

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Nov. 14, 2017

Jim Detro – JD, BOCC

Chris Branch – CB, BOCC (Absent WSAC)

Andy Hover – AH, BOCC

Josh Thomson - JT, County Engineer

Perry Huston – PH, Director of Planning and
Development

Lanie Johns – LJ, County Clerk (Absent –
Substitute Clerk)

Ben Rough - BR, Dept. Head, Public Works

Public Works (*DOE hiring, Winter hiring, upcoming public hearing, accounting procedures, landfill netting, fuel & lubricant bids, levee work, Consent Agenda items*), **Okanogan County Public Health Mtg** (*Treasure's Report, Training costs, FF conflict, Overnight stay & B&B certifications, 2018 Fee issues*), **Fair Director Benefits, Oroville EMS payment.**

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9:05 Chris Branch (CB) is attending the WSAC (Washington State Association of Counties). Andy Hover (AH) is attending Union negotiations until 11:00 am. Jim Detro (JD) reviewing emails and reading computer. No quorum before 11:00 am. All scheduled meetings canceled (Staff, Treasurer & Human Resources).

There is a quick informal discussion with Perry Huston (PH) & clerk about timing of Lake Os-oyoos District meeting and need to schedule with proper notice. To be announced later.

Note taker leaves and returns at 10:50 am

11:00 AM - Public Works 11:00 am

Ben Rough (BR), Josh Thomson (JT). Discussion of hiring a new mechanic for Sanitary Works (Landfill), this is rehire of an employee that had resigned to move to another location. That move did not work out and is being hired in a new position that he is highly qualified. AH opens a discussion of what criteria is used in a Depending On Experience salary placement. (*Apparently this was how this job was advertised.*) BR always offers a Step 1 placement, anytime over that would be brought to BOCC for consideration. Experience is considered on a case-by-case basis as not all experience is equal. AH says there needs to be clear guidelines for consistency and he is open to hearing justification. JT – in the past, hirings at a higher step might be offered for jobs that are difficult to find a suitable candidate, skills, etc. and have to match to County needs.

BR – Winter temps have been hired. Two open Engineering jobs will begin application reviews and interviews.

BR - Looking at a Feb. open record public meeting to explain to BOCC. Drafted a cash handling policy for petty cash for entire Public Works and includes solid waster. Will have robust internal tracking that was recommended by Auditor, would have good security.

There would be closing of old check account and an opening of a new one to include new security measures. Will be a Consent Agenda next week and will reconcile a solid waster checking account shortage of \$200 from long paste. There is a need to start over and clear up shortage.

Landfill netting to catch wind blown debris has arrived.

JT – Maintenance & road items. Fuel & Oil bid: OPIS used as base price. JT wants to use a 3-year bid (1 yr w/ 2 - 1 yr options. Fuel only – lubricants will still be year to year.) Bid is on OPIS price with a markup. The 3 yr plan would save administrative costs.

JT had a conference call with the Corps of Engineers over Elmway and Mazama levees. County would have a need for a 20% match. Will take an amendment on budget next year to cover costs. County could save some \$ if need County equipment to do work – it would be work in kind and offset 20% match. If there is a flood during the project then some work could be done under an emergency basis and not need the 20% match. Money would come from Capital Improvement and Real Estate Excise Tax.

Items 5 – 10 on Consent Agenda: ATV signage, 2018 budget would require a budget shift – funds might come from \$500,000 levy & SRS (Safe Rural Schools) funding. ERR (Equipment Repair and Replacement) resolution is waiting on a legal review., OCOG wants BOCC & agencies to review interagency agreement (Regional Transportation).

11:45 JD leaves, JT & BR leave. No Quorum, Lunch.

1:30 Okanogan County Public Health

BOCC reconvenes at OCPH for their Board Meeting. (Okanogan County Public Health) at OCPH bldg. JD arrives at 1:42. MW (Marianne Williams) calls meeting to order.

Discussion on agenda to move public hearing on fee schedule to after Budget Discussion as the fee schedule depends on finishing budget for 2018. OCPH fees for 2018 might need to be raised to cover training time for new hires to be with 3 retiring employees. Review of financial – OCPH Treasurer Carol – cash, vouchers & payroll, etc. report approved.

State Audit went well.

Current 2018 Budget assumes \$175,000, a one time \$40,000 increase, from County to cover training new employees and replacement of outdated server. Without that increase the 2018 fee schedule would need a 6% increase (?) to make up the difference. AH discussed possibility of public fund raising to partially cover some of the need. County ability to provide additional funding depends on upcoming County budget hearings but the \$40,000 is penciled in for now. In order to finalize 2018 OCPH budget there will be a Nov. 29 special meeting to adapt to County outcome. There is a discussion on procedure to accomplish this end. The current Budget Public Hearing will be continued until Nov. 29 @ 8 am. Without County assurance at that time the alternative is to raise the fees for 2018.

County employees had a flu shot session by OCPH.

There was a conflict at the Family Faire (FF). The OCPH had worked with the FF administration to ensure compliance with Public Health requirements on hot food and prepared foods. Upon inspection the sales of prepared foods did not meet specifications for safety and FF had promised supervision of that need. OCPH personnel moved to close the event to enforce requirements and a brief conflict ensued. The issue was resolved with FF personnel moving to close sales of uncertified prepared foods in compliance with previous assurances and regulations.

Overnight stays and B & B need public health approval, this is being hung up by Planning & Building approval to issue PH certification. The Planning & Zoning has been hung up in some cases since the beginning of the year. PH needs to reissue certificates on existing facilities by the beginning of the year but needs the Planning & Zoning cert. PH asking if they can issue Health cert. to existing facilities as had been given approval by Planning & Zoning. AH & JD give assurances that BOCC & County are working to resolve situation.

2:45 Adjourn of OCPH

Return to BOCC @ 2:55

Human Resources

HR makes short presentation about State mandated sick leave. County needs to change language to match state law change. AH – run by legal.

There is an effort to work with Fair Administrator to put on part time or such and keep existing benefits. (Fair has a significant less workload in winter months). There is an exempt status for Fair director if has less than 3 employees from state leave & unemployment. Fair has more than that at least part of the time and unable to use exemption. County asked if could pro-rate wage over 12 months to maintain benefits (similar to teachers and some other – teachers have a special exemption in law). The County is unable to work out that possibility and still be legal.

Oroville EMS

Adjourn as BOCC, convene as Oroville EMS – pay contract of \$9600 to Lifeline for EMS services. Adjourn and return to BOCC.

Safe Rural Schools & Payment in Lieu of Taxes

3:17 PH - Safe Rural Schools & PILT discussion. County wants to send letter to Feds to request permanent renewal of SRS & PILT. Will send a letter to County schools for their follow up.

3:30 Approve Consent Agenda

3:42 BOCC Adjourn