

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners  
Notes, 10/11/16

**Present:**

Jim DeTro (JD, BOCC)  
Ray Campbell (RC - BOCC)  
Lanie Johns (LJ - County Clerk)  
Debbie Hilts - (DH - Human Resources)  
Tanya Craig - (TC - Supervisor, Risk Management & Human Resources)  
Perry Huston (PH - Planning, Administration)  
Ben Rough (Administrator, Public Works)  
JT -(County Engineer.)

*Note taker comments/clarifications in italics. Note taker arrives at 9:05. Sheilah Kennedy absent. Staff is discussing the capabilities of the new projector and screen.*

*9:07 - Angie Hubbard and Perry Huston arrive. Projector removed.*

**Tanya Craig - Update, Human Resources, Risk Management**

INMATE: I had a claim from inmate on Friday. Have been looking into that. Working on premium check from fair. Erik, who helps load program and data will be here for another meeting to hammer that out.

FAIR: Met with Tracey at fairgrounds regarding next year. Went over policies and procedures for next year. Will be working with Tracey, who is chair.

LANDFILL -( TC met with an individual, did not catch her name.) She was talking about Juvie facility and gun range to be used for training along with possibly the courthouse. She is very impressed with commissioners' risk assessment and policies and procedures being put into place.

**Debbie Hilts - Human Resources update**

STAFFING:

DH - Lots of movement with employees. New patrol, new functional therapist in Juvie, a person dealing with... (one other)....

JD - Aren't there a couple or maybe three coming out of the academy t?

DH - Only one. Officer Lee. No positions open in sheriffs' office. If we accept a lateral on Friday...probably will do it. Will make us full, but there is a possibility of losing another in corrections. Sent e-mails - one said thanks , but no thank you. He wrote back the next day and said he couldn't accept.

Positions Open: one internal - 5 days. A clerk in Superior Ct - resigned. Put that position out. A prosecuting att'y is leaving. Chief appraiser retiring. Larry Gilman appointed to ????? Victims' advocate leaving to go to college. Open. Lots of movement.

LJ - Is that a grant funded position?

TC thinks so - at least partial.

LJ - Victim witness has one clerk not grant funded but the rest are.

TC - Thinks her position is one of them.

LJ- The BOCC has talked about this a number of times this year, with revenue income being so short and uncertain.

DH - That position has been posted, out there to be filled.

UNIONS:

Do not have final signed contracts for union. Still working on verbiage. Waiting for Inland Trust for insurance. There was a grievance filed with an employee - that has been taken over by Rocky. The elected official chose to go straight to Rocky. I recommended Rocky take over.

I had a few L & I's .

A juvenile went to the sheriff's office.

Discussed looking into insurance. BOCC wanted local broker. We didn't know it was Loney & O'Neil (?) I was reminded by Rocky that we have a contract for opener in June to discuss in June, so we will not look into it till next year.

We got together (including Katie Pfitzer -sp?) and decided to reach out to other HR folks and compile all our info and share it - team effort. Looking positive . Hopefully other HR NT's (?) can do that too?

### **Albert Lin - Deputy Prosecutor report**

Major pressing issues - 3 Devils court hearing scheduled for Dec 6. Will see...some conflicts re availability of attorneys.

I discussed the "first decision" with you.... I provided Perry a bcc shorthand analysis of the decision, my view.

Once again, the Supreme Court is seeking to, along with Enviro groups, to set regulations that the Comprehensive Plan.... (His back is to me, cannot hear, no mic.) Need to look at all this together, then again at a later time when Mackie is back. We really need to take all of these things into consideration together because in we are in litigation on all of these issues. Will need to discuss first decision and ramifications to Ok county.

