

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 2:46 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:**

John Neil (JN), County Commissioner District 2  
Laney Johns (LJ), Clerk of the Board  
Chris Branch (CB), County Commissioner District 1  
Shelley Keitzman (SK), Human Resources, Risk Manager  
Stacey Nicole, Deputy Clerk of the Board  
Rena Shawver, Director, Community Action Council (OCCAC)

Time stamps refer to Tuesday's AV Capture video. 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:**

- Mention of a crossing issue, possibly in a Tonasket park*
- Mention of an employment agreement for a nurse at the jail whose time to be split between opioid disorder treatment management and all the other medications*
- Over \$15,000 in opioid settlement spending approved*
- Room One to receive \$15,314 in ARPA funds*
- Money for purchase and outfitting of three sheriff vehicles to come from Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) interest, sheriff vehicle fund being in the red*
- 26-minute hole in AV Capture recording*
- Continuation of public hearing to approve \$25,000 to resolve a software issue in the prosecutor's office*
- Short discussion between commissioners Branch and Neal about security system monitoring, the web, drones and the feds.*

2:52 - August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> minutes approved. On the consent agenda is a street crossing issue that CB doesn't want to "slow up"; he says everyone's being understanding about it. He mentions an access people are using. (Based on the consent agenda, this is probably about a Tonasket park.) CB: During the process that they spend the money, to decide what the plan is for the crossing... Consent

agenda approved. CB then talks to LJ about (inaudible) and the nurse for the jail on the agenda as an employment agreement, mostly about percentages.

CB: If it changes it, it will result in the same thing which is what (inaudible) it a different way.

LJ quotes the contract: Fifty percent of her time will be for MOUD (Medications for Opioid Use Disorder) management, and fifty percent all the medications...

2:57 - Vouchers and payroll approved. LJ: For \$15,314.97 this was for client services and administration of the benefits for the client services (out of opioid settlement money). documents here support that request... and the other is from the city of Okanogan, \$1,744.

An ARPA (American Rescue Plan) request from Room One, \$15,314, is approved. LJ talks about a message from Dave (Yarnell, sheriff's department) and where the (three) vehicles are going to come from. The funds will come from the LATCF (Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund) interest, a transfer in and out of the vehicle reserve fund for the \$84,000.

JN: I know their vehicle fund is in the red. So I'm just questioning how that was going to fly.

LJ: Does Cari (Hall, auditor) have an idea?

JN: She was going to contact Dave and they were supposed to be moving money around because they supposedly to have taken some money out that they shouldn't have; they were supposed to correct that as the sheriff's department.

LJ: To supplement some of the money that was needed to outfit—?

JN: At least to create a zero balance in their fund... (They're going to need all of) the \$84,000. *With this information LJ can publicize the notice. The commissioners approve Okanogan's ARPA request. CB tells LJ there will be an ARPA administration call Wednesday and she would do well to listen in. LJ had tried to access a call that day but no luck with the link. CB checks on the website. It will be an informal round table on zoom. JN has left the room. CB makes sure LJ will get the link.*

*(The video jumps from 3:14 to 3:40. CB is making a motion.)*

3:40 - CB: ...the Okanogan Fairgrounds facility rental contract. JN seconds the motion. ...CB gets a call about a fire in Chelan County along the highway near the asparagus-picking place, 30 acres.

JN talks to the woman from the prosecutor's office, asks her if they're doing complete streets (?). They are. JN: Anyway it looks there's potentially a complete match (in funds) for all of those. *The person is pleasantly surprised to hear this.*

3:45 - JN: So, we're continuing our public hearing. CB moves to approve

*Resolution 109-2024 authorizing a budget supplemental appropriation of current expense prosecutor's budget and LATC Investment Interest Fund in the amount of \$25,000. LJ says the title needs to be change. CB says that will be changing the description.*

Prosecutor's Office: We've already had one meeting with the contractor for the new case management software, and we think it's going to really help a lot.

CB: We're going to have to do it again. *(She agrees.) CB jokes about being able to change an ordinance as many times as you want. CB reads: A resolution authorizing a budget supplemental budget supplement within LATC investment interest to pay for the prosecutor's carpal (?) software cost from fund 172 to the sum of \$25,000. JN asks if she has any more questions. She says it's a moving target; they have to reduce how much footage is being sent into their office that they're having to process. She leaves.*

CB: It makes me wonder, what is beyond the cloud? Beyond the universe? The Milky Way.

JN: I'm just being Debbie Downer. That's the part that's always bothered me, you have no control over it. It goes to someone else, and they're in charge of it.

CB: And you ask, when does the cloud get completely taken over by— The security breach of the century. I never really did investigate. What is the cloud really? It's just a data base.

JN: Right. And the hard part is trying to find out who's actually managing it. With the security systems, and all that. You start monitoring it... *(Russia and China)* are data mining everything. I have a DJI drone and you may not be able to fly it because the parent company is in China and it's supposedly part of the Chinese military.

3:51 - CB: I toured this drone factory down here. *(JN, inaudible.)* It was top secret. You didn't walk over there, you didn't walk over there. This was built by Boeing.

JN: When they were doing some of their stealth stuff and he had a great *(inaudible)* security clearance, and he did everything possible to piss them off. And this had been in the late '80s and '90s. He came over one time... *(he talks about going to a restaurant in Osoyoos and having trouble with the feds).* CB talks about someone who had to have six months authorization to go to Canada.

3:53 - Meeting Adjourned.