

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
6/30/2020 and 7/1/2020**

In Attendance:

Jim DeTro (JD) - BOCC, Chair District 3

Chris Branch - (CB) BOCC, Vice-Chair District 1 Andy Hover - (AH) BOCC, District 2

Lanie Johns - (LJ) Clerk of the Board

Tanya Craig - (TC) Risk Management, Human Resources

Maurice Goodall - (MG) Emergency Management

Kyle - Fairgrounds Maintenance

Josh Thomson - (JT) Public Works

Citizens - Attending Via Zoom

Note: 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 with note taker comments or clarifications in italics. The notes are published at county-watch.org and are not the official minutes of the meeting. For official county minutes, usually published by the county at a later time, see <https://okanogancounty.org/Commissioners/Minutes%202020/2020%20Minutespage.html>. or link at countywatch.org.

6/30/2020 Summary: Issues surrounding **County Fair** cancellation and other possibilities for animal auction, canned goods, etc. A rambling meeting: **Capital Facilities Plan** discussion weaves among other topics throughout the day. Confusion over status of the plan and what has been done so far, since Planning Director Huston no longer employed. Concerns over relationship between Capital Facilities Plan and Comprehensive Plan; **Citizen Comment Period:** apparently unattended by public. **Fairgrounds Maintenance** update & details; Discussion re **Capital Facilities/ Title 3 funds** and contracts related to EMS. Detailed **Public Works** update. **Executive Sessions** regarding possible litigation and performance of an employee.

7/1/2020 Summary: No one from the county appeared on the scheduled Zoom meeting. Two members of the public attending. One of them called Lanie, the Clerk, to see what was up. Lanie states that BOCC decided yesterday not to call in. (*1:30 call-in was still on the agenda for this time.*)

NOTES:

8:58: Meeting already in progress at 8:58 AM. Apparently 9:00 staff meeting had already started.

COUNTY FAIR CONVERSATION: FAIR TO BE CANCELED, OTHER POSSIBILITIES FOR ANIMAL AUCTION AND OTHER

AH does not want the fair committee blamed for any decision not to have a fair.

CB - However, their advice is important to me. If they had recommended that we have the fair, we would have made the same decision, right?

AH - Yes. Talked with Lauri Jones . We are above 12.5 cases for 14 days. *(Would not reach the appropriate level necessary.)*

CB - Did you receive the e-mails from the other county fairs? A bunch rolled in yesterday. Many said they were canceling but having a virtual fair.

AH - Natasha has already started on a plan for auctioning the animals and doing a virtual showing for the still life exhibit (canning, etc.)

B - San Juan county offered to share any information if we are interested.

AH - I think we are in discussion.

JD - Any further discussion?

All in favor - all

JD - Reluctantly.

(Assuming this is to cancel the fair - see below.)

JD - It's 9:00 - Let's do the pledge....(someone says it was already done.)

AH - We actually just voted to cancel the fair. *(In answer to note taker question over chat, apparently.)*

CB - Motion to guide staff to submit any proposal for the auction to the health officer.

AH - We were talking last night, there are a few items that need to be "tweaked."

CB - I wouldn't be reluctant to submit it in a draft format.

AH - Label it as draft.

AH - Animals were an agricultural activity. So as long as they were wearing masks, social distancing, etc.

LJ - Did the motion carry?

AH -- Yes. (Note taker didn't hear it.)

CB - Having trouble with the cameras

VOICE -35 people tuned I last night via zoom.

AH - Got calls last night in support from the public.

Woman - Thank you for being there, Cmr Hover. The nay-sayers are coming along. Also, Chronicle published an article.

CB - Did they get the draft letter?

Woman - So -and -so is on the committee.

CB - I asked if they got the letter.

Voice - yes.

Voice - How would you like me to formally put that out there?

AH - One thing last night: How were, where were they to go fo find change in direction of the stock sale? Branch said to send to Lauri. ON Monday or Tuesday next week, put on our Home Page so all barn superintendents can see what Commissioners are pushing for. You want to write a press release? Brock has already put it out there.

Voice - NO, but if you ask me to I will do it. I'm not on the committee.

AH - No, for the commissioners. Start out , it's with a sad heart and with cancelations across the state, have canceled 2020 Ok county fair....we understand that.....

Voice - I go the contract moving on from fair. Any questions?

STAFF MEETING:

Note: Speakers not announced.

Speaker: Superior court - Open house at the fairgrounds tomorrow. I have contract for that. Ecology is waiting on one more. Insulation for superior court.....Moving forward with production, will be writing a check.

AH - Looks like those things can be installed on a single cable.

Voice - You are right.

