

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

JN—Jon Neal, BOCC, District 3
AH—Andy Hover, BOCC, Vice-Chair, District 1
CB—Chris Branch, BOCC, Chair, District 2
LJ—Lanie Johns, Clerk of the Board
CHa—Crystal Hawley, Deputy Clerk of the Board
EM—Esther Milner, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor
SK—Shelley Keitzman, Human Resources and Risk Management
ZK—Zak Kennedy, County lobbyist
PP—Pete Palmer, Director of Planning
JP—Joe Poulin, Maintenance Supervisor
Tom—Tom Even, Veterans’ Relief Committee
Katrina—Community Action Council
Michael—Michael Steward, Veterans’ Relief Committee Board Member
FO—Ferdouse Oneza, Oneza and Associates
SS—Susan Speier, Clerk of the Court
DR—Dennis Rabidou, Juvenile and Family Services
NP—Naomie Peasley, Fairgrounds Manager
PJ—Pam Johnson, County Treasurer

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note takers comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at <https://www.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

The time stamps refer to the times on the AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date at https://www.okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live_streaming_of_meetings.php. To locate items in real time, the clock on the wall in the AV Capture screen can be helpful.

Summary of significant discussions:

- The BOCC considers a request for a fee waiver to rent the Agriplex for the Omak High School Senior Class banquet and party.
- Zak Kennedy, county lobbyist, updates the BOCC on the current session in Olympia. Discussion of HB 1670, a bill allowing a county to raise the limit of property tax increase from 1% to 3%.
- Commissioner Hover will write a draft letter of the BOCC’s comment on the introduction of grizzly bears in the North Cascades National Park.
- The Planning Department update includes a discussion of an animal shelter that’s out of compliance, but its operators are working with the county to bring it into compliance. Planning will revoke the Conditional Use Permit for a junk yard near Ellisforde. Its operator can’t keep junk from spilling out in to the right-of-way.
- The Veterans’ Relief Committee is partnering with the Community Action Council to better serve the veterans in the county.
- The BOCC hears a brief overview of the revision of the zoning code from Pete Palmer and Ferdouse Oneza of Oneza and Associates. The revision incorporates changes with regard to water availability, the district use chart and compliance with the Revised Code of Washington.

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

- The BOCC repeals or amends outdated sections of the Okanogan County Code.
- The BOCC hears a discussion about the reallocation of money from the Blake Fund Bureau.

04:35—Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for 15 minutes to discuss ongoing litigation. Invited EM and SK.

18:25—Public Comments—Leon Hoover asks the BOCC for a reduction or fee waiver for the Agriplex for the Omak High School Senior Banquet and a “safe and sober” party afterwards. He notes that the school is paying only for the dinner for the students, but not the students’ guests. Smallwood will cater the dinner.

JN—(Looking at his phone)—30% of the students qualify for a reduced price lunch.

CB suggests the commissioners read their policy for rental fee reductions at the Fairgrounds. AH reads the waiver policy which is intended to serve the poor and infirm. AH suggests they rewrite the policy to include school functions also. He will talk to the County Auditor to make sure this change will pass inspection by the State Auditor. Mr. Hoover is advised to resubmit his request after the BOCC has had time to change its policy.

Another commenter, Andrea, based in Yakima, says she’s from the Veterans Affairs Division for the Home Builders Association. She’d like to speak to the BOCC to learn what opportunities are available in her group in the county. CB mentions that if she’d like to get on the agenda, she should speak to Lanie.

35:40—ZK—The new budget is coming out and we’re two days away from the Policy Committee cutoff. If a bill isn’t passed by its primary committee by Wednesday evening, it’s technically dead. Last day for bills to pass is April 12.

ZK—Scuttlebutt—the majority party in both houses is being run differently than in the pasts. There are a lot of new members. Sometimes, when a deal is made, it’s not holding through. Nobody is communicating.

ZK—King County has some out for House Bill 1670 (Raising the limit factor for property taxes). Raises the local option from 1% to 3%. King County taking a hard line so maybe the County Executive will run for governor next year.

AH—What!

ZK—Just speculation. King, Pierce, Snohomish and maybe Thurston counties are the only ones big enough for the increase to make a difference in any positive way with their budgets. Something to watch. Governor’s office is emphasizing affordable housing and it will cost a lot. Maybe use this option to fund it.

CB—This is local option, not mandated. How does it hurt us?

ZK—If they give you the option to raise 2% locally and you don’t take it, the conversation in the caucus rooms will go—if the county didn’t take the option to raise their property tax, why should we give them any money in the budget.

