2002 Affordable Housing Fund 141

10:19

Mental Health Color Walk will be this weekend. LJ asks if a commissioner can be there. JN & AH have other commitments, CB agrees to be there and requests LJ to send details.

10:50

Public Hearing Budget Supplement Appropriation for Public Works.

Josh Thomson (JT), County Engineer for staff. This is due to winter damage on poorly paved roads, purchase of a dura patch machine, and this adds \$1 million of revenue.

No Public Comment on this budget supplemental. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve Resolution 67-2024 in the amount of \$1,188,000.00.

11:00

Bid Opening – CRP#9125-26 Loomis-Oroville Drainage, with Shasta Stidman, Public Works.

1. Selland Construction \$804,445.00
2. Redneck & Sons \$498,154.00
3. JR Construction \$510,652.00
4. Burst Construction \$669,473.00
5. Brad's Construction \$786,829.00

Public Works will get back to the BOCC next week with a recommendation.

11:08

Public Works: Josh Thompson, Engineer- Maintenance and road conditions par for the springtime. They are doing chip sealing in Oroville and Omak areas. JT has spoken with the mayor of Twisp regarding the need for the City of Twisp to have an easement for some sewer work they will be doing near the Twisp Transfer station. BOCC needs to grant the easement. JT states it will be helpful for the County and the City of Twisp.

JT reports that they are looking at adding more snow breaks on the roofs of new shops. Will need a change order to 1-R to Halme Building.

JT – There is no new information on the waste heaters. L&I is also holding up occupancy for an electrical problem that is being remedied.

JT- Trout Unlimited will be putting in a culvert at Johnson Creek. There are currently no Hwy 153 bridges on list of bridge repairs.

JT – Apparently, DOT has pushed back the date for reconstruction of the Omak Bridge until 2027.

11:41

JN asks JT about what happens when a cattleguard is relinquished. The private person has paid for it, so it is theirs. The County usually puts it in the road for them. Of note, the Gebbers usually do their own.

JN and AH have gotten calls from constituents about the size of cattleguard needing to be 20 feet, rather than the 26 foot cheaper one – which happens to be one piece, rather than 2. This happens to be on a primitive road. JT states the Road Superintendent usually makes the call but will take a look at this one up by Havillah.

JT will be meeting with CRAB this week.

There is no business on Wednesday.

The minutes have been approved for 4/29. 5/6 & 5/7

JN congratulates AH on not being opposed in his upcoming election this fall. *(From this point on, there was a lot of discussion about the ups and downs of being a commissioner. AH enjoys the job even if he gets flak from time to time. CB chimed in some, but it was mostly AH and JN discussing the County Commissioner position.)*

11:41

Meeting adjourned. There is a Board of Health Meeting this afternoon.