

BOCC Staff Meeting

Tuesday September 15, 2020 *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.*

Andy Hover- AH, Chris Branch – CB, Jim DeTro – JD, Lanie Johns - LJ

9:00 Dave Gecas, Deputy Prosecuting Atty; more funds needed for law library, \$6,000, need budget supplemental, court collections declining due to legislation changed.

New contract needed for AgriPlex.

9:15 – 10: 00****Executive sessions (3) with Dave Gecas ***** 110.1I, 110.1D

10:04 Pete Palmer, Planning. Report of WRIA 49, public meeting coming up.

10:10 AH & CB wants to discuss planning documents before finalized.

10:12 LJ; rec'd letter from Dept of Commerce upping COVID funds – contracts need to be in place to get reimbursed

Also, letter from Senator Murray's office

LJ checked costs on Omni-Mics for hearing room,
AH, also, need a new camera. LJ, this is already happening

Signatures needed on the Ordinance 20-6 approved last week.

10:21 letter of support to PUD for a Grant application
Final report for Methow Broadband, public works band application.

10:30 Antigen testing for schools discussed, 19 cases in past 14 days.
CB – if schools need to do something more, maybe we need to get involved.
AH – I agree

AH also suggested a letter to AT&T, Verizon regarding communication issues when county is overloaded.

10:35 AH stated we are a recreation based economy, JD states “we are agricultural based with recreation as a highlight”. AH agrees

10:47 Discussion of previous minutes not sent to BOCC yet, LJ remedied this.

11:02

Josh Thompson, Public Works and Kent Kovalenko, Solid Waste Manager; resolution regarding salvage/garbage from current fires for free dumping? How to control who is eligible and who is not. Who to contact for Tribal?

JD suggests a press release re: free garbage dumping for burned out residents.

11:18 Apple Maggots discussion – applying for a variance d/t quarantine in some areas of county,. There is the need for fruit to be transported in spite of. Josh Tomsen corresponding with USDA

Also, discussion of Governor Inslee bringing apples to Bridgeport when we have quarantine on fruit. That fruit needs to be tested...?

AH asks about presentation on BioChar. A beneficial product comes from this. Use of compost facility for organic matter (one in Kittitas County).

Josh Thomsen – DNR crews working with County to grade roads to take down hazard trees. Soap Lake Rd

AH thanks Public Works for responding to emergency, water needs, etc.

Josh Thomsen reports; Bridge Deck preservation ongoing, currently in Oroville.

11:40 ; Kent Kovalchenko – BTW, can volunteer groups recycle, surplus or repurpose garbage collected – if salvagable, ie railroad ties, gates, and poles.

Will reach out to ask. AH thinks, why not? They have paid for their dumping, then belongs to the County,.

11:45 Adjourn for lunch.