CB—Yes. It creates an attitude. We tried to help the Community action Council get money from the State Department of Commerce for housing. We heard that they thought Okanogan County had the money already.

ZK—What they don’t understand that if you make a decision like that (to raise the tax) you have to live with the people. King County can raise a huge amount of money, but you can’t raise very much.

AH—It’s probably an extra \$120,000.

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

ZK—That won't go a long way. The \$44,000,000 for King County, if I remember correctly, that will get something done. More taxing authority could be something that sticks around. It's contrary to the local control that WSAC (Washington State Association of Counties) wants. I keep coming back to this because it'd be very hard to undo if it doesn't work.

JN—I agree. I heard about there's between \$80 to \$90,000,000 put in the budget that didn't go through the House or Senate to potentially purchase timberlands and put them into the state roles so they're unharvestable.

ZK—I heard it was land swaps, not purchases. Hilary Franz (State Commissioner of Public Lands) hasn't said much about it.

CB—Could you add more, Jon. I don't know who's proposing this.

JN—My understanding is that it was just put in the state budget, but now it may be removed.

CB—Proposed by the DNR (Department of Natural Resources)?

JN—My understanding is it was promoted by Inslee. I honestly don't know for sure.

CB—It would be interesting to hear more about it.

ZK—I'll look into it.

CB—There's money in the DNR for climate change.

ZK—I'll check it out. I'll be at the Roundtable meeting on Wednesday. They've been outstanding this year.

JN—I tried to access it, but I couldn't

ZK—That's all I've got. Goodbye.

53:15—CB discusses changes in the Agenda

CB—I have a doctor appointment this afternoon so I won't be here for the discussion of the Joint Grizzly Bear Comment letter or the discussion of the 2022 Arbitrage Compliance Services Agreement with the County Treasurer. I'll leave after the discussion of the horse barns at the Fairgrounds. Can we talk about the Grizzly letter now?

AH—Did you read the letter I started about getting together with the other counties? Also, Chelan County wrote a letter to use as a template.

CB—What about King County?

AH—King County doesn't share a boundary with the Park.

CB—One person in King County had concerns.

AH—I'll use the first letter in my intro email—we'd like to get together. I'll say "this is what Chelan County proposes. What do you think?"

AH—I'll go to the May 9 Grizzly meeting although Commissioners weren't invited. It's the Grizzly Working Group. Supposed to have county representation, but it couldn't get anybody. I'm trying to get in on it.

CB—A friend of mine got to be known at the road-kill commissioner when road-kill was an issue, so AH might be the grizzly commissioner.

AH—We get four to eight black bears at a time by our place. The Wolf Creek drainage acts as a funnel. What about grizzlies?

1:01:00—Staff meetings. Pete first. AH leaves the room for a moment.

JN—An update on the eyesore (people living in RVs). It's on BLM land, so It'll probably be there for a while.

PP—We've been getting a lot of that. They move from wide spot to wide spot. Stay until they wear out their welcome or the cops catch on to them.

CB—Are they identified by law enforcement as involved in drug trafficking?

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

JN—Not the one in our area.

AH returns.

PP—Good morning. I'm PP from the Planning Department. I'll talk to you about Oneza and the zone code update at 11:00. Last week, I've emailed you a draft of the update, including the comments from MVCC and Futurewise. Hoped to include something from the Yakama Nation but it's still forthcoming. Other changes are from the staff that works with it on a daily basis.

PP—Added special uses not yet included in the zone code. I added the R-160s that weren't added yet.

PP—Talked with Esther (Milner) about whether we wanted to tackle the enforcement section of the code during this amendment. Talked about DOE letters they want us to send for enforcement. We're still trying to decide if we want to do enforcement now.

PP—Starting to anticipate the public information requests we'll get. We've got links on our website to take people directly to the zone code revision and Shoreline Management Plan revision information. Right now, we've only got the current zone code. Our initial draft is a work product.

AH—It's a work product. Not a draft for public consumption.

PP—Addressed some areas I want you to look at. In the red block on the sheet I handed out are suggestions from Futurewise. Another big change is R-1 will go to R-2, just to satisfy the septic and density issues with the Health Department. We'll be here at 11:00 for a presentation, and then another presentation for the Planning Commission tonight at 6:00.

PP—I've reviewed the PNW National Scenic Trail Comprehensive Plan. Came to us to review and comment. I'd like to see the plan to address squatters and campers to insure they'll clean up when they leave or who will pay for the clean-up. We've had this problem on the Similkameen River with miners camping and left a big mess. That might be a problem in the Methow, too.

