

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, November 8, 2021 PM

JD—Jim DeTro, BOCC, District 3
AH—Andy Hover, BOCC, vice-chair, District 1
CB—Chris Branch, BOCC, chair, District 2
LJ—Lalena Johns-clerk to the Commissioners
CH—Cari Hall, County Auditor
LM—Leah McCormick—County Treasurer
TE—Tanya Everett, Risk Management and Human Resources
NP—Naomi Peasley, Fair Grounds Management

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

To locate items in real time, the clock on the wall in the AV Capture screen can be helpful.

Summary of significant discussions:

The Commissioners discuss 2022 budgets for several different county units: Risk Management and Human Relations, the Commissioners' Office and the Fair. They also discuss different strategies to increase attendance at the fair. Most of these strategies involve spending money, so the discussions will continue when those involved have had time to develop a more concrete plan. 2022 will be the 75th anniversary of the fair.

1:30 PM—Commissioners, CH, LM and TE discuss the 2022 budget for Risk Management and Human Resources.

2:30 PM—Commissioners, CH and LM discuss the 2022 budget for the Commissioners' office.

4:00 PM—Commissioners, CH, LM, NP and others discuss the 2022 budget for the Okanogan County Fair. They also discuss strategies to attract big name entertainers and so increase fair attendance. 2022 will be the 75th anniversary of the Fair and so everyone hopes for a well-attended fair. AH & CB consider increasing the Fair's budget by \$40,000 to be used to increase attendance. CB mentions that people sometimes get angry when the Commissioners consider new ideas. LM says it's very refreshing to hear something new and different.

There's a discussion about the new group that handles the animal auction at the Fair. The old group would put some of the money it earned back into the fairgrounds. The new group, chosen because it could use video during the auction, does not. They need to figure out some way to make up for the lost money and also what improvements are needed in fair infrastructure.

The Commissioners will have this discussion again with the Fair Advisory Committee and NP after everyone has had an opportunity to consider the issue and gather facts.