

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday, November 7, 2022 PM

JD—Jim DeTro, BOCC, District 3--absent
AH—Andy Hover, BOCC, Chair, District 1
CB—Chris Branch, BOCC, Vice Chair, District 2
LJ—Lanie Johns, Clerk of the Board
TE—Tanya Everett, Risk Management and Human Resources
MW—Mike Worden, Okanogan County Dispatch Center
EM—Ester Milner, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor

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:

- *Mike Worden, Dispatch Center, discusses his proposed letter the commissioners could send to legislators to obtain funding for new radios and other equipment for emergency responders in the county. The emergency responders need to upgrade their radios to be compatible with the new dispatch system.*
- *Ester Milner and the commissioners continue their discussion about updating the County Code. They consider appointing a committee to work on the project.*
- *Commissioners adjourn at 3:15.*

2:19:40—AH—It's 1:32. Time to start.

AH—Wednesday we won't meet.

MW—Draft letter on Sheriff's Office letterhead, but I'd like to have the county give to our state legislators. Get a group of local officials to press for funding for radio project. Need equipment instead of towers. If we can get some money outside of sales tax, it would ease transition to move to the new system.

AH—Is the equipment for everyone, all the other agencies?

MW—If we get more money.

AH—Better to have the letter come from BOCC? I think we put the statement of what we plan to do with the funds. To outfit the Fire Districts with equipment they need when we dispatch them. We need to say the overall cost to outfit everyone with the radios, and here's the shortfall. Should be our goal to fill in the shortfall to get everyone their first batch of radios. And how our county is rural.

CB—Used to be called "distressed". Maybe include in the letter that this is end-to-end. We need radio network to make it all work. Also, one page is good.

MW-- System and subscriber equipment.

AH—We're trying to make sure the fire departments can make the change to the new system. I always want to know the full cost (over \$5,000,000) and how much we're asking for (\$2,000,000) so they can see what we're contributing.

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AH—One page is good, but another page with the general budget—3 line items so they get a general idea what we're doing.

MW—My ask is that the BOCC agree we make this effort (get a small group together to press this issue) and I'll work on the letter more.

AH—Our letterhead in a joint effort. Rural fire districts, EMS, towns.

CB—Create letterhead for the committee that's formed. And list all the organizations.

CB—Or our letterhead and a supplemental list of all the other groups that have signed on. We just need them to know it's not just us asking for the money.

AH—List of those we'll provide the services for.

CB—Legislators can tell you who would be good to talk to.

MW—We may have a video meeting soon with Rep. Maycumber.

AH—Once we get this finalized, we need to get it to Zak, our lobbyist.

MW—Great. I'll work on the letter.

AH to CB—If you go to Olympia, take some pictures of Rob's old barn to show the fire district's funding abilities. Some fire districts have very small budget. One district has only two radios.

2:43:10—MW—You want me to touch on ARPA? I've submitted some reimbursement requests for Tunk hardening project. We need to pour the slab and we need the structural engineer stamp. Then the Forest Service should give us the permit for next spring/summer. Ballpark of \$20,000 to \$30,000. Mobile command trailer is ordered. About \$305,000. Just the trailer and then some technology needs to be added. Probably \$350,000 total. Darla may have submitted invoices. Within the amount we talked about.

MW—Building the Coroner's equipment shed isn't moving along very fast. The architect, Beamon, trying to get the city to set up a meeting with Colville Tribe.

AH—Asks CB if he can facilitate this.

CB—They're (the city) not being responsive about this.

MW—Looked at the piece of land behind Extreme Power Sports. Don't know if it's OK.

CB—I've got mixed feeling about that property. In the floodplain and don't know about the soil. So we should continue on the path we're on. Spent \$60,000 on the site analysis. CB also wonders about zoning issues for the property.

MW—When do we tell Mr. Beamon about this?

CB and AH about trying to arrange the meeting between the city and the tribe. Reach out to Dustin, a council member of the tribe.

MW—Thanks. I'll work on the text of the letter and get back to you.

2:54:25—Ester Milner to discuss the County Code update.

AH projects OCC on the zoom screen.

EM—We should spend some time on Title 2 today and maybe also discuss how we'll go forward—with a committee or not. This update is not going to be quick.

CB—A committee that can work outside of the BOCC meeting can move a lot faster.

EM—I'd be part of the committee along with Therese (Petrey, Civil Deputy Prosecutor) and then depending on what we're working on, invite others. Maybe farm out some of it in the Planning section out to consultants. But it's a long time until we get to those sections.

AH—Can we just go through the emailed report from August 1 to see what is just syntax changes and what's not?

AH—We've already gone through Title 1.

EM—Maybe go through Title 2 to see what to farm out.

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AH—reads Title 2 quickly. Discussion on what the code should say about BOCC meeting on Wednesdays.

(At this point the AV Capture sound stopped working.)

Discussion of County Code update ends at 3:15 and BOCC goes into Executive Session—RCW
42.30.110(1)(i)—to discuss litigation or potential litigation.

AV Capture recording ends.