AH—I want to point out something about the draft. There are things both ways. Why is that? Looking at the MRD (Methow Review District) VF5s, there's an added thing that says a maximum of five dwellings or mobile home parks can be added. I say—No way.

PP—Basically, density should be based on what it can support based on Health Department requirements, but in the MRD, trying to decipher out Isabelle's comments...

AH—But this draft adds back in higher densities in MRD than we can have. All I'm saying is this is a draft. What I cited isn't consistent with instream flow rules or the Comprehensive Plan and I don't want people to think we're going to do it. Will the BOCC have a chance to comment?

PP—Yes. That's why I flagged stuff for you to look at. I took all the comments, Isabelle included, and now we're going to weed it and take out what doesn't need to be there. There's a lot of things in the MRD that people want changed and I know you have a really good grasp on it.

AH—It's not just Isabelle. She makes a lot of comments, but everyone in the Methow Valley wants a nice rural area.

CB—What about the process? The Planning Commission reviews it before our review?

AH—I propose we make comments on this draft. Then the Planning Commission sees what the draft contained and what we commented on. We don't want them to think we're all OK with this.

CB—If there's stuff we all agree on, we can note that so the Planning Commission knows what we're thinking.

Discussion about maximum lot cover of permeable surfaces. Also discussion of whether this zone code change should include airport zoning. PP says airports would be a big issue.

PP—I put out a public notice about why we're doing updates for the zone code and the Shoreline Master Plan. The Gazette ran an article about it, but not the Methow Valley News. Usually it's the other

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

way around. Also the MSRC (Municipal Services and Research Center) Weekly Insights mentioned it. That's a big deal for Okanogan County to be inviting public participation in the zone code update.
JN—I heard about it on the radio.

PP—Staff went to look at N.O. Paws because of complaints. They were over the number of dogs allowed—they had 90 instead of the 75 allowed. And we didn't see enough space for all the dogs to sleep inside at night. I think we can work with them to get them into compliance. They asked to be allowed to take in more dogs—amend the permit.

AH—We have a lot of stray dogs in the county. I want to make sure we work with them instead of shut them down.

PP—Yes.

CB—Maybe dog rescue groups can help. I'd like to have them come in and talk to us.

PP—The other problem we're dealing with, we've dealt with before.—Okanogan Sales and Recycling near Ellisforde. They got a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) in 2008 and did a good job up until 2016 and got a complaint. Since then, we've issued five stop work orders. In 2020, when I was hired, the WSDOT wanted to pair with the county and issue violation notices. They took the lead. Cleaned up the right-of-way (ROW) and put in fences and signage. Now he's removed the fences, the signs are in the junk pile and it's spilled over into the railroad ROW. He's trespassing worse than before.

PP—I want to revoke the permit and make him stop and clean it up. It caught on fire a while ago. For health and safety reasons, we need to more.

JN—It caught on fire a week ago on Friday. Mike Worden (Okanogan County Dispatch Center) can tell you about it.

CB—Should we express our full support of PP taking action?

AH & JN—Yes. Absolutely.

1:29:00—JP—I'm Joe Poulin, Maintenance Supervisor. Only one thing today. The compressor went out in the air-conditioner in the pre-school in the Justice Center.

JP—three possible solutions: replace the unit, replace the refrigerant or look into moving some Move-and-Cool units. I'll call Divco for prices. The pre-school has heat and doesn't need cooling right now.

AH—Hurry and get options.

CB—Do you know Jody in (*inaudible*)? Call her and ask about the timeline for finding a new facility to move into. I'll go talk to her if it's necessary.

JP—If they need emergency cooling, maybe we can move in something from next door.

JP—That's all I've got.

1:30:40—AH—Tomorrow we've got an executive session that'll have to be moved. I won't be here at 1:30. Can we just take it off the agenda? I'll be back at 2:00.

CB—OK

Update from the Veterans' Relief Committee.

Tom—I'm Tom Even. I'll give the Service Office's Report for Tonasket Veterans' Service Office. We've got Katrina, Melinda and Jason from Community Action, Jim is my assistant and there are two Veterans' Service Board members—Dale White and Michael Steward.

Tom—The computer system used by the VA to enter claims or vets into the system turns out to be pretty easy to use. It's going well.

Tom—Between Community Action and others, we did outreach to homeless veterans in the Tonasket area. Katrina will give details.

