

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday October 4, 2022 AM

Present:

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

Andy Hover (AH) – BOCC Chair, District 2

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.

Time stamps below are in real time. To locate specific topics, a click 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: 2 Budget Supplemental hearings; Noxious Weed and Law Library. Minimum wage goes up to \$15.74 in January per L&I – this increases other hourly employees, estimated cost to County- \$65,000, 10 of 13 positions filled in the Dispatch Center. Update from Public Works, jail staff are putting in a lot of overtime, Passed resolutions for distributions to Fire District 6 & Community Action from ARPA funds. Adjourn/Recess at 11:29

9:07

Discussion between LJ, CB, and AH regarding use of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds

JD arrives at 9:17

9:18

No Public Comment

9:30

Budget Hearing Supplemental Appropriation – Noxious Weed contracted services No Staff or Public Comment. Moved, Seconded, and Carried to approve Resolution 136-2022, Title II and BLM Funds.

9:40

Budget Hearing Supplemental Appropriation for Law Library \$6500 taken from Professional Services in the Budget. *Considerable discussion regarding reason for this.* No Staff or Public Comment. Moved, Seconded, and Carried to approve Resolution 137-2022 authorizing budget supplemental.

09:55

Shelley Keitzman (SK), HR/Risk Manager reports notification from Labor & Industries – Minimum Wage increasing to \$15.74 in January. Therefore, other employees to increase – to cost the County

\$65,000. SK will be at Labor Law & Arbitration Conference in Seattle for the rest of the week. She will be available by cell phone.

10:00

*****Executive Session with HR/Risk Manager SK and Esther Milner (EM), Civil Deputy for potential litigation under RCW 42.30 111 1 (i)*****
Until 10:25

10:25

Approves September 26 Proceedings.

10:30

Mike Worden (MW), Dispatch Center (*On Zoom as at Conference in Kennewick*) reports on 2 issues;
1st Staffing – 10 or 13 positions filled. Possibly losing one due to housing issues.
2nd – Radio Network Improvement Project in the works. We are waiting for cost estimate of all sites, considering financing options, working through the details – how to afford it. Will be bringing this up to the Dispatch Advisory Board this month.

10:38

Moved, Seconded, and Carried to approve Consent Agenda as presented:

1. DAHP Grant- Capital Budget
2. Agreement LTAC #22-018-2022 Lodging tax Capital Improvement – Tonasket Chamber
3. Agreement LTAC #22-017-2022 Lodging Tax Marketing & Promoting Tonasket Chamber.
4. Agreement – Molson Repeater site survey – BDK Engineering.
5. Agreement – CDBG Public Services Grant #22-62210-11 Dept of Commerce
6. Agreement Special Response Team Services – Brewster.

10:43

Moved, Seconded, and Carried to approve September 27th Proceedings.

10:45

AH talks to JD & CB about speaking with a salesman from Pape Equipment regarding purchase of new tractor/loader with trade-in of older one. \$43,529 with \$10,440 trade-in + tax. AH to get estimate from other equipment dealers, and ask about lease/option to buy.
LJ reminds AH that a resolution is needed regarding this purchase.

11:00

Josh Thomson (JT), County Engineer reports on roads – some grading where there is water availability. Salmon Creek Project is on time, Road closure begins this Saturday.
Cameron Lake Project is seeing some progress – working with the Tribe/BIA. The Tribe owns 2/3 of allotment.
Some bridge work also in the works.
Union negotiations are at 2:00 today. JT will be in attendance.

JD brings up historical paving of roads- to county specs. He remembers this when he went to his first ATV meeting regarding opening the roads for these vehicles.

CB commented about how the Jail staff are putting in so much overtime. He stresses the need to get positions filled for public safety. AH states that people have been talking with him about getting crime under control.

11:16

Moved, Seconded, and Carried to approve Resolution 140-2022 for Fire District 6 authorizing \$75,000 from ARPA funds.

11:17

Moved, Seconded, and Carried to approve Resolution 141-2022 allocating \$250,000 of ARPA funds to Community Action.

It was determined that there is no need for Wednesday meeting. CB will run the meeting this PM due to AH being in contract negotiations.

11:29

Adjourn/Recess