

BOCC staff meeting notes
Tuesday AM August 11, 2020

Three Commissioners present on ZOOM: Jim DeTro, Andy Hover, Chris Branch and clerk, Lanie Johns

This is a paraphrasing of commissioners' conversations by one of several volunteer citizen note takers and published on the website of Okanogan County Watch (countywatch.org) Any writer's comments or explanations are in italics. For officially approved minutes of Board of Commissioner meetings, normally published at a later date, see www.okanogancounty.org.

Continued discussion of purchase of water truck for the Fairgrounds, usage of arena is getting hit pretty hard on the weekend.

BOCC to talk with Treasurer regarding purchase of water truck.

Kyle Haugen, Fairgrounds staff, is doing interviews this coming Thursday for new custodial position.

AH; Do we need budget supplemental for courthouse work? Lanie states she will get this written up. Work on Phase II of courthouse is beginning tomorrow morning and is expected to be completed by September.

Other fairgrounds business; baffles need replaced. Kyle Haugen has scissor lift reserved for next week. Will need to get rolls of cable to string off north & south trusses. More discussion re; specifics of this. AH had double checked with Fair Advisory Committee last night regarding their budgeting \$10,000 for electrical hook-up work. Discussion of amperage needed; 30 amps, but newer campers are 50 amps.

Other report of fire at the fairground by RR tracks. Unsure how started but speculation regarding person who walks the tracks. JD "Tweakers or whatever you call them"

Other fairground business; Emptying the Sheep Barn for the Virtual Auction.

AH asked if the attorney needs to be present to discuss land sales. Then, went into executive session for 10 minutes. *****

Miscellaneous Comments; Atty David Gecas reviewed Photo Release. JD reported that the Seattle Chief of Police resigned.

Treasurers Report, Leah McCormack; Gives a shout-out to her staff during this trying COVID times. They are doing precautions and open for business – 2 customers at a time and then the counter is wiped down. Also, the employees are behind plexiglass and also wearing masks. Property Tax Collection 4/30 is over 60%, 2nd half of taxes will be accepted 11/2 as 10/31 falls on a Saturday. They will continue to have their drop box outside of the office. Treasurer's Office is working with (Point & Pay?) to accept credit cards. They are also including Planning and the Fairgrounds in this ability.

Cancelling 2020 Foreclosure sale.

Auditory & Treasurers office working together for electronic documents. Should be able to come up policy without having to reinvent the wheel d/t Treasurer & Auditors Associations already utilizing.

Commissioners asked about how they might pay for this water truck they have been discussing - \$17,000. Per Treasurer, it is not a capital expense, but has to come out of current expenses.

Will discuss this next week.

Other; Sales tax & excise tax are both up. They have been busy with real estate sales.

Other discussion from Treasurer; Cannabis tax comes in quarterly. Expects to be the same as last year. CB states we have over 420 cannabis business licenses.

Per Leah McCormack, the personal property taxes on the cannabis businesses falls through the cracks d/t typically they only remain in business 2 years at a time.

A lot of discussion regarding what the different cannabis licenses are; 1 retail, 2 producer, 3 processor. This needs to be looked into.

Treasurer also stated there is \$300,000 shortage of money this year.

Executive session 1 hour. 10:30 – 11:30**

Adjourned for lunch. Back at 1:30 for meeting with Board of Health.