

**BOCC Staff meeting  
Tuesday August 4, 2020  
AM Session**

All three Commissioners present, and Lanie Johns, Clerk of Board

*These notes were taken by a County Watch volunteer via ZOOM. 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>.*

**Summary:**

*Fairground issues: water truck purchase, bathrooms/shower stalls, use charges; courthouse roofing, Douglas county inmates. COVID protocol: employee safety vs confidentiality. Responsibilities of Departments; lack of masks within courthouse; need for information on cases for protection for employees protection. Budgets & Communication. Public Hearing: 6- year transportation plan; Public works update.*

**9:00: Continued discussion of water truck purchase. 2 Options; an 80's model 400 Cummings for \$35,000, and another one with a long wheel base for \$17,000**

Discussion of repair of Mens' bathroom by the RV park @ the Fairgrounds with Naomie Peasley and Kyle Hauge, staff from the Fairgrounds. AH thinks we should consider re-doing the showers as they are not working. JD is concerned about transients/ shady people using the facilities and he likes the idea of putting paylocks on the shower stalls.

Naomi Peasley explained that we have no camp host this year which is part of the problem. She also noted that other parks do not have bathrooms open to the public this year d/t COVID.

These bathrooms are utilized by the people camped at the RV park.

Firefighters/strike teams usually pay \$100 per day per team for their use. Per Naomie Peasley, there will not be coming back this year.

Courthouse called about the roofing material not being here yet. The plan is to start on the roofing project Monday the 10<sup>th</sup>. An e-mail needs to go out to everyone notifying them of this.

\*\*\*\*Executive sessions with David Gecas, Chief Civil Deputy Atty and Pete Palmer These took 25 minutes.

Tanya Craig, HR and Risk Manager; Reports that she, AH, and Sheriffs Deputy attended meeting regarding Douglas County Inmates (?)

There are numerous job openings at the District Court, Sheriff's Office, and Prosecuting Atty office.

## **COVID-19**

There was a lot of discussion regarding COVID protocol and how to keep the employees safe and yet follow HIPPA rules. CB has been reading up on this.

Tanya Craig states she is relying on the Health Dept to notify if an employee has tested positive.

CB asked whether Dept leads are fully implementing responsibilities? The strategy can be that Tanya is in touch with public health. However, being on the board, the BOCC should be knowledgeable also regarding protocols.

JD asked : why do we need to do masks and Social Distancing?

AH states that a lot of people think this is a farce. He asks, “at what level and what are we going to do?” These are questions for Lauri Jones from the Health District.

How can we strategize if we do not know who has been exposed? Would like to, at least, know which department. Apparently, people still come to the courthouse to do business and are not wearing a mask. A sign may need to be put up regarding the need for customers to have a mask. Lauri Jones from Health Department will be meeting with BOCC @2:05 today.

A lot more discussion of whether masks work and our rural atmosphere with people who don't want to be told what to do, per JD. AH wonders if there is a lack of understanding. These are questions that can be asked of Lauri Jones from the health Dept.

CB stated that it is the County government's responsibility to set an example.

## **BUDGETS**

Moving on to next agenda item.

Budgets. Sheriff's communications/dispatch budget is \$85,000-\$86,000 and has already gone through the advisory board.

Mike Worden from Communications and Sheriff Hawley.

Considering office safety and fire communications. Can we get a 2<sup>nd</sup> radio channel? One negative to be concerned with – grounding. Grounding is especially critical with all the new technology.

Discussion of this.

## **PUBLIC HEARING: 6-YEAR TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

11:00 Public Hearing for 6 year transportation plan 2021-2026. culvert replacement, chip seal, etc. no questions, no public comment.

MSC to approve.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Josh Thompson, County Engineer discussed about engineering contract expires in 2021. Would like to start working on that.

He also reported about the MV recycling wanting to do some improvements to the building they lease from the County. They want to expand an awning and they have some security issues. MV Recycling is a on-profit program.

Other reports from Josh Thompson; Chip seal to be complete on Thursday, Town of Winthrop is complete, and they will be doing some more roads in Twisp.

Discussion about problems with the road interface with Hwy 97 and Pleasant Valley Road West. The edge of the asphalt needs some attention. Will get some pictures to see what can be done.

It does have an Average Daily use (ADP) of 194 which is sizable.

Discussion of road in Oroville that is being utilized by Oroville Remand/Reload. They hire around 150 employees and this road is a key economic generator per CB. He also suggested there may be some congressional support for this. This road is on the edge of flood plain.

Something does need to be done.

Other discussion; Sno Park passes down this winter, Sales tax revenue up except for February. This might be attributed to more people shopping locally.

Meeting adjourned until 1:30 this afternoon. Health Dept to meet with BOCC @2:05