

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021, 1:30 PM

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:

Chris Branch (CB), BOCC District 1
Jim Detro (JD), BOCC District 3
Lanie Johns (LJ), County Clerk
(Via Zoom) Andy Hover (AH), BOCC District 2
Karen Harris (KH), note-taker, County Watch

Time stamps refer to the time on the wall clock. See AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date at https://okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live_streaming_of_meetings.php. At time of compiling these notes, no video of this meeting had been published.

Summary of Important Discussions: *Public comment inquiring about possible dangers to wildlife habitat linked to milfoil treatment in Lake Osoyoos; Commissioners pledged to contribute \$30,000 to the Treadmap project, a data base providing information on trails; Approval of budget supplementals to complete Assessor's truck purchase and to buy scanners and printer for Auditor's Office; Reinstatement of a Commissioners Office clerk position.*

1:40 p.m. - In Public Comment Period, KH expressed concern that chemical treatment of milfoil in Lake Osoyoos might be hazardous to fish and bird species, said signs around lake warn of possible skin irritation during the treatment period, and asked why county doesn't pull up the plant as they do in Canada. AH: the product dissipates very quickly. JD says the process leaves fragments which accumulate downstream on the U.S. side and take root again, and can interfere with boat motors. CB: There were problems with 2-4D but that chemical is no longer used; Dept. of Ecology issues permits for the current treatment, studies show it doesn't hurt the fish. There was even a study on runoff of chemicals from orchards around the lake and no damaging effects were found. "What we don't know is what a mixture of all the different chemicals might do to wildlife habitat."

1:45 - Commissioners agreed to sign a letter of support for the Tread Map Project, a state-wide data base for trail users, already on line and scheduled to be fully operational next year. They pledged to contribute \$30,000 by June 2022, part of which could come from sources such as Methow Trails, businesses or the Nature Conservancy.

2:00 - Public Hearing held and resolution passed to approve budget supplemental of \$2,366 for the Assessor's office— a truck had been purchased for \$30,235 with only \$30,000 in the vehicle fund.

2:05 - Public Hearing held and resolution passed to approve budget supplemental of \$3,000 for the Auditor's Office purchase of two scanners and a receipt printer.

2:10 - Resolution passed reinstating a non-bargaining, full-time Clerk 3 position in the Commissioners Office. Duties to include administering the ARP (American Rescue Plan). LJ says Jobsource will help with recruitment.

2:14 - Meeting Adjourned.