AH -The one you ordered came with the cabling? They quoted a good price.

Voice - All I have.

FAIRGROUNDS UPDATE

Someone - Kyle wants us to spend money today. (Laughter.)

With the unfortunate cancelation of the fair. Want to cancel money for..... And instead spend for a tractor? One of the brakes locks up.

AH - Did we have the \$\$ budgeted? Would you be willing to also - wasn't it \$10,000 bucks? Other thing is the arena "bater?" Chisel bar with a roller. Sp \$1700 to fix tractor. How about water truck?

Kyle - I will go over to the shop. Won't start unless you jump the starter. Details.

JD - If someone goes under hood and changes to manual, it won't shut off.

CB - Still serious parallel switch....

AH - Hopefully not much \$\$ if it's not electrical.

Kyle - right

AH - Was going to ask, how long have we had that water truck? Or the other one surpluses just recently?

All - about 8 years ago or so.

Kyle - It's not easy to drive into any water at the fairgrounds.

JD - It's an albatross. We should ask Josh if they are getting closer to surprising the water truck.

More discussion of mechanical details.

AH - So you need a decision. We would need to make actual decision because it's part of a wage line and the bottom line. Would say go ahead and fix it and get prices on arena baiters.

Joking around about money. Chit-chat about courthouse, historical society in re pictures.

Kyle - caught up on spraying to be done today.

AH - We missed the grant opportunity for WSDA safety grant, due last October. Will come up again, but will only have a year to get things done. Roofing is a safety issue. The electrical portion...if you called Chris, he has \$\$ on the parts, etc, but we'd need to get labor Preliminary costs ...anything you want that is related to safety at the fair. If you can get preliminary pricing for pieces of that stuff, I'd like to write another grant in October, but we will only have a year again. Want to be prepared.

AH - I wonder if Josh can come up here real quick - or else.....

CB - Next agenda item? (11:00.)

AH - Either Pete comes in at 11:00 or we bring him in here now. Best if Pete comes in at 11:00. Actually 2 items for Executive Session.

LJ - Some things I'd like to talk about in exec session as well. Performance issues. About 10 minutes. Not sure how much the board might need after that.

CB - Topics?

LJ - performance of a public employee.

CB - Asks Pete if you have anything?

PP - Will be back at 11:00.

AH - moves to go into exec session for 10 minutes. Performance of public employee, inviting Lanie.

9:28 _ Executive session requested for 10 minutes.

9:40 - BOCC returns from Exec Session. *Hard to follow any of this conversation, because it apparently has to do with whatever was discussed in the Exec. Session)*

Apparent confusion over Capital Facilities/Title 3 Funds

CB: What is your timeline on this?

AH - Timeline? On what?

CB - I know what you are going to ask about, but what was your timeline?

AH - How do you know what I was going to bring up?

CB - Because it's on my mind as well as on your mind.

AH - Time frame? Yesterday?

LJ - There was a draft, apparently a draft by Huston.

AH - Perry was going with Comp Plan with Capital Facilities portion of the plan. All we wanted....

LJ - The resolution part says....that is the part that needs to be changed?

CB - Called adopting the Capital Improvement plan. Which I have partially finished.

AH - Interesting to know you knew what I was going to bring up.

CB - We have a lot fo things to talk about, coinciding with what we talked about in Exec Session.

AH - To Lanie - need to talk with Maurice...

LJ - He called me. He had heard the board discussing that with me.

AH - What did he say?

LJ - Can't remember.

AH - Can we get him in here?

CB - I think he was prepared to deal with it. I talked with him. He can make an adjustment. Apparently (Arlene, Verlene?) is paid to do something? He would have to talk about that.

AH - We need to schedule, we have only 45 days.

LJ - Are you going to get him? I'll call him.

NOTE: the whole agenda seems to have gone out the door as far as timing is concerned.

Maurice Goodall: Title 3 funds and contracts.

BOCC to Goodall: Did you hear about Title 3 funds? Because you didn't spend any last year and the rollover and some other things, are obligated to fund.. your contract doesn't have an end date. We are going to change these policies. We need to cover that obligation

MG - I don't need it right now. Right now we are ...long term recovery. I have a meeting at 10:30. I have enough \$\$ to cover that in my account, but would like to replace that.

LJ - RFP go out in August, due in September so BOCC can consider obligating funds at end of Sept.

AH - Time frame would be Oct 1 - Sept 31. Or did we go Nov 1 - Oct 31?

LJ - We have Oct contracts we were adjusting that well. Would work well as long as it is in time for BOCC's county budget.

AH - We had already approved, so with this it just changes.

MG - Have been working toward using it.