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

AH—Just Tonasket? What about Omak and Okanogan?

Tom—We did them last fall.

Tom—I've been going to Twisp once per month. I meet with four vets every time I go. They're thankful that we make it over there. Going to Brewster hasn't worked out as well.

Tom—Three weeks ago, I made a tour of OBHC (Okanogan Behavioral Healthcare). We'll work more hand-in-hand with them.

Tom—Jim and I had a zoom meeting with Grant, Chelan and Okanogan County VSOs (Veteran Service Organizations). Discuss problems and possible solutions. We'll continue this as long as we can. The DAV (Disabled American Veterans) of Seattle joined our last meeting. We help give feedback to the VA about their computer system.

Tom—There's no driver for the DAV van. Trango goes to Wenatchee only once/week. Discussion of options for transportation to Wenatchee. AH will discuss the issue with Trango.

Tom—Here at the statistics for March: submitted 12 claims, took 176 calls, 44 vets served who came through the door, approximately 40 vets were assisted filling out papers. The weather is better than it was and more people can make it in.

Katrina—We deal with SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) for emergencies based in the short term. We work with Tom's VSOs, Trango, HUD-VASH (Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing), and the Spokane VA. We can be financiers of the programs to create wrap-around services. We do case review and work at outreach events.

JN—Are you doing outreach up north?

Katrina—It's a work in progress. The outreach coordinator goes in the bookmobile. We're willing to drop into homeless camps. We also stop in at clinics and foodbanks so the people there know who we are.

AH—It's great that your collaborating with other groups, and not in silos.

Katrina—That's why we have those meetings—to learn others' goals.

Katrina—With SSVF, we have more freedom about how we spend our money—to stretch each vet's funds as far as possible.

Tom—At one meeting last week, we were setting up a woman with housing. At the last minute, Jason and (*inaudible*) went to see her. She needed two extra nights in the motel.

Michael—Congratulations to the new commissioner—JN. Our flex-van was taken away from us during Covid. We have a county van that's 11 years old and needs to be surplused. The flex-van is in Spokane and we need it back.

Discussion about insurance for the flex-van and strategies to get it back.

Tom—Where can we get data about veterans committing suicide in the county?

AH—The Coroner's Office or Public Health?

Tom—With the data, we may be able to get funding from the Washington Department of Veterans' Affairs.

AH—Talk to Lauri Jones. Public Health has home visitors.

Tom—We need to advertise our services on the radio.

Katrina—All across the country we're seeing people with more needs. Sometimes we do referrals, but the person can't get any help. Some fall through the cracks.

AH—The county gets funding for OCHB. Maybe ask about veterans' services.

?—One more thing—the American Legion in Oroville, got the help of Louie Wilson and Arnie Marchand, and now Hwy 20 is designated as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway. There's a big shindig to celebrate on Saturday, May 27, Memorial Day weekend. If one commissioner would show up, that'd be great.

That's all we've got.

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

CB—I'm sending an email to AH and JN with a link to Trip-Link. Information about transportation in Douglas, Chelan Counties.

AH mentions Resolution 148-2022 passed Oct. 18, and lists "events of community importance" as a reason to waive a rental fee.

2:10:10—AH—FO is on the line for Oneza.

PP—We gave FO all the comments from MVCC and Futurewise, input from the meetings we held, suggestions from the Planning Department staff. We included some definition and changes to nightly rentals. Also, FO made sure we met requirements in the state law.

PP—I shared the first draft and made a one page document listing changes for the BOCC to examine closely.

FO—I can do a brief overview. In looking at the document, there are three major things: Changes with regard to water availability, the district use chart and compliance with the RCW.

FO—Remember it's a draft. Should I share my screen? I'll give a brief overview.

FO—This is the general provision section. The new sections are in red and the unchanged sections are in black.

FO—The water availability section—most of the comments were about this topic—a broad statement of what's required.

PP—MVCC and Futurewise wrote this section, so that's why I wanted you to pay attention to it.

FO—There are definitions to clarify the code. Discussion of R-1, R-2, R-5 and R-20.

PP—Futurewise did lots of input on Firewise standards and water availability.

FO—All this section is based on Futurewise comments.

PP—Concerning nightly rentals, according to advertisements we see, we have about 1,200 nightly rental properties and our permits show fewer. We can use this to bring them into compliance.

PP—Hemp is only allowed under a federal research permit. We get inquiries about hemp but there's nothing in the code.

JN—What about hemp with THC?

