

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, August 9, 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.

Time stamps below are in real time. To locate specific topics, a clock on the AV Capture video screen at <https://okaogancounty.org/avcapture.html> can assist in finding the correct spot on the video recording.

Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions: Full restriction burn ban per Emergency Services, BOCC; continuing to work through ARPA funding authorizations, Next ballot count for primary election is tomorrow – office received 50% of ballots on elections day, Auditor needs another position to cover Dept of Licensing as transactions are up from 6000 to 8000, Continuing planning for new position to cover recreational trails, road, and planning. Public Works Update – Chip seal box broken down again – cost to replace; \$450,000. Discussion of Bonaparte Creek filled with sediment due to recent flooding. Recess 11:34 until 1:00.

9:03

LJ reports Superior Court will be doing depositions.

9:05

*****Executive Session 42.30.100.1(b)*****8

9:13

JD states that “it appears we have turned into a 3rd world country. Did you see what Pelosi did yesterday? Very scary! I used to think some of these guys saying we'd be *(unable to hear this)* There's just no accountability if you're a Democrat”

AH believes there is a lot of corruption.

9:15

no public comment

Emergency Services Manager, Maurice Goodall (MG) reporting the need for resolution on full restriction burn ban – no campfires. Will need to do a press release. MG states there has been a few fires but have been getting put out quickly.

JD reports seeing a guy on the Omak flats who is building a shop, had a fire going. He was going to

report, but just then DNR came on the scene. MG will come back to BOCC this afternoon at 3:25. There was some talk about an outside door that needs to be secured. JD remembers when a guy slipped ATA into the courthouse and slept overnight in the restroom.

LJ is talking with Tim about the door.

9:28

Moved, seconded, and carried (*I believe CB abstained from voting*)
on the Consent Agenda:

1. Acknowledge services & repair order on new hydraulic oil elevators
2. Resolution 111-2022 Technical assistance ARPA allocation-Economic Alliance
3. Resolution 112-2022 Negative Impact Data Project ARPA Allocation – Economic Alliance
4. Resolution 113-2022 Budget Amendment Sheriff Special Projects – SAR

9:30

Approving August 1st & 2nd minutes/proceedings.

AH has received some comments from people regarding the Fire District 6 Fire Hall project. AH states that we haven't signed anything yet (*for ARPA funding*)
Considerable discussion followed regarding ARPA funding, how paid – after project completed and for services rendered?

10:00

Paid vouchers from the Aero Methow Emergency Services for \$60,000
Tonasket EMS \$16, 200 and Oroville EMS for \$9,680

10:25

Cari Hall (CH), County Auditor: monthly updates on Recording going well. Budgets are due today. The new accounting system (MANIS) will not be live until January 2024. She does not want to do sooner and have to work in 2 or more different systems when it can all be done in the new one.
Working closely with the vendor on scheduling.

10:30

CH discusses e-mail received from Fair manager regarding Vendors' need for DRS form. She is waiting to hear back from DRS as to whether this needs to be completed every year or not. W-9 (IRS form) is suggested to update every 3 years.

10:38

CH reports on elections. 50% of ballots received on election day. Next ballot count is tomorrow at 5:00. CH needs to order some more boxes to archive ballots as they are out of secure boxes. They'll be ordering 6 big boxes.

CH states that it was helping having staff members from the Secretary of State office during the election. We were able to ask a lot of questions. Okanogan County has over 20,000 registered voters. This primary we had a 48% turnout – up from usual 40%

CH brought some statistics to share with BOCC. States auditor's office is busy year round and they have lost 2 back up and 2 others. Monitoring requirements for DOL have increased and take more time. It takes 4 hours weekly just for the monitoring and they are also required to be 100% accurate. County get money per transaction. In 2019 - 6420, 2020 – 6215, 2021-6527 transactions yearly. But, in 2022, as of 6/30 7400 transactions. We now qualify for 9 new stations. Bottom line, CH is requesting another position. This will be a Union position, CB states that based on the evidence she brought, please work

with HR, Union. CH will bring back a resolution for BOCC to consider.

10:56

Josh Thomson (JT), County Engineer, talks with BOCC and CH regarding the new position being created for Trails, Roads, and Planning. How to put into budget, pay, and keep track of different funding sources. & how to deposit the revenue. AH states treat like a grant.

11:07

JT on maintenance and road conditions. Chip truck broke down again. Has been able to borrow an old one from DOT but planning on purchasing.

JT states that we try to do 3 chip seal areas per year. *Apparently, there is going to be some large expansion/development from Gebbers.*

11:12

CB mentions something about the Sub-Areas planning, but no other discussion at this time.

It will cost \$450,000 to replace chip box. Will take \$200,000 out of roads for this purchase. AH suggests borrowing money and/or using money from sale of property. JT would prefer not to do that.

11:22

JT discusses working with a landowner in the Bonaparte Creek area that has 2 & 1/2 feet of sand/sediment in the bed since the flood. Property owner wants the County to clean out the stream bed but that is not what the County would do. JT not looking at this as a road project. A bypass will protect the road. CB asks what WDFW wants, and JT states if you ask a question, then you're on record. AH will talk with Salmon Recovery about this issue.

More discussion on the Recreational Trails, Planning, and OCOG position

JT states repair of the Oroville shop roof will be just under \$95,000

Still moving through the Salmon Creek Project. There is no change on the Cameron Lake project – regarding right of way.

11:34

Recess until 1:00 for swearing in for Public Health.