Board of Okanogan County Commissioners  
(BOCC)  
December 3, 2019

Jim Detro – JD (BOCC)  
Chris Branch – CB (BOCC)  
Andy Hover – AH (BOCC)  
Josh Thomson – JT (Public Works)  
Joe Poulin – JP (Maintenance & Fair Grds)  
Angie Hubbard – AHu (Interim Planning)  
Laleña Johns – LJ (BOCC Clerk)  
Kelly (BOC Asst. Clerk)  
David Gechas – DG (Civil Att.)  
Tanya Craig – TC (Risk Manager)  
Shelly Keitzman SK (HR)  
Leah McCormick – LM (Treasurer)  
Cari Hall – CH (Auditor)  

Kelly – (Fair Events)  
Maurice Goodall – MG (Emergency Mgmt)  
Mike Worden – MW (Dispatch, Sheriff’s)  
Dan Higbee – DH (Building)  
George Thornton – GT (Citizen, County Watch)  
Tony Hawley – TH (Sheriff)  
Karen Beatty – (Central Service)  
Larry Gilman – LG (Assessor)  
Annie Lyons – AL (Noxious Weeds)  
Charlene Grooms - CG (Clerk’s Office)  
Susan Speaker - SS (Clerk’s Office)  
Arian Noma – AN (Prosecuting Attorney)  

Notes are impressions and interpretations of the note taker. Every attempt is made to assure accuracy. Specific comments by the note taker are in italics and not part of the official record or intended in any way to be other than the impressions of the note taker.  

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Notetaker had a previous commitment and does not arrive until 9:30. Only CB in attendance at that time and states that another BOCC member was there shortly but expected back soon. Only LJ of staff present.

9:30 BOCC: CB  
Staff: LJ

9:40 AH arrives. BOCC reviewing past minutes. WSDOT  
- CB & AH: Cost of De-Icer & sand cities & County are buying from the State for work on State roads within their jurisdiction has been impacted by the I-976 outcome. WSDOT was told to cut back on the salt ratio due to the impact of I-976.  
- Local Director from WSDOT will come to update BOCC. Response at this time is maintenance costs have already been impacted due to rising costs meaning cutbacks already in place. RCW requires cities cover costs. State revenue from gas tax has been reduced due to higher MPG and increase hybrid & electric vehicles. This appears to be a long-term trend.  
- AH expresses that yes there are WSDOT issues but it is important to support County concerns.
10:00 TC (Risk & HR)
- **Sheriff’s Office admin – medical premium** is going up. Is the group pay individually for the increase or is the BOCC to raise the cap on premiums that the County pays? CB – are other employee groups covered? TC – yes, Sheriff’s Admin will be looking for coverage options. Upon retirement a commissioned officer can self-pay premiums and keep the policy into retirement.
- SK schedule a day for **Department head evaluations**, need to look at schedule.
- December 18 **interviews for Planning Director candidates**. Waiting for responses by the candidates. VH (Verlene Hughes) will be a Planning Commission representative in the process.
  - Some discussion of questions to be asked. AH feels CB question list is better worded compared to HR (?) questions – ore pointed and concise.
  - Looking to know how much study and knowledge the candidates have on Okanogan County planning situation (Non-GMA).
  - Wants to know about economic development, GMA compared to Okanogan County procedures.

10:07 (JD arrives)
- AH to work on questions for **Fair Events coordinator** position.
- SK will work on letters to Planning Director applicants not selected for interviews for both Fair and Planning Director.
- **Search & Rescue vehicle** backed into private vehicle at the Mazama Store. TC has contacted the owner and sent forms. It is unlikely there are enough funds in the current budget line to cover the costs. Suggest is to put funds into the current liability fund to pay the potential costs. Motion to increase Sheriff’s Admin Cap to $802 to cover increase I premiums. Passed. TC will prepare a resolution. Needs to get int the current budget ASAP due to end of year.

10:30 MW (Dispatch & Cmu)
- At **92% of budgeted funds spent** – looking at 90% when all figures are in on the repeater replacements. Had some issues with the repeater setup at Lemananski & McClure. Was able to remotely call into the sites and make adjustments instead of making an onsite visit. Much easier to complete.
- Will have a 1st meeting of the new **Dispatch Advisory Cmte** on Friday.
- Need to send out **letter of notice** on old contracts and get ready for the 2021 switch to new contracts to all users of the Dispatch system. Will have a lot of list of costs broken down to the various agencies with adjustments of passage of the new sales tax for Dispatch/Cmu. Will send out letters with 2 copies of the new contracts. Motion to authorize letter to agencies and have the BOCC Chair sign, Passed.
- **MicroWave project with WSDOT** extension of a verbal agreement to a formal contract. Will provide communication between sites, WSDOT will own the equipment. County will operate and maintain for 20 years. AH – will system cover all concerns of the County? Does the system allow all agencies to utilize? – allows different agencies (WSDOT, County) to use their radios separately, would allow cross communication between the two agencies. Potential to allow local agencies (i.e. Rural fire, EMT, etc.) to communicate with USFS even though FS not a direct user of the system.
- To MW – purpose of bringing outside groups (i.e. – USFS) to share info and integrate with the Advisory Cmte? Good for info, not voting or direct stake holder.
- Major upgrades will be to equipment on sites, a couple need more physical space, Lemananski is an example.
- Being able to get enough VHF frequencies to operate the system is the biggest concern. Feels that this is doable. He also has some worries with some physical sites.

AH, JD & CB:
- **Conversation around roads and developments.** Some issues with individuals & difficulties on roads. Developments are obligations of users/owners not the County – roads need to make standards to what is required by plot agreements.

11:00 JT (Public Works)
- **Maintenance & Roads:** Wind Storm of last week didn’t fully materialize. AH passes on alert system notice public appreciation of warning. Last Tuesday a SW waste bin came off a trailer and spilled. It has been cleaned up. Safety strap failed. They are looking into alternatives to improve safety. Checked with WATV & DG on variable speed, no specific rule but doing this is pushing the envelope. Asked by the Snowmobile Assn. about possible movement of TRD to Colville NF. This has been already approved.
- **Statler Bridge:** Moving along, no big issues.
- **Purchasing policy Draft:**
  - CB – How many forms are on the Common Drive? Needs to be maintained and updated.
  - Sale source contract for purchasing – Often vendor supplies, if a contract needed would have DG involved
  - Have DG review this section for his input
  - AH – emergency situations – succession of decisions (need to be decided and clear). Discussion of emergency purchase procedures & circumstance, will check with emergency manager
  - TC to make appropriate changes.
- **NACE conference:** JT as Sec/Treas. Will attend, only registration paid by NACE. County will par approx. $1300 - $1500 in costs for hotel and air.
- **2020 Budget:** Similkameen Trail - changes entered, hoping to get FEMA $.
- **Edelweiss Sewer:** Might have a work around for normal winter freeze up. Also might have located the site of the problem. AH - $95,000 in county sewer fund. Any way to divest the various County systems? JG: They are not generally interested. Maybe offer ½ of the $95,000?
- City of Oroville is looking at a Similkameen Trail facility plan.
- **Web site update** – new IT guy looking at it., Maybe a recommendation soon.

1:30 Public Comment – none

- **159 – 2019 Resolution** – includes: Repairs, Maintenance, Supplies for Fair, Building Dept. – more funds for wages, Beginning Fund balance & wages in IT, Central Services has a lower Director cost.
- Motion & Passed

2:20 Miscellaneous
- Need to **recognize economic needs**, what makes County a good place to live