AH—It's in there. Defined at .03%

CB—If there are state or federal requirements, make a reference to it. If we want to remove something that's required by law and you've made a note of the requirement, that will help.

PP—This section talks about Conditional Use Permits (CUPs) on non-conforming lots.

CB—So the language points out that a CUP isn't a variance. Thanks.

FO—Other major changes—the special use chart review.

PP—The Planning Department asked us to add it—uses not in the District Use Chart. They'd get processed in this section.

FO—I added footnotes for the things that could be in two places.

FO—Basically, that's it in a nutshell. And we just got the Yakama Nation's comments this morning.

PP—I looked at the county's one Special Commercial Designation. That's basically Mazama. It's kind of like town limits, similar to a commercial zone. We asked J. Sutherland and Jim (?) in the Sub-Area A group.

Discussion of this designation and whether it's hard to see the boundaries in insets.

CB—Anymore comments from the BOCC?

JN—Not from me.

CB—Thanks for the overview. I like that its format is consistent with the old code so it's easier to understand.

PP—Given what FO had to work with, she's done a good job capturing what the commenters wanted.

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

AH—She’s put in all the comments from people who love to comment into the draft. Now it’s our job to go through it and decide.

CB—If there are entities that want to sue us, and they provided comments, we want to look at it.

PP—We’ll keep working together, get the Yakama Nation comments, look at contradictions, see what changes the BOCC wants and go from there.

FO signs off.

PP—I’ll wait to hear from you. PP leaves.

Commissioners return to discussing the animal shelter. They wonder if there is county property somewhere that would provide adequate space, but the shelter also needs facility upgrades and additional staffing in order to accept more animals.

Adjourn at 11:51.

2:58:40—Reconvene after lunch.

BOCC holds a series of short public hearings to amend or repeal sections of the Okanogan County Code, including: EM gives the staff reports for all hearing. PP is also present. BOCC votes to amend Section 1.04.10(2) and repeal all the other sections or chapter.

- OCC Amendment Section 1.04.010(2) Definitions
- Repeal OCC Section 1.08.010 Res.8-76
- Repeal OCC Section 1.24.010 Prisoners
- Repeal OCC Chapter 1.28 General Penalty
- Repeal OCC Section 2.08 Fair Association
- Repeal OCC Section 2.42 Indemnification of County Personnel for Insurance Purposes

CB mentions he was able to register for the opioid agreement, checked a box to agree and sent it to EM. LJ forwarded this information to the other two commissioners.

3:34:15—Hearing are closed.

Discussion of the Blake Refund Bureau—Relocation of Money—SS and DR

CB—I received an email from someone. Can’t remember who.

DR—Sharon Swanson.

SS—Email was March 14.

CB—SS has information to share about the situation.

SS—Should have better figures by Thursday. Met with Sharon and others from the AOC (Administrative Office of the Courts). Working towards a hard figure for 2021, 2022, and up until Friday. Working with payroll now. Judges, prosecutors and clerical staff. Included in extraordinary costs.

AH—Do they want to adjust our extraordinary costs?

SS—Yes. Decrease it by \$140,000.

DR—But it doesn’t change the LFO costs.

SS—There are two pools we’re looking at.

AH—What we get for reimbursement for things we have to do and payback for LFO costs.

SS—Yes. And the window closes on June 30. It all changes how we do business. They’ll be opening up a new portal and the AOC will have Blake Committee to distribute the checks. All we’ll still be doing is extraordinary costs. We’ll have a new contract then. I don’t feel this will be an issue, but I’ll know when I have a hard answer at the end of the week.

CB—Good. We don’t have to take any more action until then.

SS—Our office is responsible for everything Blake. Before, court orders have reallocated funds from one case to another. As far as the extraordinary costs, I’ll be billing that back.

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

CB—If you've got the responsibility, it saves us a lot of work. Thanks.

SS—Do you want me to email or come up here?

AH—Is it a tight window? Can we wait until we're in session Monday or Tuesday?

SS—Next week will be fine.

AH—And if we've got a letter we can sign, we can get it all done at the same time.

CB—Yes. It will work out perfectly.

DR—There's other bills in the legislature talking about using Blake funds, using it for more additional things. They don't want to allocate more funds. I'll keep you posted.

AH—Anyway to forecast how many Blake cases there are?

SS—Absolutely.

AH—Any estimate how much it will cost to administrate that? After we get done with our extraordinary costs, we don't care.

DR—If there will be other bills like Blake...

Discussion of the possibility that the amounts of money will be different.

