

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 1:30 p.m.**

*"These notes were taken by a County Watch volunteer. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized. 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 the Okanogan County Commissioners' website at <https://www.okanogancounty.org>."*

**Present:**

Andy Hover (AH), BOCC District 2  
Chris Branch (CB), BOCC District 1 (via Zoom)  
Jon Neil (JN), BOCC District 3  
Laney Johns (LJ), Clerk of the Board  
Esther Milner (EM), Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor  
Steven Marsh, T,D&H Engineering  
Dave Rodriguez, Coroner

*An AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date is available at:  
[https://okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live\\_streaming\\_of\\_meetings.php](https://okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live_streaming_of_meetings.php)*

**Summary of Important Discussions:**

- *Deputy Prosecutor Esther Milner negotiates contract agreement with rep from County's on-call Engineering firm; Licensing Dept. doorway, Fairground barns, Jail geo-thermal to benefit*
- *Coroner presents Snohomish County autopsy services contract for approval, shows signs of a too-busy week, is excited about imminent purchase of Radox machine for drug testing.*

1:32 - On-Call Engineering Contract Finalized - *EM discusses several modifications which T,D&H representative SM readily agrees to. They include payment per task rather than by the month, eliminating personal liability for BOCC, a 30-day deadline for providing pertinent documents following payment for services, and changing some language aimed at private sector customers. The first project awaiting the on-call engineer's advice: cutting into a 14" wall in the new Licensing Dept. office to provide a second exit. Next will be adding beams to Fairgrounds barns. The jail's geo-thermal system replacement or repair is the "big one" on the list.*

2:20 - Approval of minutes from 4-18-23 Commissioners meeting - *AH asks to remove "He thought an online auction would have better returns" following the line "Commissioner Hover asked if they had to have an in-person auction".*

2:31 - Contract with Snohomish County for Autopsies - *DR arrives, says his week has been interesting. JN: You've been busier than you should have been. DR: I think that it's a competition for who can die at the furthest reaches of the county. Like way the (expletive) up—he's cut off by a reminder that their discussion is being recorded. Says it must be the sleep deprivation. The Snohomish County contract under discussion is identical to last year's except for: the price—\$1,300 instead of \$1,100 per autopsy; a "pay as you go" instead of steady monthly rate that gets adjusted, facilitating paperwork required for a 40% State reimbursement; prolonging the contract to three-years. Contract is approved. DR: They've been working out really well. We're into year three. It's ideal for us. He talks about the upcoming purchase through Public Health of a second*

*generation Randox machine for drug-testing, says this gives quantitative as well as qualitative results and can save them the up-to-six month waiting period for blood test results. Jokes about exchanging services with Snohomish.*

*2:41 - Meeting adjourned until Monday morning.*