

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners  
(BOCC)  
May 28, 2019**

Jim Detro – JD (BOCC)	Leah McCormick – LM (Treasurer)
Chris Branch – CB (BOCC)	Cari Hall – CH (Auditor)
Andy Hover – AH (BOCC)	Stella Columbia – SC (Fair Events)
Josh Thomson – JT (Public Works)	Maurice Goodall – MG (Emergency Mgmt)
Debi Hilts – DH (HR)	Mike Worden – MW (Dispatch)
Joe Poulin – JP (Maintenance & Fair Grds)	Dan Higbee – DH (Building)
Perry Huston – PH (Planning)	George Thornton – GT (Citizen, County Watch)
Laleña Johns – LJ (BOCC Clerk)	Tony Hawley – TH (Sheriff)
Ben Rough – BR (Public Works)	Randy Clough (Central Service)
David Gechas – DG (Civil Att.)	Larry Gilman (Assessor)
Tanya Craig – TC (Risk Manager)	Annie Lyons (Noxious Weeds)

*Notes are impressions and interpretations of the note taker. Every attempt is made to assure accuracy. Specific comments by the note taker are in italics and not part of the official record or intended in any way to be other than the impressions of the note taker.*

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**Summary: Pledge of Allegiance, Pledge of Allegiance, FPA (Forest Practices Application) in the Methow Valley, Planning & Admin:** M-tank contract for ceiling, Supplemental budget for Planning Dept, WRIA & Aspect Consulting, **Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance:** Fair maintenance employee, Outside lights at the Agriplex, **Fair Events:** Billboard location, Fee Schedule changes recommendations, **Civil Attorney:** Immigration holds, Noxious Weeds warrants to inspect, Interlocal for the County take on the Tonasket Municipal Ct. cases, Listing of various lawsuits & legal actions, Microwave network, FPA & County Shoreline Management, **HR & Risk Management:** Fair Maintenance & Veterans positions, HR assistant position, Resignation in Dispatch, Draft contract for OBHC, FPA & County Shoreline Management, Building Dept Budget example, **Alta Vista Irrigation & City of Okanogan Improvement Project, Supplemental Appropriation for Noxious Weeds, Public Works:** Arena/Racetrack, Maintenance & Roads, Solid Waste, Fairgrounds – 5 CY dump truck, FEMA 2014 & 2015 PW cost closeout, Federal safety call for projects, Audit on the ER & R, **Review of Chewuch FPA application, Public Comment – None, Public Hearing – CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Planning Only Grant, Public Hearing – CDBG General Purpose Grant, OBHC Coordination Presentation**

Present JD, AH & CB. Staff: LJ, DG, PH, JP, SC

When notetaker arrives before 9:00 am a discussion is ongoing about having the **Pledge of Allegiance** for the opening. This will now be standard procedure. Some civic meetings also have an invocation. Some discussion about the Constitutionality of any particular religious inclination. Caution about recent Supreme Court rulings and MRSC interpretations for County governments.

AH & PW looked at the ç. Current track has a “low side” and Public Works feels can move dirt around and get most rocks will come to the top in the process and be removed. AH looking into a rock picker to complete the job.

Yakama Nation has asked about a **FPA (Forest Practices Application) in the Methow Valley** on the Chewuch River that is asking to clear a forest space around a house that is within prohibited distance from the river. Wondering how can the Nation work with the County if this violation is ongoing. PH to explore the issue and bring back information.

9:00 Pledge

### **Fair Arena & Track**

- AH relates effort to get track even without any low area and banked properly to meet specifications. Original estimate was \$50,000 for the Public Works to do the original, but leveling and “banking” would add cost. AH believes getting it done right is important, though it will add cost. CB brings up discussion of opportunity cost of using Capital Facilities funds for the Arena/Track project.
- LJ – Has talked to a Department of Ag contact about the plans for the project. DoA grant work must be done by June 30 and all paper work submitted by July 14 for close out.
- AH wants a sense of direction to do the work on the arena and track to bring the track up to level, proper banking and removal of rocks. **Motion to authorize. Passed**

### **PH (Planning & Admin)**

- Beeman offering for **M-tank contract for ceiling** is OK, but in excess of estimate of \$135,000 at \$180,000. Not budget anywhere near the offering. 160 Fund and others have funds if all are pooled together. AH needs to check to see if the funds have received revenue to meet the needs. No, not yet. Need to leave \$1100 in one fund and use the rest - \$33,000 from the Douglas County Jail cost sharing for the jail. PH: Move ahead on a contract? Construction high of \$165,000 and \$33,000 Architecture fee for \$188,000 total. Move to PH put together contract to proceed with the work on the M-tank.
- (*M-tank is one of the Jail holding areas that has security and maintenance issues in the ceiling*).
- VSP to have Conservation District to do the work to implement. Will bring to the BOCC on Monday
- Will also bring a **Supplemental budget for Planning Dept.** that will reflect changes due to grants coming in and going out. Need to the budget match the expected ins and outs. AH – how does PH account for his Depts. Work on various budgets and grants? PH essentially “bills “ the grants for hours spent – so money in might not match grant money that comes from an outside agency. Some funds are spent on Planning overhead.
- **WRIA wants Aspect Consulting** to make presentation to the WRIA Planning group – Aspect is asking “not to exceed” \$2500 for the presentation. PH will have Aspect provide a breakout of the costs. BOCC will need to authorize the expenditure with a MOA.

