

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday October 3, 2023 AM

Present:

Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC Chair, District 1

Jon Neal (JN) – BOCC, District 3

(Andy Hover (AH) Absent

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:

- Executive Session regarding potential and ongoing litigation.
- Letter of intent approved to Dept of Transportation regarding Rodeo Trail Drive.
- 4 applications – so far, for Fairgrounds Manager position- deadline is this Friday.
- Colville Tribe planted 30 buffalo on the Reservation – gift from the Kalispell Tribe.
- Meeting Adjourned at 11:37. No afternoon session or Wednesday meeting.

9:00

Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for agency litigation potential and ongoing. Session includes Esther Milner, Chief Civil Deputy and Shelley Keitzman, HR/Risk Manager. **

9:16

No Public Comment

Update with Dispatch Deputy cancelled. Roundtable with Finance Committee cancelled, and Public Works Update cancelled.

JN and CB casually discuss the homeless situation. They describe different experiences and thoughts they have.

9:45

JN and CB also discussed that the fuel prices in Omak/Okanogan are 20 cents higher than other places in the County. *Other discussion about the cost of things right now and other chit chat.*

9:51

Reviewing the minutes from 9/25 & 9/26

10:01

JN met this morning with the Fire Advisory group and it was decided the burn ban would remain until

October 15

Lots of Chit Chat

10:22

LJ – discusses some changes on a resolution from the Planning Department.

10:24

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve a letter of intent to the Department of Transportation regarding Rodeo Trail Drive.

10:26

Shelley Keitzman (SK) – HR and Risk Manager in for update. The deadline for the Fairgrounds Manager position is this Friday. We have 4 applications and would like to schedule interviews soon. It was decided that the BOCC could be at the interviews if they were held on Wednesday, October 11 at 1:00 in the afternoon. There may be other applications since the deadline is Friday.

10:32

SK reports that she is working with Progressive Insurance for a fairgrounds truck that has 224,000 miles on it.

SK will be reaching out to the applicants with the scheduled interview times.

10:39

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the 9/25 & 9/26 Proceedings.

10:44

Made 2 telephone calls about 2 items on the Consent Agenda to Ken Kovalchenko and Shasta Stedman. CRP no. 9480 needs to be changed to just 'Chesaw drainage' removing Old 97 Plata

10:54

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

1. 2023 Fire Guardrail Repair Project -Public Works -Frank Gurney, Inc
2. Interlocal agreement -Solid Waste Transfer Station -Okanogan & Douglas Counties
3. Purchase request -motor grader \$432,377 -Public Works fund ER&R -NC Machinery, Wenatchee
4. Public Assistance Reimbursement -Cold Spring/Pearl Hill 09-2020 -Emergency Management
5. CRP No. 9480 Chesaw drainage survey services – Erlandsen & Associated Inc
6. CRP No. 9155-21 Old 97 Plata to Ophir Grade survey services -Erlandsen & Associates
7. Resolution 132-2023 Reclassify Administrative Secretary -Commissioners Office
8. Resolution 133-2023 Creating Deputy Clerk of the Board II -Commissioners Office

11:08

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the \$1,300,000 in payroll vouchers.

LJ discusses the scheduling of budget work session and asks if she should be sending out a reminder to the departments regarding their budgets.

CB -Good idea.

11:26

JN reports that the Colville Tribe has just planted 30 buffalo on the Reservation. They were a gift from the Kalispell Tribe. LJ asks about the ramifications for open range. CB states they are to be wild for

hunting and the Tribe has their own rules.

JN states this could get interesting. He's known of someone who raised buffalo and when they got it, they created a lot of damage.

11:37

The Board adjourned for the day. There will be no afternoon session or Wednesday session. However, next Wednesday the 11th, there will be interviews for the Fairgrounds Manager position.