

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, November 16th, 2021, 1:30 p.m.

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Present:

Andy Hover (AH), BOCC District 2
Lanie Johns (LJ), County Clerk
Chris Branch (CB), BOCC District 1 (via Zoom)
Jim Detro (JD), BOCC District 3 (via Zoom)
Pete Palmer (PP), Planning Director
Tany Everett (TE), Human Resources/Risk Management
Karen Beatty (KB), Central Services
Josh Thomsen (JT), Public Works
Isabelle Spohn (IS), Okanogan County Resident

Time stamps refer to the time on the wall clock. See AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date at https://okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live_streaming_of_meetings.php

Summary of Important Discussions: *Public Comments call attention to Planning's need for back-up, a « laissez faire » attitude during meetings and especially the confusion caused by publishing contradictory deadlines for public comment on both Comp Plan and Environmental Impact Statement draft; Criminal Justice Treatment plan renewed; Central Services busy organizing anti-phishing training, archiving through off-line back-up; dumpster pick-up bills examined; Osoyoos Water District, Nine-mile Flood Control District dissolved for lack of activity; grant process to improve broadband gets letter of support.*

- 1 :30 – *Public Comment Period – IS points to confusion over deadlines on the Comprehensive Plan process : The legal notice for the Comp. Plan this past week says it is November 29th but the legal notice for the draft EIS (DEIS) says the deadline for BOTH documents is December 10th... What is the plan for people going by the legal notice that says December 10th? Also, the DEIS itself gives two dates, December 8th and 10th. She expresses hope that the Planning Department can receive adequate help, whatever that takes, because the short timeline, with so many changes, makes it difficult for those who are writing the plan. She suggests that operating principles be applied in Planning Commission meetings to remedy the PC's « laissez faire attitude with high stakes stuff. »*
- 1 :38 - *(AH has asked the Planning Director to join the meeting) PP : ...November 29th is the new date for the Comp. Plan. The DEIS deadline is December 10th. We received the document late from the lawyers and had to change the date from the 8th. She says the dates were corrected in the legal notice, that she has spoken to Lorah (Super) and Marcy (Stamper) and that she anticipates a correction in the Methow newspaper. There will be a public meeting with the Commissioners on the Comp. Plan December 29th. The final EIS will be issued December 22nd and a meeting at 6 p.m. on the 27th will address comments. Hover asks PP to double-check legal notice on Comp Plan. He says if there are two contradictory dates, a legal remedy should be sought.*

- 1 :59 – Human Resources/Risk Management Update – TE : ...I have three resolutions: Improving Sheriff's Office Administration's dental plan with Delta Insurance, refreshing OBHC's two year Criminal Justice Treatment Account plan (*Drug Court, Substance Use Disorder, Outpatient and Peer services, continuing the plan signed by BOCC in 2019*), and expanding Corrections and Safety testing with the goal of attracting candidates from the West side.
- 2 :17 – AH asks LJ to call Josh Thomsen to ask him about the high number of dumpsters being taken to the landfill.
- 2 :21 – KB : Central Services sent out its first email for training to detect phishing and 37% were « phished ». The standard is 25%. We actually had people put in their password. A few days later when we sent out the training campaign, a lot of people thought it was a phishing campaign. Elected officials and department heads will participate. 118 have completed the course. We get notified on who's done it and will send info on who needs to do it. If you get a suspicious email you can click on the alert button and send it to us. *KB says for someone to fall for the phishing attempt they need to actually click on a link within the email ; just reading it won't have an effect. She is enthusiastic about an award-winning « Netflix style training, like a video. » She announces the resignation in January of Steve Rowe (Systems Administrator), says she prefers to wait until spring to recruit and train someone new.*
- 2 :32 – Computers, off-site back-ups – KB : I'm using my budget to buy new computers. I'm getting a few versions back for about \$5,500 apiece. I gave Dennis (*Rabidou*) a list of what it would take, not including NCI, to get the new building up and running : about \$25,000. Our off-line back-ups are all configured, turned off when we don't need them. It's all downstairs (*in Grainger Building*). The UPS's (*power back-ups*) are in our building.
- Garbage disposal bills –AH : In addition to the \$218 per month bill to pick up one 4-yard dumpster there are weeks when we're being charged for one or more extra dumpsters, like in July with two extras on the 7th and 14th and three extras on the 21st. Is that normal ? JT : Yes, with back-to-back rodeos, quinceaneras. AH : As long as you're comfortable with three to five a week—that's about a thousand dollars a month. *JT also explains the \$2,200 bill for the water truck's new transmission : A washer fell inside and the gears went out. It was easier to buy a new one than to buy all the parts.*
- 2 :54 – (*CB and JD are on Zoom for the 3 :00 public hearing on the dissolution of the Osoyoos Water District.*) LJ : The Auditor had notified if any services were inactive...I posted notice in three places in Oroville. Due to no financial activity in five years... its affairs shall cease to exist 30 days after the resolution.
- 3 :00 – LC (*Spokesperson for the Water District*) : The first request was made by us. (*The district*) was originally established to get water to the border. That happened, they continued to do sewer. So, based on what we know from the city and the county about previous sewer projects in our area we're basically going to be a do-nothing district... *AH cites state code granting authority to dissolve a water district, motion is carried.*
- 3 :10 – AH : a Letter of support from County to Okanogan PUD application to the Infrastructure Acceleration Grant Program of the WA State Broadband Office. (*asks JD to move to sign*) LJ : That was requested by (Sheriff's Deputy for Communications) Jim Worden and (Economic Alliance Director) Roni Holder-Diefenbach. *Motion carried.*
- 3 :11 – *There is now being a quorum, BOCC approves : TE's resolutions concerning insurance and*

the Chemical Dependency Treatment and Prevention plan for Okanogan County (biennial \$15,355 grant for a public service contract), two other employee insurance premium increases, and an agreement between the County and the Community Action Council for a Covid 19 Response Service project.

3 :16 – *Concerning the RBDG Performance Report and Feasability study for Loomis Fire District, LJ says the MOU between the Fire District and Economic Alliance includes matching fund requirements.*

4 :00 – *Public Hearing held to dissolve the Nine-Mile Flood Control District because of lack of activity. Motion carried.*

4 :03 – *Wire transfers of \$1,578,239 for the building (purchase) approved. Budget meeting Wednesday November 17th announced. JD will be on his last day of quarantine. AH will « mark everything that doesn't have a quorum. »*

4 :07 – *Meeting adjourned*

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*Also : **Hover** asked **PP** to double-check legal notice on **Comp Plan**. He said if there are two contradictory dates, a legal remedy should be sought.*