### **JP (Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance)**

- Last year’s **Fair maintenance employee** wants to come back. TC is OK with bringing them back without formal interview process.
- Replaced some **outside lights for the parking lot next to the Agriplex** – already are blown out (water vapor in mount?). There are 3 of them – JP would want the cost to come out of the Fair budget. Wants to consider LED equivalent lights @ \$400 each. Will look around for best price and options. Will look at PUD grant program for switching to LED. CB suggest looking at the State procurement process. AH feels \$400 is too high and asks JP to find the least expensive option.

### **SC (Fair Events)**

- Still working on the **billboard location** with the city of Omak. Tentatively approved but have to have a structural analysis by a certified engineer – another fee. Suggested by JP to consider mounting the sign on the side of the County shop across from North 40 to avoid costs. JP will look into the possibility.
- **Fee Schedule changes recommendations.** Change of venue working in rental contract fee schedule and SC wants to suggest some other changes – do away with the hourly rental option and just have a ½ day or full day rate. ½ day would be less than 5 hours including cleanup, \$750 for the whole day. Arena rental to reflect the upgrades currently being done. AH wants the work to get done and then talk to potential customers and they consider reasonable. Look to a balance with comparable facilities. Look for a compromise.
- SC presents a list of recommendations, currently costs to rent are a lot lower than comparable facilities in the area (Tonasket Rodeo arena). Also look at the race horse stall rental to match other horse stalls which are at \$10 per day. Wants BOCC to look over and consider. CB – asks SC & AH to go over and bring a full proposal to the BOCC to consider.

#### DG (Civil Attorney)

- Working with Courts & Jails about **Immigration holds**. New liability issues.
- **Noxious Weeds warrants to inspect** – going over. CB asks about PH enforcement process, if PH uses a warrant. Hasn't needed to, if not home just leave a note and leave.
- District Ct., wants an **Interlocal for the County to take on the Tonasket Municipal Ct. cases**.
- Letter from Auditor asking for a **listing of the various lawsuits and legal actions** that have possible liability for the County.
- From Dispatch a contract review for a **Microwave network** usage.
- Software agreement for review.
- Clerk's office on the warrant process.
- Not bad news, just busy.
- Yakama concern on **FPA & County Shoreline Management** – DG needs to look into.
- FOIA act request of 7 Devils Rd.

#### 10:15 TC (HR & Risk Management)

- Resolutions for **Fair Maintenance & Veterans positions**
- 5 applications for the **HR assistant position**
- **Resignation in Dispatch**, have names on the qualified list for a replacement.
- **Draft contract for OBHC** is in their hands for review.
- AH – local Auditor says the County owes the **Building Dept.** – this from the State Auditor. Fees collected by a Department should go back into the Department for their operations and determination if that Department is charging the correct fees. Over the past 10 years fee funds have gone into County current expenses then the County has set and paid a budget for the Department operations. New interpretation asks that the fee funds be retained at the Department level to determine if the fees charged are not set at a profit or loss. This year Building will work off the assigned County budget but next year will get a one-time payment of back fees as their budget for the year. Asks TC if this applies to other departments. To be looked into.

#### 10:30 Alta Vista Irrigation & City of Okanogan Improvement Project.

- Tim Patrick – new manager for Alta Vista. Has a letter from previous manager from last year on discussion with BOCC. City is rebuilding a street that Alta Vista has an irrigation line that connects to the corner of the Virginia Granger lot. This is not being used by the County at this time. The cost to bring the line up to code and potential costs to Alta Vista if the line breaks is a lot more than the county pays for service it doesn't use. Alta Vista is asking that the County

allow the abandoning of the line and be dropped from the Alta Vista roles. After discussion the BOCC agrees to that proposal given minimal cost and small size will allow “stubbing off” the line and saving the money for Alta Vista for potential future costs.

#### 10:45 Supplemental Appropriation for Noxious Weeds.

- \$245,950 addition to budget due to increased contract services, DOE, Lake Osoyoos work, etc. Move to approve **Resolution 65-2019. Passed.**

#### AL (Noxious Weeds)

- Has the BOCC heard **anything from land owners about weed problems as a result of last years flooding?** Has seen about 10 acres with a lot of Scotch Thistle south of Okanogan. LJ has seen more toadflax along Elmway where there was flooding last year.

