

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, December 13th, 2022, 3 p.m.

"These notes were taken by a County Watch volunteer. Every attempt is made to be accurate.

Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized. 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 the Okanogan County Commissioners' website at <https://www.okanogancounty.org>."

Present:

Andy Hover (AH), BOCC District 2
Chris Branch (CB), BOCC District 1
Jim Detro (JD), BOCC District 3
Lanie Johns (LJ), County Clerk

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

Summary of Important Discussions:

- *"Scammer" called into November 28th Zoom meeting with "inappropriate" (pornographic) content; removal of portion from video recording explained in amendment to proceedings.*
- *Housing Authority contracts approved with Community Action, Room One, Support Center, Behavioral Health, Homeless Shelters and FYRE.*
- *Housing board appointment letters approved*
- *Resolutions passed for CDBG requests, amended Public Works salary schedule for temporary workers, bridge load restrictions on the Similkameen and a comment letter regarding grizzlies in the Cascades.*

3:08 - *They discuss a "scammer" who intervened in a Commissioners meeting. LJ: In the minutes (for Monday, November 28th) I've written, "Due to inappropriate content introduced by a party at the end of Monday's Zoom meeting, a portion of the AV Capture recording will be removed." CB: It's pornography in reality. An alarming response is what they're after. (With the addition to Monday's minutes) we want to make sure they don't ask, "What are they trying to hide?"*

3:15 - *Resolution passed to allocate County's Homeless Housing fund money to those agencies as recommended by the Housing authority in 2023. The following contracts are approved:*

- *Community Action, \$57,000*
- *Room One (homeless shelter in Twisp), \$30,000*
- *Support Center, \$38,271*
- *Behavioral Health, \$55,000*
- *Homeless shelters, \$72,000*
- *FYRE (Foundation for Youth Resistance and Engagement), \$37,000*

The BOCC approves letters of appointment to the Housing Authority Board. Jimmy Reliford will replace Harry Best whose unexpired term ends in 2025. Rita Kessel will finish Kelly Scalf's term which also ends in 2025.

CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Public Services Grant request \$2,311 is approved to be signed as well as another CDBG request for \$25,138.

*Commissioners approved bridge load restrictions over the Similkameen River and to amend wages for Public Works temporary positions, altering the salary schedule. Regular vouchers, Public Health Vouchers, and Methow EMS district vouchers approved. BOCC approves a comment letter to Environmental Impact Scoping for the Ecosystem Grizzly Bear Restoration Plan. **CB:** I'm not dumbfounded that federal agencies knowingly ignored local and state interest in law. ...They did withdraw it before– **AH:** Then they put it back on the plate. *They discuss manner of sending comment in for the EIS. LJ asks for a motion to cover late charges on a visa bill. These had been approved before but \$3.43 in daily interest was added to the cost.**

3:36 - Meeting adjourned.