

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday, January 25, 2021 AM**

Present:

Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC Vice Chair, District 1

Andy Hover (AH) – BOCC Chair, District 2 (*In attendance at 9:45*)

Jim DeTro (JD) – BOCC, District 3

Lanie Johns (LJ) – Clerk of the Board

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer via Zoom. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. 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:

[https://okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners\\_proceedings.php](https://okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners_proceedings.php).

Time stamps below are in real time. To locate specific topics, a clock on the AV Capture video screen at <https://okanogancounty.org/avcapture.html> can assist in finding the correct spot on the video recording.

**Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions: Maintenance Supervisor updates BOCC on getting heat in the new building, temporarily, and is wondering how to proceed, will coordinate with the architect. Planning Director talks about talking with landowners regarding current moratoriums being lifted – on a case by case basis, also reports offering training position to promote to Senior Planner in 4 years. Emergency manager discusses with BOCC again, regarding the importance of safety protocols, fire issues and surveillance, also reports on a block grant for a central valley recovery center. Meeting with Auditor and Central Services staff regarding some possible modules to purchase with the new computer program. Updates with Solid Waste Manager and County Engineer: concern of certain bills in the legislature, road maintenance.**

*The BOCC meeting started with BC & JD, AH arrived at 9:45*

9:03

Joe Poulin (JP), Maintenance Supervisor reports that there is heat to the new building (FS/ New Justice Center). He is asking how the BOCC wishes for him to proceed. CB asks him to coordinate with the Architect for the Master plan. He will talk to Cascade Mechanical to get a quote from them and report to Architect.

9:13

Pete Palmer (PP), Planning Director reports on talking with property owners regarding the lifted building moratorium – on a case-by-case basis. CB states this is a good cautious position. PP reports offering a training position 'in house' for a pathway to Senior Planner. Over a 3-year period.

9:22

Maurice Goodall (MG), Emergency Services Manager brings up the need for overview of all facilities for safety and fire issues, also need for surveillance equipment. MG doesn't feel he has the time to spearhead this but relates the importance of this right now.

9:33

MG reports that he has been working with Carlene Anders, Pateros, about a block grant to study creating a recovery center in the central Okanogan Valley. MG will be meeting with Forest Service and DNR tomorrow regarding fire bans, etc.

9:45 *AH is now in attendance*

Resolution 822-2022 promoting someone to a training position in Planning for pathway to Senior Planner. Moved, Seconded, and carried.

*Some discussion of need for executive session*

9:57

Cari Hall (CH) County Auditor, Central Services staff member, and Treasurers Office staff member Lisa Schreckengast in to discuss the new computer system, MUNIS and some possible modules for consideration. There is an extra scheduling module, contract management, retention & recruitment module, purchasing module, & payroll system module. All the consider, along with the price tags. CH gave her choices but was quick to discuss that every department has a little different need – some modules would get a lot of use, others not so much. We can always add modules later.

10:51

BOCC asked Central Services some questions regarding AV Capture issues. Recent problem was with the developer, but most issues have been resolved by Central Services.

11:00

Legislative updates by Ken Kovalchenko (KK), Solid Waste Manager. HB 1663 regarding reducing methane emissions from landfill. KK states no one really knows how far it will go.

HB 5731 – another about reducing methane with composting and donating expired food items to food banks. Also, may need a composting facility.

SB 5837 is about plastic bags going back to paper. There is also a stormwater bill in process that KK will oppose as it is not a problem for our county and is a revenue source.

KK reports problems with the new Compactor, it is down again, but the older one is still working. He has also ordered a new forklift to be delivered in July

11:28

Josh Thomson (JT), County Engineer – Reports on road maintenance – Leader Lake is not under DNR jurisdiction. JT has been working with Michael Beeman, Architect on the new shops. And need for new septic system.

Also, discussed Sheriff's plans for tearing down old shop. Need for windows and HVAC in our buildings.

JT report on bills in legislature of concern: HB 1870 – WATV to 50 MPH, HB 1948 – Small water systems that fail would be responsibility of Health Dept. SB 5742 . CB suggest that he check on HB 1870. HB 2026 for a road use charge on hybrid vehicles – pros & cons

Unable to tax like gas powered vehicles.

11:40 HB 1522 on Broadband along roadways.

11:48 Public works is trying out the new computer (MUNIS) for functionality for Public Works.

11:57 Meeting Adjourned