LJ - Keep in mind the coordination that is needed prior

MG - We will be working with Secretary of the Interior (breaking up.)

AH - So you can do this before application?

LJ - Not sure when that language showed up. There have been some changes on USFS website. Not always clear.

AH - So we need a public hearing?

LJ - NO. A public meeting.

AH - But there needs to be a 45 day comment period.

Are you Ok with putting that out right away?

CB - I knew you might have a margin - so thanks for details.

9:54 - SILENCE (Hover leaves, JD leaves apparently. No quorum? Only voices are Branch and LJ)

9:55 - Conversation, LJ and CB: important dates.

Board of equalization hearings begin July 30th. Must convene on July 15th. Once the rule have been certified. Normally around this time.

CB - wondering about location of county burn bans. That has been the same for awhile - "vegetation" on website should be "vegetation."

LJ - DNR is coming.

CB - It still says burn ban has been lifted. (It was lifted last year.) Where I'm going with this - the resolution was to adapt Capital Improvement plan, and it's tied with Comp Plan. Capital Improvement plans are often developed by departments They have improvements they have to make to maintain integrity of buildings. Want to take out the recitals and go right to the tax on real estate. That one says Capital Improvement plan...just make it that and specific for maintenance. This list of projects can then be used in the plan.

JD re-enters?

CB - Brings up needed review of Critical Areas Ord. (To unidentified woman. Sounds like PP or Tanya Craig.) May be a part of the planning budget. This is a part of our problem with Comp Plan/zoning. *Conversation between woman and Branch.*

CB - I was thinking about what you just said about Mark, that this would suffice. (*Apparently regarding Atty Johnson's review of Comp Plan draft.*) Cheaper than (Chaddis?) Anyway.

LB - Intake security lights installed?

Woman - yes.

So what we are doing now is a quickie Capital Improvement plan. Can we take it off the list" Yes.

CB - going along with Comp Plan since dependent upon growth. Doing a quick update.

Woman - you don't have anything for me do you? I'm doing an active shooter training.

AH - has a question. Ecology water meeting going on right now. A committee to look at water banking, water transfers. One of us should be on it.

CB - I am busy making capital improvement plan. OK with me if you are on it.

AH - Come and get me when we get to executive session.

JD _ We are having exec session??

AH - Yes. Not on agenda. Talking about animal bill?

To woman (Tanya?) - maybe you should be here for that.

Tanya - lists meetings and many various dates and times.

Note: Agenda not being followed, many different chats and discussions. Note taker leaving. Joking around. Casual discussion, past recollections - cell phones being lost.

TC - Will talk with Pete about CAO.

Branch - Gecas really busy.

TC - talks about helping to draft (CAO???) faint.

On chat: From County: "So far, there were several motions, cancelled the 2020 fair, executive sessions (2) and provided staff direction to submit fair animal auction plan to health officer."

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Josh Thomson:

JD - how are you guys?

JT -Did you go to Wallace this year?

JD _ yes.

JT - Last time we went to Wallace and Gold Creek Lodge (goes into details)

Unknown voice: *(Dave? Dave Hilton?)* Haven't seen all the RV's. See a couple, but not like....

JD - There's . . . every year we go to someplace new, over there. Amazing. Some repeat stuff, like that bar in Montana. Nice people, good food.

JT - Nice scenery , more moisture.

What's new?

CB - seems like you were here yesterday.

JD - Josh I have had quite a few folks in the highlands who are wondering if from the bottom of the 9-Mile, right after you leave orchards on the flats...could that speed limit be increased from 35 mph> I think it's 35 mph all the way up to Rice Road.

JT - Will have to look at that. Not sure. Can look into history of when it was changed and why, etc.

JD - Do see our federal PILT came in? \$100,000 more this year.

CB - What did we do?

Jokes.

JD - were we supposed to get AH for Exec session?

Which shall we do first?

JD _ Need to grab Andy.

JD _That wasn't an illegal meeting. Laughter.

JD _ thought we'd do Exec Session first when Dave gets back.

CB - How long will it take?

Voice - 15 min.

All BOCC present.

Including Dave Gecas, Pete Palmer, Josh Thomson - to address potential litigations. 15 min .

JT - Looks like it's 50 mph (from milepost? To?) - referring to DeTro comment on road from 9-Mile up to Rice Road.

Exec session 11:02

11:20 - Need 10 more minutes.

Lanie - More minutes?

11:44: BOCC re-enters

Post - Exec. Session Discussion (*Note: Very difficult to follow, since note taker is not involved with Executive Sessions.*)

AH - Do we want to contact the Colvilles? Let's do that prior to Josh (*Public Works Update*)

CB - Just notify Cody.