DT - We see it at a trickle down from national level, to state level, to local level. Judges are legislating from the bench and getting away with it. *(Everyone else silent.)*

**Perry Huston - County fair difficulties**

*(From discussion, it appears that the Planning Department is now taking on Fairground issues. )*

PH - BOCC will park in back. Entertainers - We will pick up their hotels...was not supported by the agreements they signed, so addendum needed - they signed that their hotels would be paid. Paperwork is around. Somehow along the line that unraveled. Addendums - some have names, I have a list of folks who were promised lodging. A bit of this.....in disarray. These bills should be processed today. Two at least correct part of the deficiencies. If BOCC wants, you can sign as the hiring authority if you will. At least we have that. I defer to the BOCC. No reason to believe that people who didn't do something at fair..... who were promised lodging.....no one else is on the list.

Rc - How many? 8 on the list, believe, that ....I have 9.

DT - One of the motels stepped up and....

TC - A portion of the rooms were donated, some were discounted. It didn't cover everything.

DT - What is the amount?

PH -Will get the bill. Something short of \$2,000.

JD - Did they figure into fair budget? Did they figure into fair budget? Any money left?

PH - I suspect there is money in budget. Fair advisory committee decided to do it.

JD - That needs to come to a halt. Every year someone on the committee goes beyond their authority and makes promises.

TC - had a talk with ....TC may be creating a handbook that has procedures, etc. Made it clear that they are advisory committee members, no authority to promise anything. They are there for week of fair.

DT - They need to understand that this continues. There are other folks on the board that should know. If they go out on a limb, send them the bill.

TC - Told them other people are needing to fix their messes. Will attend their meetings next year, do handbook, etc.

PH - Compensations, lease agreement ....certain things...agreements with service proved. The offshoot is that this compensation, while trying to pick up in addendum, was not direct pay to entertainer, but to motels/hotels. All of this should be directly to the entertainers,. Then they can rent, hire valets, whatever. Will give all this to Clerk, BOCC, etc. Under fairgrounds - Am getting calls from folks who want to lease things. I think my directions are that other than events are already on list, they are not leasing off-season until we get staff back.

## LEASING/STAFFING AGRIPLEX

DT - No, we will continue with the Agriplex. Just the storage...RV storage not going to be leased. Too much liability . Too hard to police.

PH - What is your desire re staffing? You have no staff after Oct 15.

JD - Those requests can usually be formalized with the rental agreement.

T C - But need staff for restrooms.

JD - Lanie, is there time for Joe and Joe and Joe to .....

LJ - Probably not, but they are pretty amiable. They could make the time, but not appropriate without something in place that allows that to happen. We need a resolution to outline what and how we handle that. Not comfortable anymore just slipping in the time when they are not authorized to work there.

JD - Not a problem to make a resolution. My question - do they have the time? If they come and say we want 2 days in January - do we have the staff?

PH - To a point, no one can answer that. Arguably, no....Let me suggest this as course of action - if BOCC is inclined to lease the Agriplex, direct me how to make that happen. Let me facilitate. We have 3 events already. Wine and cheese in Nov. ....

JD - Rocky Mtn Elk....*(more discussion.)*

PH - One coming up this weekend, we still have staff until Oct 15. We can set up. Just need direction.

RC - Let's analyze, see what's going on. What is the benefit? Maybe have a public hearing?

PH - All in how you orchestrate. If we bring on staff and have them hanging on between events....*(all agree that is not ok.)* DH can handle HR issues.... PH names off a rapid succession of things needed.

RC - I would like to see that.

PH - *(makes note to himself.)* So I consider that my instructions.

RC - Unintelligible. No mic hear his face. Also, mics appear not to be on.

JD - No other place for these folks to go for large meetings. PH confirms we are short of county meeting space.

*RC - Unintelligible.*

PH - Seems like we need someone to look at \_\_\_\_ system for Agriplex. Some thought there may be a leak in water delivery.

LJ - There was an issue last year that during a meeting there was a terrible temperature.

JD - The place was coming up with temperature, they moved everything in, the valve malfunctioned that day and the next day the valve had not opened, it was cold, no way to get the heat up in a hurry. In those types of things, we should have a backup plan. Go to Washington Tractor and rent 3-4,000 of those BTU heaters .

