

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, October 6, 2020 PM**

Present:

Jim DeTro (JD) - BOCC Chair, District 3
Chris Branch (CB) - BOCC Vice Chair, District 2
Andy Hover (Absent) - BOCC, District 1
Lanie Johns (LJ) - Clerk of the Board

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Time Stamps: In real time, viewable on the clock on AV Capture screen

Summary: No public comment; Offering Deputy Clerk job: to Crystal Hawley, Sheriff's wife; No public comments on Supplementals. **Cold Springs Fire Recovery: Kathy Power** along with Carlene Anders, Maurice Goodall, Corey Heinselmann, Naomi Peasley discuss: **Intakes** at 276 through today; discussion of **fairgrounds phase-out and transition** to short term relief; lumber, fencing, donation storage; fundraising; trash/metal/concrete clean-up and collection; coordination of hay, fencing materials delivery; disaster case manager starts November 1; status of **regional resources and non-profit assistance; manpower shortage;** identifying needs; coordination with Tribes; change from name of Long-Term Recovery to formation of Okanogan/Omak Recovery as a new, ongoing 501 (c) 3. **Concerns remain over the pace and extent of clean-up** as compared with what happened after previous fires - possible remedies?

1:30 PM - Public Comment Session -

1:38 : LJ asks if commissioners want to call for comments. JD - If they want to comment, they'd better put their hands up. *No Comments today.*

1:15:08 - 1:19:00 Discussion of hiring of Chrystal Hawley, Sheirri's wife, to be offered job as Deputy Clerk of the Board. Kathy Power, Ca

LJ - Interviewed Sheriff Hawley's wife, Crystal. I plan to hire her for the position. Have not told her yet. Johanna resigned for a better job. Deputy Clerk of the Board.

JD - Best qualified?

LJ - May not have all the qualifications, but willing and excited - sometimes that is half the challenge. Very vested in the county. 5 applicants, interviewed 2 (that was after publishing for last four weeks in the Chronicle and on Facebook.) If she accepts, would start on October 21.

(LJ notes later (1;21:43) than another reason she brought this up is that she I can't sustain this much longer without making significant mistakes. Forgot to pay VISA in September, so we have a penalty. Need a motion to pay the maintenance VISA Card with late fees.

CB - Motion made and passed.

1:28:55 - Public Hearings:

JD - We should have done the two public hearings.

1. Supplemental, Various: Juvenile Law Library, BECA funds: No comment, motion passes.
2. Supplemental - Corona Virus relief funds: CARES act funding reimbursement etc. This one provides immediate funds that allowed us to process checks to small businesses through economic alliance. No comment. Motion passes.

1:33:23 - Maurice Goodall, Long Term recovery.

Things are winding down, need to talk about how to move forward with short term relief. There are requests to do things at the fairground. Proper way is probably to go through fairgrounds like anyone else in my opinion. As in our response portion, the fairgrounds is tapering down, not accepting anything. Trying to phase out. Some items will be turned over to initial relief.

Kathy Power: Cold Springs fire relief.

Naomi Peasley, Corey Heindselman, Carlene Anders, Maurice Goodall

Naomi Peasley: Discussion of passing on various materials - who, how , whento short term recovery, how donations can be handled. Do not have volunteer base to staff and distribute. Want to do fundraising, coordinate delivery, offer fencing, hay, coordinate with Naomi, also coordination of volunteer teams. Number 1 goal is the fundraising part. What are requests for buildings.

Getting rid of everything, getting it out to people in need. Anything else I am moving it on to short term recovery group.

Corey Heindselman: Talked with Home Depot today.

Carlene Anders - Lumber, etc in big quanset, arts and crafts building. Start with disaster case manager, November 1. She has gotten 276 intakes until today (Jessica) We are streaming everyone through in terms of fencing to Kathy. So many resources are down in Oregon and CA, so they are not here.

Request to secure 2 buildings, one for lumber donation (Morrison & Morrison) for outbuildings, etc. Secure it through June of 2021 so we can collect through June of next year. Tables, kitchen ware, etc. softer goods. Aware of rodent issues.

CDR crew on Palmer - trying to get one of them to help with Cold Springs. With Aaron and his group from Ellensburg - will they stay on fencing or do cleanup? Working with Floyd right now. Might recruit more resources to work for Cold Springs. Carlene - has a call in for Regional Resources. Have heard nothing from Southern baptists. Still talking with Team Rubicon - they are focused on OR and CA. Discussion of credentials for operation, storage of donations, figuring out where the needs are, how to use funding.

Low on manpower. BOCC (??) declaration going through Governor.

PDR Christian Disaster reliefs is separate from Oroville group. (Non profits) Dealing with trash, possible coordination with Tribes .

Ecology/EPA, etc. - Only one house off reservation that was burnt. EPA/Ecology will only will come in and assist. They are not there to cite or do stop work orders. Stories we heard from Douglas County -not true.

Concrete structure clean-up discussed.

Number of uninsured homes unknown.

Ongoing discussion: Having 2nd meeting tonight (10/6/2020) at fairgrounds. Offering resources to people. Things are moving along at fairgrounds just fine.

Powers: Changing name away from Long-term Recovery: Omak/Okanogan Recovery Becoming 501 (c) 3. Have not yet applied for 501 (c) 3. If you are doing response for emergency management, we can do relief. Can't go on forever without staff. Last time, we went for 2 years and became inactive. Won't do that this time - will keep going. Need big enough crew and staff to become effective.

Concerns over clean-up progress:

2:05:25 Anders - I'm concerned - If there is any chance of support for cleanup - we won't be able to do it with only volunteers. I want to encourage hauling to landfill as a part of the declaration (Commissioners' declaration?) I see about 20-25% capacity of what we were in previous responses for relief - as compared to where we are with this fire. We need someone to separate and clean it up . They (?) will pay 75% and if tribe can pay 25%. Concerned that we won't get things cleaned up by spring when things need to be built and done. We will wait until we get the "Declaration" in order to clean up. We won't want to.

Powers: Makes point if landowners can clean up trash, we could clean up metal.

Branch: - Do we as a county say we are going to pick it up and haul it to the land fill? Do we step in? We can, there is a way, but we may put out a lot of money.

(Unknown) - If don't on private property, what needs to be done? Leave the garbage?

CB - Can the tribe be a part of the match? Not sure of the extent, but they supply garbage disposal on the Reservation.

Anders: - I can attest to the fact that there are a lot of people willing to clean up their place, but also a lot of them are bogged down so that they aren't willing to do this. But otherwise, we'll have garbage piles all over the county.

CB - Some were junkyards, now they are burnt junk yards. I know one person....their house burned a long time ago, and now.....they were bad, but when they are burnt, they are worse.

Anders: That 75% goes a long way.

Powers: It was a junkyard before it was a burned junkyard. That's not the responsibility of the.....Problem is, metal prices are good, and then the price goes downfor the whole west coast. The market gets saturated.

Powers: we need big canisters for the land fill. A lot of people don't have a way to haul, but they can put it into cannisters.

JD - The roll-offs are specifically for transfer stations.

Adjourned: 3:00