AH - More like: we are thinking of this, what are your thoughts?

CB - His thoughts are ok, but he will need to see counsel - he hasn't even seen it.

AH - Leaving for Ecology meeting.

CB - I would ask him if he wants to be added to Amicus brief for USFS, but he said he'd need to talk with counsel.

AH - need to talk with him anyway.

CB - Let's do it later.

Someone from Public Works.

Lanie = asks him to use mic. (*Still broken up.*)

Voice: Pond update - they did 5 spots. Recommend to replace all 5. Cut out a 10x10 section. Once we ??, we can see. For me, if there were 5 failures and there are punctures, may just put in a new liner. 20 some years old.

Man requests Public Works involvement with abandoned bicycle project:

Voice: Received phone call from a citizen who refills bikes and donates to kids. He'd like to recoup his costs. Asked if we could set bikes aside for him to pick up. They do this in Jefferson County. I don't like these programs because they look good on paper, but he wants to take this and that....the only way this really works is if there is a re-use area. You need one person to man it. We don't have the \$\$ to go through all this. A great diversion.....

We may be able to encourage them to advertise.

CB - Bikes get thrown away and don't need to.

Voice - When you get to metal pile, you always see 2 or 3.

CB - If you are doing recycle, it's different.

More discussion of other operations like this.

Voice - wanted to bring up to you.

CB/JD agree there are complications. Could be a stolen bike is one of them. Idea to get a business like that started would be an ok idea. Someone could be doing that. They are in Tonasket. Could be profitable '

CB - Green Okanogan doing it with recycling program. Lots of volunteers.

Don't need to pay salaries.or have a very low income.

JT - most everything on this side is underway. Next week move out of the Methow to other areas. Press release end of this week, will do every week, with schedule.

Lost heat pump that cools Health Dept upstairs. Needs crane.

11:55 - Note taking stops. Lunch.

1:30 - Citizen Comment Period (*1:40 - Note taker joins session - delayed due to lengthy chip-sealing traffic delay in Twisp.*) Apparently no one called in, since BOCC is already involved with the BOCC discussion below:

Extended Discussion on Capital Facilities Plan and whether it has been updated, how to deal with it in relation to Comp Plan BOCC attempts to trace history:

PC conducted hearing at end of 2017. Says public hearings extended to Dec. 1. Hearing on the 1st, the 13th extended to the 4th. Recommended the update to the plan be adopted. BOCC discussed and accepted update and used it to inform the 2020 budget, but nothing done with the plan.

AC - Did they have another public hearing on the 2012 adopted one so it was current?

LJ - NO. When Perry started his update, he had in mind including it in the update to the Comp plan

AH - Did they have the public hearing?

LJ - no idea.

CB - Nov. 13, 2017 was the last hearing. Hearing continued to Dec. 4. due to lack of quorum, discussed proposed update. PC recommended the cap facility plan be adopted. Then it says we used it for the 2020 budget, but didn't adopt the plan.

LJ - First year you were commissioners. Maybe there were changes the board wanted. I think I have something from Perry about changes later. Will look for minutes.

CB - Final thing - we are not planning under the GMA, and if we make minor changes, it's probably acceptable. But you can move up those projects. That one is the earlier version - the 2012 one.

AH - What I think he did, he said there will be further projects coming in at a later date. I think that to have an updated version, which we never voted on, he took the same plan they had in 2012.....

No one can decide which is the plan. They have several copies.

AH - So I think he brought it up to date.

CB - that's why you called it combined.

LJ - NO - there is another one that he....

CB -Because the 2rd thing I wanted to consider was,...if there is a Cap Facilities plan, there is no reference here to it being a part of the Comp Plan.

****Confusion over the wording*******

CB - We don't plan under the Act (GMA), so we can adopt this capital facilities plan. The Comp Plan is going forward. Does not need to be adopted at the same time. The GMA limits certain things.

Ah -Isn't the Cap Facilities plan an option under the GMA?

CB - Not sure about counties.

LJ - Looking for version from Planning. Should be Planning Commission, not sure.
All 3 individuals looking at plans, trying to figure out which one was adopted, and if it says anything in re Comp Plan. Looking for the word "Enhanced."

CB - Adopting Cap Facilities plan without the elements of the Comp Plan would serve us for what we need to do.

LJ - Both versions that say they are Perry's have highlights and question marks on them.

Note taker leaves 1:52 PM.

7/1/2020

1:30- No one from the county appears on the scheduled Zoom meeting. 2 members of the public attending. One of them calls Lanie, the Clerk, to see what's up. Lanie states that BOCC decided yesterday not to call in. *(Note - the 1:30 call-in was still on the agenda for this time.)*