SS—We don't have the money. They hold it in a pot there. But they've allocated it.

SS will get scheduled on next week's agenda.

CB to DR as he leaves—If you know something about the legislature...

DR—Well, there's another bill, [HB 1324](#) concerning the scoring of prior juvenile offenses in sentencing range calculations. There will be costs associated with that, but they don't want to allocate new money if there's still Blake money left. It's in the Senate right now. I don't think there will be big numbers for Okanogan County. I'll keep you posted.

3:58:35—CB asks JN if he's looked at the changes regarding the Okanogan Fair Queen.

JN—Yes. It looked good.

AH—It's on the consent agenda.

4:12:25—Discussion of racehorse barns—Naomie Peasley

NP—Discussion of horse stalls at north end of the fairgrounds.

NP—Plywood for 40 stalls is \$159,750. \$3,000 more than a year ago. Includes freight and sales tax. I got another bid but it was more. We have \$150,000. Also we'll need stain.

NP—Approximately \$5,000 to make the area level. Total=\$166,000.

AH—And you'll get several bids from the small works list?

NP—Yes. Bids are due on Friday.

AH—Boots and Saddles and the Sawdust Makers' Trust, we have verification we can use that money?

NP—I have a letter from Boots and Saddles.

AH—We received information a long time ago from the Lumbering Employees' Trust (aka Sawdust Makers' Trust). I thought there was a letter saying we could use the money to improve the fairgrounds.

AH—Ask LJ to search for information from them. Just to make sure.

NP—OK.

AH—I'd like to get it done ASAP.

NP—I've got the resolution for the original \$100,000.

AH reads it. Resolution 54-2004 money for a covered equestrian center and \$3,490 for a concessions stand at the fairgrounds. LJ is going to find it.

NP—There's no one from the group who's still alive.

AH—I think a subsequent letter said we could use the money to do what we have to do on the fairgrounds.

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, March 27, 2023 AM & PM

AH—This is interesting. The original resolution. 1000s of workers, says the union hall has been sold to a private company, they'll give the money to establish the LET. Establish an equestrian center open all year around. Emphasis for use by children. Parks and Recreation Board can change this.

AH—Since there's no Parks and Recreation Board, the BOCC can do it.

AH—Here are minutes from Oct.10, 2017. Richard Wilcox and Bob Wall from the LET came to discuss the trust. Lists the names of people who now wanted the money to be released to the Commissioners.

AH—Do we have enough information to go on?

CB—Check with EM, just to make sure.

NP—You'd like me to check with two people about using this money. If they say OK, I should check with EM.

CB—Just due diligence.

AH—Then check with the Auditor about how to move the money around.

AH—Boots and Saddles said they'd donate the \$20,000 we earned in interest. Find out if we can get the money as soon as we place the order, so we have our ducks in a row.

NP—Will do.

NP—I'll also check with the Building Department to see if we need permits.

NP—I'll get to work. They're turning on the water today and it's their first time. Lots of trips to Home Depot because of broken pipes.

4:44:35—AH asks CB if he's going to leave the meeting. They've already discussed the grizzly bear letter.

CB—Yes.

AH—We can't adjourn because we've got to talk about the arbitrage compliance.

5:03:05—Discussion of the Arbitrage Compliance Agreement with Pam Johnson, County Treasurer

PJ—I emailed you the agreement. Don't know if you want to sign it, or have me sign it. Or I can be the liaison with the company.

AH—I'd like the Treasure to handle all of this.

PJ—It'll be about \$825 for him to review everything. Make recommendations. He agrees with setting aside the projected rebate money.

AH—And we can take the arbitrage fees out of the thing, right?

AH to LJ—This is our engagement letter about arbitrage compliance.

PJ—It has as to do with the 2022 bond we just did.

AH—We'd rather have the Treasurer do this.

LJ—You can do that with a motion. I did some research and there weren't any similar situations with past bonds where there was an arbitrage agreement.

PJ—Speaking with Robert, there are a lot of us, especially in municipalities because we're getting low rates on the bonds and now interest rates are going up.

AH—I move to authorize the Treasurer to sign the letter for arbitrage compliance services. I want to do it so all the communication goes to Pam instead of me. I'm only vice-chair. Motion passes.

AH—Talk to Josh because they're starting to build things and at six more months the money may be 50% spent.

PJ—I'll keep you updated.

AH—Asks CHa to remind CB that they'll meet at 8:15 on Tuesday morning, instead of the usual 9:00.

Adjourn at 3:42.