

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday AM November 10, 2020

Present:

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

Andy Hover (AH) – BOCC District 2 (In Union negotiations until 9:45)

Jim DeTro (JD) – BOCC Chair, District 3 (absent)

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/Commissioners/Minutes%2020/2020%20Minutespage.html>

Time stamps 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: needing to post something re; courthouse being closed tomorrow (Veterans Day), use of CARES act \$\$\$ for Public Health and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) districts/entities. Need for ongoing testing for COVID 19 – community, schools. Identifying common denominators/outbreaks with virus, Public Works, Fairgrounds, and major equipment purchases for 2021.

9:08 Joe Poulin, Maintenance Supervisor – new lights for parking lots,

9:15 Maurice Goodall, Emergency Services Mgr – in new office.

9:16 Naomi Peasley, Fairgrounds Mgr – Advisory group met and approved the new policies and procedures. Will bring back the contract when there is a quorum of BOCC.

Pete Palmer, Planning Dept – nothing to report

LJ needing to set up Professional Services agreement for (*Russell?*) in-kind services. LJ will utilize previous professional services agreement used for lawyer in the past and tailor to current need. Will also run this by David Gecas, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney.

9:22 – discussion of need for new flags. Also, need to let Courthouse staff and public know that tomorrow, Veterans Day, is a holiday and the courthouse will not be open. LJ to post something.

10:00 – Laurie Jones, Public Health Director: COVID increasing again, 6-7 in the last 2 days. 82 per 100,000 – state wants to get down to 70 per 100,000 in order to go back to school. There are increases in all counties of the State. Still quite a bit of resistance to mask wearing. In the resolution to apply for Phase II, 25% of CARES act dollars designated to Public Health. Submitting the 3rd invoice for the balance of \$283, 306 for more testing – altogether, \$575,000 awarded.

Contracts are in place with Atlas for test results. Antigen machines for the schools are ordered. Testing needs to be sustained through next summer per Secretary of Health t/c this morning. Example of need for testing and quarantining; School district found out at the end of the day that a parent tested positive for COVID. Need to keep the child home. .

10:17 – 11:05: 3 EMS/Fire Districts in person and on-line/phone to discuss requests for funding from CARES Act \$\$\$. Wayne Walker from Lifeline, Cindy Button – Aero Methow, and Tanyia Vallance from Fire District 15.

Lifeline, Wayne Walker, is requesting purchasing of equipment; ventilators –(County Emergency Services has 6- 8), and monitors. You have to be a paramedic certified in order to operate a ventilator. Explained how upgraded monitors could be helpful – actually able to communicate with hospitals, provide EKG results, and do face time (if there is internet connectivity). Current monitors will not be supported after February 2020. Lifeline will be going to all schools to do testing. Discussion of the different fire districts/entities; for profit, non-profit, and private entities and how the money could be distributed.

Cindy Button from Aero Methow requesting \$35,000, Fire District #15 requesting \$213,000, Lifeline is requesting \$281,860. Invoices for reimbursement need to be in by November 30th for CARES act consideration.

Moved, Seconded, and Carried to approve requests to use CARES Act funds. Requests need to have needs spelled out.

11:06 –11:30, Josh Tomsen, County Engineer/ Public Works: Loup Loup icy this morning. Maintenance & Road conditions: shops are maintaining COVID protocols. Concerns about need for quarantine and staffing levels. What ifs? Considering helping other counties and DOT, with reciprocal agreements. CB – makes sense to work together.

Major equipment purchases for the 2021 purchase year; Mower, Loader, 2 dump trucks Also, Fairgrounds dump truck in fair budget and/or maintenance. Rent to own – no interest. This needs to be formalized. Resolution 91-2019 – Public Works will submit. Interagency agreement – surplussed

Projects;

Kermel grade still slated for asphalt patch this Thursday. , Sinlahekin Road for guard rail. Gravel/crush contract in place. New agreement for SnoParks – change in \$\$ amt.

11:30 – AH & CB -discussion re: addendums for EMS contracts. How to authorize entities to purchase supplies. Should probably be run by David Gecas, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

LJ – Interim contract for services might be needed. Will do more research.

Board Adjourned at 11:50

Veterans Day tomorrow, November 11th.