

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners**  
**Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 AM**

Present:

Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC Chair, District 1

Andy Hover (AH) – BOCC Vice 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 take 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/Commissioners/Minutes%2020/2020%Minutespage.html>.

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: Request for new laptops for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, awarding bid for electrical work, Update from Planning on Critical areas ordinance process, Comprehensive Plan, and Zoning, discussion of clearing and grading new roads, update from Building Dept – new hire, County Fairgrounds/Arena update, expediting purchase of water truck, how to deal with surplus items not picked up and/or not sold, Finance Committee meeting/request for deputy clerks in Assessor, Clerk, Auditor, and Treasurer office with more responsibilities for when elected official not available, Public Works Update

9:00 – Melanie Bailey, Okanogan County Prosecuor, along with Lisa Schreckengast from Auditors Office – asking for BOCC to consider replacement of laptops. They were purchased in 2015. Laptops are used at home and in the court room. \$14,000 total.. Moved seconded and carried to authorize Central Services to order from Equipment reserve fund up to \$15,000.

Budget supplemental will need to be done.

9:07 – Karen from Central Services reporting unable to get other electrical bids for wiring of UPS backup system to panels. Only bid is from Kruse Electric for \$8,364. Will BOCC be able to accept this bid in order to get the work done? Karen/Central Services will make a list of contractors contacted to justify award this work to only bid.

9:14 – Pete Palmer, County Planning Director – a Couple of updates: Record Review Retention, and informational demonstrations regarding water metering and Perk demonstration 8:00am on Monday and Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> at 2:00. PP to send the link.

Also, working on Critical areas Ordinance. This goes to Planning Commission meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> for informational purposes, then a public hearing.

AH & JD discuss zoning regarding punching in new roads, clearing and grading.  
JD relays a workshop he attended in Sun Valley, Idaho regarding grading of roads. They have a Skyline Ordinance in Sun Valley.

AH – Zoning code will be very important.

PP – hope to get BOCC the Comprehensive Plan within 30 days and schedule a hearing.

Also, important to get the Zoning code and district use chart completed.

PP – looking for feedback on priorities from BOCC regarding zoning, and

9:28 – Dan Higbee – Building Dept introduces new hire. He has been working for 3 weeks.

Everyone is in emergency mode – extremely busy.

Dan Higbee unable to keep 2:00 meet with BOCC – he'll be in Wenatchee. Office staff to e-mail

quarterly report 9:35 – Naomie Peasley, Ok Co Fairgrounds Event Coordinator – wants to know what to do with old security system as new one is installed. Does this meet the records retention schedule?

What is needed? LJ to research

RV park opens May 1<sup>st</sup>, electrical pedestals are getting cleaned up. Map is being drawn up for spaces.

Joe Paulsen, Maintenance also working on fairground projects – electrical

Hoping to get the water truck purchases

discussed with LJ need to expedite. Check should be ready next Wednesday.

NP – What about surplus items from the auction? They should have been picked up last Friday or County will need to dispose of.

NP – there are new things going on.

Leah McCormack, treasurer asked question about trust money. *(no answer)*

AH interested in working with tribe on north part of fairgrounds – partnership. Would like to attend meeting.

9:58 Joe Paulsen, Maintenance – Lights are in the horse barn now.

10:00 – Finance Committee meeting with Treasurer McCormack (LM) and L Schreckengast, Auditors office. Current expense is \$1,960,329, last year's \$692, 756, and \$571,500 in 2019

Expenses and revenues are “in the ballpark”

LM – We are getting more sales tax this last year. Unsure if county will still be eligible for 'distressed county' funding.

CB – will need to check into this.

AH – got mail from undersheriff re; overage expenses in the #197 fund for vehicles. Moved, Seconded, and carried to move \$224,000 into 197 fund for Sheriff's office.

Budget supplemental needs to be done for UPS rewiring and laptops for Prosecuting Attorney's office.

10:21 – Larry Gilman, Assessor, here to present request for Chief Deputies in the Assessors, Clerk, Treasurers, and Auditors office to cover when elected official unavailable/incapacitated. They should be 85% of elected official's salary. This should cost \$30, 700 over-all. These are non-bargaining positions

There was quite a lot of discussion regarding liability, responsibility, and other offices that do not have this position.

AH moved to authorize this position in these three offices with commensurate pay of 85% of elected official. It was amended to begin with the May 21<sup>st</sup> pay period – first payday in June. A resolution is needed.

This was seconded and carried with JD abstaining.

10:36 AH to Tanya Craig, HR – Can you do a through salary survey of other offices with this position? Tanya Craig will do this – already some research has been done with other counties. Only 3 counties do things different than ours. They have Grant Administrators as a separate position.

10:42

Resolution 47-2021 to authorize Chair of BOCC to act as agent of Board to Mazama Bridge Project. Moved, seconded, and carried

10:47 – some discussion about how to use the \$8 million from American Recovery Act. Would like to give to non-profit, such as humane society: Howling Ridge, OK-Snip.

11:00 – Josh Thomson, County Engineer – reports on Green Waste event sponsored by the Dept of Ecology. Road maintenance and mag/stabilizer on the roads within the next few weeks.

\$125,00 on consent agenda for weed spray material.

11:09 – AH working on the Capital Facilities Budget, will need a hearing to be advertised for 10 days on the proposal.

11:12 – Meeting adjourned until 1:30