

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 AM**

Present:

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

Andy Hover (AH) – BOCC Chair, District 2

Jim DeTro (JD) – BOCC, District 3

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/offices/commissioners/commissioners\\_proceedings.php](https://okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners_proceedings.php).

Time stamps below 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:** Admission increases at the County Fair, items for surplus auction, auctions to happen every 2 years, only 1 bid for RV Park project, waiting for more quotes, short planning update; working on shoreline review, Yakama Nation needing information on “Klomar” flood plain management. Also when to update people in permit process on the progress, request by Mazama hydrant project and Fire District 6 on building using ARPA funds, CB shared spreadsheet of projects already identified for ARPA funds, Bid openings for 2022 Soil Stabilizer and 2022 liquid asphalt, Update from Solid Waste manager re: current legislative bills re; methane emissions and composting, Apple maggot quarantine not expected to happen until 2025, Update from County Engineer on Public Works, JT has been requested to apply for the CRAB board which meets 4X yearly, road conditions -mud season. Concerning bills in the legislature

9:05

Naomie Peasley (NP), Fairgrounds manager reports on schedule of events at the fairgrounds for the year so far *Paper given to BOCC*, discusses increase of fair admission recommended by the Fair Advisory Committee, BOCC approves the draft.

NP reports there are items at fairgrounds to go to the surplus auction. Some discussion regarding this. BOCC would like to have surplus auctions every other year – next one in 2023. AH asks LJ to e-mail other departments re; any surplus items for next year's auction. Some discussion re: fair advisory board resignation and how to appoint a new one. NP will have contract recommendations for BOCC next week.

*CB requested an executive session, which was determined to be after the public comment period today*

9:28

Pete Palmer (PP), Planning Director does a short update; Rocky is working on Shoreline Development review. She has also been requested by the Yakama Nation for information on “Klomar” - Flood Plain Management plan. That project is helping keep the bridge intact. AH suggests that PP send letter to the

Yakamas giving a timeline for when that might be available. PP wants to continue to build good relationships with the Yakama Nation.

AH also noted that he has been asked on development of people/constituents building projects. He suggests more communication with the applicant as a business practice.

PP states a couple of staff members will be out as they have 6 interviews to conduct for Planner 1 position. AH & CB both discussed the pay being dependent on qualifications.

9:41

PP states they had a productive meeting with Software people.

AH wants to know how are we doing with building permits in Area 48? & regarding river bank development. PP has reached out to DOE with good response.

AH wants to speak a little regarding fire district 6 projects being eligible for ARPA funds. CB has Excel worksheet on funds already discussed or determined. CB shares the spreadsheet on Zoom

10:00

Cody Accord, Fire District 6 Fire Chief (building) and Allen Fahnestock (AF) from Mazama Water project scheduled to meet with BOCC regarding use of possible ARPA funds for their projects.

Considerable conversation and explanation of the projects, costs, and fundraising so far. AH reports \$75,000 in the bank so far from fundraising. May need \$120,000 total to complete the Mazama water project/water hydrants. CB states that local match has already been fundraised.

Discussion of this being very likely to be a good use of ARPA funds.

Cody Accord (CA) Fire Chief discusses his building project to see if that might qualify for ARPA funds. Permits have been submitted to the City of Winthrop and finally approved on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is a \$291,000 cost for building. CB states that ARPA funds “can” be used for Federal Match. This project needs to be approved by June.

BOCC was asked when they might be making their final decision. CB states that the BOCC has to get this allocation of funds completed by the end of April. They hope to firm up their decisions in 2 weeks.

10:40

Some discussion regarding how to communicate with the Board, utilize the money, reimbursements, or?

BOCC not sure if building project is eligible but appears to be favorable to the Mazama water Project.

11:00

Bid Opening for 2022 Soil Stabilizer: 2 bids = GMCO 884 tons of material + sales tax = \$178,436, and Enviro Tech 884 tons of material + sales tax = \$183,362. GMCO comes in the lowest.

11:10

Bid Opening for 2022 Liquid Asphalt – 2 bids; Idaho Asphalt total bid = \$1,543,585 and Ergonne Asphalt total bid \$1,670,849. Idaho Asphalt comes in the lowest.

*Of note, bids are \$300,000 over Public Works estimate*

11:15

Ken Kovalchenko (KK), Solid Waste Manager reports Last year the spread yard waste program was funded by DOE. Conservation District has applied for Grant for this year. There is a similar event in the Methow. The Cities and towns are not included – they have their own programs.

KK reports on 2 different bills in the legislature; HB 1663 regarding methane emissions and HB 1799 regarding composting material.

Updates on grants in progress; Litter grant not approved.

AH also asked about Will Carpenter and the Apple Maggot Quarantine. KK states this not expected to happen until 2025.

11:28

Josh Thomson (JT), County Engineer update on road conditions = mud season. \$800,000 budgeted for Public Works – he'll be in contact with Treasurer/Auditor. Budget Amendments needs to be completed.

County Road Administration Board (CRAB- has an opening for a County Engineer in a medium county. JT has been selected to apply. WaSAC will be making the decision.

JT stated the Transportation Package has changed over the last weekend and is expected to be completed in executive session. The 0 Emissions by 2025 has been taken out.

Items on Consent Agenda; Awarding the Bid to DeAtley for the Crushing Project. This is usually 5 years of material. This is for 3 pits.

CB asks JT about the property the well is on in Mazama. Do we need this? JT states yes, we park the Grader there.

Meeting Adjourned @ 11:38