LJ - It happened 2-3 years in a row.

PH - It would have been taken care of if we had someone to do this. A person who comes in 3-4 hours to sweep isn't going to do this. We have some level of investment in this.

RC - Unintelligible.

PH - Maintenance staff in dispute....(

9:35 - Lin leaves 9:35. "I'll be back."

PH - Concern about leak saturating ground outside the Agriplex - all agree it needs to be fixed. More discussion about how it shouldn't be a big deal. - Also the some concern about water in the blue house. Will check on this. May be because people are switching pumps.

TC - When will they be blowing lines out?

PH/ others — Soon. Lines are deep. Will get warmer soon.

## OFFICE TRANSITION, ENFORCEMENT, PERSONNEL CHANGES

PH - Transition to my office has started, working on it. Lauren picking up the vouchers. We are moving along.

TC - Lauren found a lot of errors.

PH - She is doing a good job of tearing into this. Will probably need overtime to be sure indexing of those big files gets done. Right now, I'm furthest behind of everyone.

Code enforcement - I am going to just have to spend time in the field One of the files started showing some movement....a trailer park. Not done, but movement. Kennels seems to be the issue of most interest. I have unlawful kennel claims that are working. I will get caught up.

RC - Asks about Planner 1 job.

TC - Did you want to train this person for enforcement.

PH - Plan I have is to try to get one of the crew ..person I was gaining took another county job. Unless I have time to train them in field operations, I am not going to turn them loose. Not as simple as people think. With my background, I can do it. We lag behind in follow-up. ...keeping notices going, keeping feet to the fire. Time goes by. Will try to get one of my crew in line with making sure the notices keep going. Now that we have different language in 17A, we have better shot in having prosecutor going to court with charges, etc. I wanted to avoid putting together court folders with the result being the same with no change. Will get staffed up, get it on the ground.

Continual references to what was said yesterday, by PH and also AL.

TC - Lanie, do you have anything?

DH - How are we doing with the Clerk?

LJ - I can't move forward until we have somewhere to put them. PC - could go ahead with posting, setting up interviews, and so forth. Cant hire someone until we have someone to put them.

DH - Is that starting next week? Sheilah moved office for tech.

JD - I can move. We are trying to figure out where to go with everything. That's why I asked if I can leave stuff on the wall. DH - I might hang some things. I will take that little closet. I will shove all paperwork in there. The guys can move desk, phone, computer, discussion of furniture - what does DH want? Hoping to have done by Thursday afternoon. Working on it now.

LJ - I had told maintenance that the 3 commissioners offices should be completed by end of year, but modified it to ASAP. With all the things going to the fair ground for auction, probably will be closer to end of year that this will be completed. I had hoped for November, but not optimistic.

JD - In that case they can just do a transition. Can throw my stuff in DH's office.

LJ - That will be their clue to start doing measurements, what is in walls, etc. There is quite a bit of things they do not know about. They can start on this once the rooms are clear. As the sooner you move, the sooner they can get in. They have to have the room before they get in. Details about heavy cabinets, etc. about moving.

JD - You could take a hand truck and still under file cabinet. Much is just empty.

## SIDE DISCUSSIONS

9:45 - Huston, Hilts, Craig leave. JD on phone, RC on computer.

PH/Lanie - side discussion about auditor report. And whether requirements were fulfilled. He may know the answer too.....cannot hear. pH - This is as close as we are going to get at this point in time.

Clerk leaves.

10:10 - JD to RC: Side discussion about something in Brewster, after reading an e-mail or other info from computer: Low conversation, not possible to fully hear. Dave Smith.....says the only time that i have ever ridden...is when they actually dumped 2,3,4, loads right in middle of the road. When they are doing their application, has to be (ground) in the ground...they have one cultivator with 3-4 tractors ...it is gone. Very seldom. ....When Craig Vjeraska - putting in circle.. Marshal asked when they were going to start the ground applications....muffled....RC chuckles...Something about nobody noticed; could not hear.

