

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday AM September 7, 2021

Present:

Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC Chair, District 1

Jim DeTro (JD) – BOCC, District 3

Andy Hover (AH) on vacation

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://okanogancounty.org/avcapture.html> can assist in finding the correct spot on the video recording.

Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions: Short discussion with Superior Court – re-scheduled until September 21st @8:15 AM as AH will be back from vacation, Discussion re: fair being supported by all 3 Commissioners, concern of shutting fair down d/t Covid #'s/janitorial staff cancelled, along with 6 other vendors /masks to be available not- required, signage and hand wash stations , interviewed candidates for Clerk 3 Position in BOCC office, Accepted Pioneer Waterproofing bid to do building assessment for courthouse, Noxious Weed staffing requested and approved, Road maintenance and road condition update, current projects, equipment purchases from last year have not been received yet.

8:20 opens AV Capture.

Dennis Rabidou, Court Administrator and Judge Culp in attendance discussing options for the court. They have been using the AgriPlex due to Covid protocols. Discussion of purchasing the Forest Service building and/or a possible lease/option, which may qualify for ARPA funds.

AH is on vacation until the 20th of this month. Re-scheduled discussion until Sept 21st @815 AM

Court Staff leave.

8:30 JD enters Commissioners Meeting room.

CB updated him on the discussion

8:35 CB letting JD know that he wrote a statement on the fairground's website. Signed by the Commissioners. CB "We're not telling anyone what to do" CB also explained that he signed vendor contract for the Goods Music @ the Fair.

8:37 Some discussion about the fairground's tractor waiting on a part.

8:41 – Both CB and JD discussed the fact that the Fair Advisory Committee and the newspaper had it wrong about only 2 commissioners supporting the fair. All three BOCC are on board with the fair this CB wrote an article. JD is glad he did.

8:45 People keep asking JD if the Health Dept will be shutting down the fair. These are the people that are 'pro-fair'.

CB states food vendors will have to be masked. I'm hoping everyone stays calm.

JD states 'preventative measures' *Not exactly sure what he was referring to.*

CB & JD discuss the e-mail from Dr Wallace regarding people wanting to shut the fair down. The fair will not be shut down.

8:55 – Judges sent from the Dept of Ag will be at the fair on Thursday. CB asked JD if he could meet with them.

9:02 LJ has 2 items to update BOCC on; interviewed for the Clerk 3 position, there were 3 candidates. Would like to offer the job to one candidate that stood out from the others & secondly, the deadline for the RSQ destination marketing with LTAC ended/closed. LJ wondered if they would consider opening up for additional responses. LJ had been contacted by someone on the LTAC board. Contract with OCTC ends 12/31/2021.

9:07 Dave Gecas, Civil Deputy, is writing up some resolutions and wanted to run them by the Board. From litigations Resolution 443-2021 – Will need to talk with the Plaintiffs' attorney, O'Connell. Also, Comp Plan and other related matters. JD asks if there is a timeline because he would like to wait until AH is back as this is in his district.

Executive Session with Civil Deputy and Pete Palmer, and Board**

From 9:10 to 9:30

9:52 Naomie Peasley, NP, Fairgrounds Manager updates on getting ready for the fair; water trucks are rolling in. 24/7 and Tollefson to donate 2 water trucks for the fair use.

Janitorial Staff have cancelled, but NP is getting a replacement.

Regarding Covid protections: there will be signage and banners through the fairgrounds.

There are people who are wanting to shut down the fair.

NP – We have masks and sanitizer at all entryways to buildings. Hand wash stations

Vista – the sign maker wants to take pictures for national recognition.

NP – Also some people that are cancelling are asking for a refund. JD states not until after August 13th.

JD - Does not want to answer this without AH. How many vendors are backing out? 6

However, 3 more have signed up.

CB is inclined to give fee back but will wait for AH.

JD asked NP about the Soroptimists still doing okay with their non-profit #? NP we are not going to have to use them and there is talk about getting non-profit status for the fair in the future.

Cari Hall (CH), Auditor brings in 8 contracts that need to be signed by the BOCC.

NP is being careful to differentiate what is a fair expense vs fairgrounds ongoing expense.

NP states it is super busy right now.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve voucher for the Omak Class of 2022 to do the garbage and

cleaning service for \$6400, also Moved, Seconded, and Carried for \$75,2018 payroll and vouchers.

10:00 Mike Worden (MW), Communications Officer in attendance due to Request For Qualification/quotes on the courthouse building assessment.

Timeline – LJ is hoping to secure these for a spring project.

10:24

LJ recommends Pioneer Waterproofing to do building assessment for courthouse. Moved, seconded, and carried to approve Pioneer Waterproofing.

10:25 – Larry Hudson (LH), Noxious Weed Manager requesting a change in staffing. Has been unable to fill the Lead Field Technician position – no one meets qualifications. Requests permission to change from lead to Field Tech with a different route to lead position.

LH has been to HR already with this proposal. Moved, seconded, and carried to approve this. 117-2021

Also, LH would like to change the positions to be 3 steps, as field technician is entry level, and with these step increases, could gain the education/experience needed for the lead position. LH has started a draft resolution creating this 3 step approach. Moved, seconded, and carried to approve this Resolution 118-2021

10:51 Josh Thomson, County Engineer reports on maintenance and road conditions. Collecting a list of concerns of big trees by roadways.

10:57 JT also discussed the extra traffic count on Omak Mountain Road. - Pretty high number.

Items on the Consent agenda are resolutions 112,113,114-2021 all relating to the Twisp River Road Project.

Other projects; Monse Bridge, Ross Canyon Road.

11:08 Meeting Adjourned until public comment @1:30