

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
(BOCC)
December 31, 2019**

Jim Detro – JD (BOCC)	Lisa Schreckengost – LS (Deputy Auditor)
Chris Branch – CB (BOCC)	Kelly – (Interim Fair Events)
Andy Hover – AH (BOCC)	Maurice Goodall – MG (Emergency Mgmt)
Josh Thomson – JT (Public Works)	Mike Worden – MW (Dispatch, Sheriff's)
Joe Poulin – JP (Maintenance & Fair Grds)	Dan Higbee – DH (Building)
Angie Hubbard – AHu (Interim Planning)	George Thornton – GT (Citizen, County Watch)
Laleña Johns – LJ (BOCC Clerk)	Tony Hawley – TH (Sheriff)
Kelly (BOC Asst. Clerk)	Karen Beatty – (Central Service)
David Gechas – DG (Civil Att.)	Larry Gilman – LG (Assessor)
Tanya Craig – TC (Risk Manager)	Annie Lyons – AL (Noxious Weeds)
Shelly Keitzman SK (HR)	Charlene Groomes - CG (Clerk's Office)
Leah McCormick – LM (Treasurer)	Susan Speaker - SS (Clerk's Office)
Cari Hall – CH (Auditor)	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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Summary: **Civil Attorney:** Ex Session. 30 Min. Pending litigation, 2 cases. BOCC & DG, **HR & Risk:** 3 resolutions, Fair candidates, Emergency Services contract, Janus Decision, Weed position, **Misc:** 3 resolutions, Law Enforcement agreement, **Discussion possible salary increase:** elected officials only, Citizens Salary Commission, discussion 2020, **Approve proceedings, HR:** Fair position, Planning Director, **Public Comment:** Mary Iglesias: Methow area, Citizen mitigation input on gravel pit, Misc.

BOCC: JD, AH, CB

Staff: LJ, DG,

9:00 DG (**Civil Attorney**)

- A couple of items for an Exec. Session – Pending litigation

Kelly (**Interim Fair**)

- Have been going through files for people who are on the upcoming schedule and **Checking in** with them.

9:03 Ex Session. 30 Min. Pending litigation, 2 cases. BOCC & DG. Return at 9:38

9:45 TC (**HR & Risk**)

- Not much
- **3 resolutions** to LJ for review
- Top 4 **Fair candidates** – have schedule 3 of 4 for Monday. 11:00, 2:00 & 3:00. Working on the 4th person.

- Edited MG (**Emergency Services**) **contract** to add termination clause & include involvement of Emergency Management Council. Needed to include details of the Joint Agreement. BOCC to get a copy to sign then copy to SK.
- Difficulties with implementation of the **Janus Decision**. Up against a 30 da window for individuals to opt in or out of union. If can't get fixed soon could result may result in a union payment without a person not wanting.
- End of year "stuff."
- Adding termination clause similar to EM to **Weed position** as they have the same "Joint Agreement with their advisory board.

Misc.

- Resolution 172 – 2019 Retroactive pay for Emergency Services Manager. Passed
- Resolution 173 – 2019 Decrease hours for Asst. VSO position. Passed
- Resolution 174 – 2019 Promote current Asst. VSO to full VSO position. Passed
- Checking with Auditor to see if there are any last minute items before the end of the year.
- Move to approve Consent Agenda. Passed
- **Law Enforcement agreement** with the City of Okanogan & County. Move to sign, Passed.

Discussion of salary increase for elected officials.

- JD, the legislature needs to change language of RCW. BOCC cannot raise its own salary during current term of office. Any elected officials across the board increase would not include BOCC until next elected term. BOCC does receive stipend for travel and other expenses that increases the effective salary. Could increase the stipend to compensate. Could tie any increase to a % of judge's salary: As judge's salaries are at the State level this would be in effect controlled by the State not by a vote of the BOCC.? With stipend for expenses BOCC get more than other elected officials as is. JD comments that BOCC is penalize as they can raise other elected officials but not their own during the current elected term. This could make the BOCC salaries different from each other depending on their next election cycle.
- JD will contact Shelly Short asking to have an amendment to the current RCW to do something – suggestions are tying BOCC salary as a % of Judges, setting up a citizen's salary commission to set salaries, or other method to allow salary increase on all elected official at the same time. IF BOCC is to move on salaries should do so before next filing date for the next election cycle (May). This has been brought up by other elected officials not the BOCC. The thought is if impetus is coming from other elected officials, they should bare public scrutiny as the BOCC.

LJ (BOCC Clerk)

- If BOCC were to change **Salaries** it would only affect BOCC until they are re-elected. If a salary commission then any changes would come into effect all at the same time as other elected officials. Such a commission by RCW would be a 10-member commission, with 4 appointed by the BOCC from 4 categories: Business, Profession HR, Legal & organized labor. The other 6 would be drawn by lot by Auditor from voting rolls. All would have to be current residents of the County.
- BOCC will consider the issue **next year (2020)**.

11:02 Move to **Approve proceedings**: 12/16 & 23. Passed

SK (HR)

- 4th **Fair position** person took another job so does not want to be interviewed for the Fair position. Does BOCC want a 4 person to interview. BOCC will work with the remaining 3.
- Discussion of salary for new **Planning Director** for approx. \$89,760 - \$7450 monthly. (High but meant to compensate for low medical benefit). This is for a letter offering position. With offer can now do a normal background check.

1:30 Public Comment

- **Mary Iglesias (sp?)**. – **Methow area – Citizen mitigation input on gravel pit.**
 - o Poor notification of hearings U process for public input.
 - o Need to make sure the various mitigation discussed are written into the permit for the gravel pit. Work time in both during a day, and months of the year. Limit on blasting to only the entry road widening, limit on the size of an active pit, re-opening of public input periodically. When and where to publish. CB – items like this have been brought up before, feels a written CUP is warranted.
 - o CB – need to address the posting of public notice, a public notice of a single 8.5 X 11 posted on a small sign is getting a lot of push back. Could easily be a yard sale or such. Perhaps a large sign with a big public notice header, then the smaller notice with the details on that. AH & JD concur and suggest other possibilities.
 - o AH – after appeal of the CUP period then need to memorialize the suggested mitigations in a resolution. Would then be self-imposed not part of the Hearing Examiner ruling that is already finished.

Misc.

- Move to sign Contract A 19-1A forms. FEMA Disaster Assistance payment. Passed
- JD met up with PH (Perry Huston). PH inquired about an opportunity to do contract work with Veranda Beach Resort. No issues from BOCC/County
- General discussion on mis-quoting, out of context and mis-attributions by the public and others. This discussion stems from a misunderstanding in notes from County Watch. Those notes could have been construed JD advocating the credentials of the Methow Watershed Council weren't adequate. **Whereas** the real JD intent and goal was wanting to ensure that the Council's work could not be challenged. This was incorrect interpretation was spoken to by the County Watch notetaker and clarified to the public to the thanks of JD.