10:20 - DT reads from e-mail about Conconully, some sort of hut - that snowmobilers and hikers still like it. Cougar Mtn cabin is USFS, yet this gal is advertising it. Will talk to ranger about that. One on Tunk Mtn, but really private - built by Cattlemen's so the USFS allows them to lock up. This one was built by CC's back in those days, but it is supposed to be the permittee. Why would they have notes on the side of building that all persons are forbidden from committing any trespass - it is a regular USFS.....

RC - *Unintelligible. Can't hear.* Something about Pasayten airport, Spanish Camp cabins - all locked up. Something about Lesamiz (in area of Pasayten.)

DT - Were you ever in that cabin? Beautiful, beautiful cabin.

JD - Timber counties meeting. (*a legislative committee in Olympia.*) Don't know if I'll be there. I e-mailed Mike - he is pretty interested. Might be able to get together. RC - (muffled) I can do that (referring to ??) . DT - why don't you get.... *pauses, looks at note taker.*

RC - whispers to JD - unintelligible. JD - Tim? Tom? Right, yeah. JD - will this whole deal dig up Cambell Gwinn? (*case in water law.*)

RC - *Very muffled. Something about loggers. Litigation. Lowers voice.*

JD - I didn't know this: (reading from cell phone or computer - there is an 8 year history of conflicts and laws, 28 states are asking to secede from the union (reading from cell phone.) muffled comment from RC.

10:28 JD - My buddy in Ecuador called me. I went down to the bank in (town in Ecuador - he is buying gold mining property there. He says he couldn't get his money out of the bank. He says to watch this.

10:35 - *Whispering, JD/RC.*

10:36 - There is a volume of stuff there. *RC - unintelligible.*

10:45 - DeTro leaves, returns 10:46. Lanie returns, leaves.

(*Note: See below. Mics were not on for above conversations.*)

## **11:00 - Public Works Update: Josh Thomson**

Ben Rough - 10:50 ( Administrator, Public Works) - *Hi, Isabelle . Hello, Commissioner Campbell. (leaves to drop things off.) where is my counterpart? Joking around .*

RC - Invites Ben to table where Josh is sitting.

BR - Are we waiting for Sheilah K?

RC - No . Can't start until 11:00.

Ben - discussion of screen for projector.

JD - For several weeks. some kind of computer malfunction. Trying to repair some things. It also comes down on its own. (Laughter.) Projector? BR - that's nice. All share comments, jokes about new projector.

### **CONCONULLY**

LJ - brings Ben info about Conconully. Talking about assessments, sewer, finances, some agreement.

BR - found file cabinet he didn't know was there. Won't be ready to talk about it till next year. Next Thurs going out to take a look at the system, but will make no decisions.

JD - Other thing that might help with situation is that the Bureau of Reclamation ...have you seen what they've done? Have done exactly what they said they would be doing. Closed off the cabins, but put in filled in sidewalks, all cabins brought up to snuff, something about bathroom or sewage...rumor was they were trying to open up for hunting season, Do assessment on cabins, including sewer system at cabins. They paid the bill.

BR - There was a lot of back pay, but we got them in the process.

JD - Good news for Conconully. Might be incentive to go ahead. They will be a rate payer.

## **11:00 - Josh Thomson Update**

JT - Requests Exec session, involving BR and DH.

BR - may take a little longer, but start with 15 minutes.

Motion passes, all leave.

MICROPHONE TURNED ON, OMISSION IN CITIZEN NOTES FOR 9.26.16

11:15 - Lanie has questions for note taker regarding citizen notes for 9/26/18 . Points out that her name and initials are not at the top, causing confusion regarding statement in notes about starting time of public hearing that day. Note taker agrees to correct the confusion by putting her name and initials at the top and get the web copy clarified as to that and the note taker's comments.

Note taker asks Lanie about microphones. Lanie turns mics on.