#### 11:00 JT (Public Works)

- **Arena/Racetrack** – AH: Got price back for hauling from PW, other price is for just track (additional time for getting rocks out) – totals out to \$40,000 for track and arena. Arena approved. Track seems like a lot but sees no easy way.
- **Maintenance & Roads** – Getting ready for Chip Seal. Roads list was presented.
- **Solid Waste**
  - o **Woodstove buyback** – Sponsored by DOE, Thursday, Jun. 6 for Central Land fill. Maybe 150 or so for all of County
  - o **Landfill air space** – Flying drone over the landfill with PW drone to determine air space to estimate how soon to go to 3<sup>rd</sup> cell. Maybe 1.1 yr. left but depends on compaction. Need to be careful on putting lard, hard, sharp, material on the bottom of 3<sup>rd</sup> cell to avoid damage to liner so will select garbage to buffer liner. Will fly again to get a more accurate estimate. Intend to fly quarterly to monitor compaction. Will be able to calculate a very accurate price would be. Would chipping yard waste, limbs be helpful – not really, compacting works well.
  - o **Office Update** – looking at a used unit and also possible local shed company. Must meet occupancy codes for an office. Renting might be a better option.
  - o **Leachate volumes** – rains over the last 10 days not helping, but 400,000 gals have been evaporated. Maybe ahead of the curve a little. Will look at an Idaho leachate system for evaporation that can handle a lot more.
- **Fairgrounds – 5 CY dump truck** – surplus value of PW truck is about \$10,000 – still interested? Yes.
- **FEMA 2014 & 2015 PW cost closeout** – getting close, could be over \$100,000 more reimbursement.
- **Federal safety call for projects** due this week.
- Looking at a consultant to do an **Audit on the ER & R** to see if meeting all requirements, operations – see if any recommendations.

#### 11:42 PH - Review of Chewuch FPA application

- House was vested before law change can be at 50’ of river if above 100 yr flood level, garage was applied for after law change so needs to be outside of 125’ from the river. Owner wants to clear ½ acre of trees – requires a FPA process. Question is before and after law change and what is allowed.
- Had app. in but not actual build before new SMP (Shoreline Management Plan) came into effect, still vested.
- FPA came in April., so must meet new SMP. Maybe a discussion legally.

- Seems like just house might be OK for timber but not the whole ½ acre. This is the case the Yakama are contesting.
- Shop/garage is in the 100yr. flood plain had to fill to get above. House on a high spot even though closer to river.

Lunch

**1:00 Public Comment – None**

**2:00 Public Hearing – CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Planning Only Grant**

- OHA (Oroville Housing Authority) & Housing Coalition Planning Only grant application. Sue Edick from OHA. LJ presenting. Need a match of #31,000 to get a grant, will fund assessment of needs for housing in the County. Will also be useful for Comp. Plan and other processes.
  - o Public notice
  - o Asking for \$60,000 total
  - o Need info so that get accurate, usable info for schools, cities, Econ Alliance. Use on future grants and proposals.
  - o Past studies or assessments for comparison?
  - o Previous project in Oroville – funds for people whole built their own houses. Individuals provided sweat equity as a down payment – how did this work out?
  - o Product summary and deliverables are in the grant application.
  - o Certificate of Compliance.
- BOCC passes a variety of motions to support and authorize the grant application for planning purposes.

**3:00 Public Hearing – CDBG General Purpose Grant – Oroville Housing Authority.**

- Sue Edick – Ex. Director of OHA, Diane Palmer – Rural Ag Housing, LJ – Okanogan County
- Construction Grant- OHA would be the recipient of funds for project. Connection of Ag. Housing to existing East Lake sewer system. to ensure no failure, contamination and upgrade of housing.
- Asking for \$750,000, but may not need that much
- OHA contributing \$8000, County applies for the grant – need a government to apply
- Concern if grant funds would pay for East Lake connection fees. This is very important need.
- Concern over project cost / benefit – difficult form, like fitting a square peg into a round hole. Form seems to need whole East Lake costs, by this project only is connecting to the system & fees (?). City may have supplied wrong numbers. CB will all CDBG people and clarify – check with city and CDBG (Karyn ?).
- BOCC passes to have Chair sign, Certificate of Compliance
- Will need to wait for modifications to grant form to complete next week.

**4:00 OBHC Coordination Presentation– Dennis Rabidou, Carrie Post – Chair and Vice Chair of OBHC Board**

- Aug. 22 – OBHC will have a retreat, want BOCC to attend. Sun Mtn., 9am – 1pm.
- D. Rabidou is new Chair, C. Post new V. Chair at OBHC Board
- BOCC needs periodic input from OBHC
- Pool of 251 CEO Candidates at this point, will contact all and scope down and then have person-to-person interviews by the end of June.
- BOCC needs input about operations as they get a lot of questions when something big happens.
- Interview requirement is face-to-face.

- Introduction to BOCC, Carrie is a probation officer.

4:12 Move to approve proceedings May 20 & 21/2019. Second. Approved.

4:14 Move to approve Consent Agenda. Approved  
Move to approve Vouchers OK. CO. – passed  
Move to approve Public Health Vouchers - passed.