## BIDDING FOR AUCTIONS

11:17 - Two gentlemen come in with documents, etc. and ask Lanie about a vehicle and fees and premiums, sales taxes. They have a disagreement with how it is stated on document. She explains additional charges.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** 11: 18 - BOCC returns.

*(Appears to be summary of Executive Session?)* Roadway Maintenance manager has accepted a position with PUD. We want to give Ben and Josh direction to get with HR and immediately do advertising. RC - to fill that position as soon as possible.

## CITIZEN QUESTIONS ABOUT BIDDING FOR AUCTION

*Lanie refers gentlemen (referenced above) to JD. Asks JD questions about the policy.*

JD to gentlemen: Ray talked with you about it.

JD - (To JT): Can we take short intermission (about bid letter the gentlemen got )  
Gentleman - we understand this part. Points we have to put sales tax on it? Transfers? JD - all those charges are a given. Gentleman asks JD to write it on bottom and sign it. JD - since it was advertised and it only went out to 5 people, what we need to do is make a clarification and send it to everyone. Gentleman that will be hard. Bids open tomorrow.....JD - they changed that. I scratched it off ....gentleman: - says here it opens tomorrow. Confusion, all trying to figure it out. JD - we scratched off agenda yesterday. Lanie checks. Discussion of changes being written in RCW. JD - no way we can ask you to bid a contract outside of law. LJ clarifies tax laws, a note on the document and certain item. JD - asks LJ about the scratch off on the agenda. LJ says it was about public hearing we had last week. The date was scratched off. It was sent to media.

**Discussion of bidding/auction process:** JD - I have no problem signing that (referring to something the gentleman wanted put at the bottom of a form.) We can have the clerk of board try and contact everyone else (who got the information.) Gentleman - "each item has to be identified? We would rather do it by lot. We can't keep track of that" . Lanie clarifies it will be by lot. JD - state auditor requires certain things. Gentleman - as long as it's on a pallet...LJ clarifies everything will have a label ...each individual lot. Might have a palette with 10 computers. Lanie says some items are single, with asset number, etc. Gentleman - what happens if we want to bid? Clarifies that details are the probe of commissioner. JD give details about next

year and labeling. If no sale, there is an opportunity to dispose of it. Have to go through a process. LJ explains changes they are planning for less confusion.

3:30 tomorrow, bids open. JD - Clarifies that the confusion was due to a typo.

RC - Clarifies fees are required by state law. Rc has brief discussion about running cattle. More discussions about cattle and loads of apples tipping over.

Lanie will contact other bidders and clarify any confusion.

## **11:00 - Josh Thompson - Engineer's update**

JD- *He and BOCC have agenda they are following with names of projects, numbers, etc.*

JT - We are grading roads, clearing culverts to get ready for winters. Getting Moses Lake project - trying to get done before winter. Grader caused some problems. Now thinking of sanders and trucks - low temperature in mountains. Preconstruction meeting this AM for another project. - temporary bridge. (B-15, etc. ?).

**Moses Meadows** - gravel working great. Moving along. no issues. Next 2 projects. HW7 - up against right of way, working on that.

**Conconully Rd** - shoulders, overlay, rail. Will be advertised.

### **Bridge inspection**

JT - Bridge inspection schedule - I did pass my test, so working with Monty. Will catch a few, get it done next week. Have noted a few things. A little deterioration on bridges, not much. Need to have ...there are new bridges we need to calculate for. They have a lot more weight on a shorter vehicle. We now have to low-grade our bridges for them. Have to low grade by end of 2017, about \$3,000 per bridge. Part of the bridge inspection cycle. Last two we built - optional then, but we already went ahead and added those in. That's all. *(leaves)*

11:38 - JD leaves, apparently for lunch. RC says to DeTro he has a couple of things yet to do and, "See you there."

12:07 - RC leaves, note taker leaves.

*Note: According to agenda, BOCC has not yet approved minutes for Oct 3,4,5.*