

Okanogan County Board of Commissioners Meeting  
12.13.16

Present:

Jim DeTro (JD - BOCC)

Ray Campbell (RC - BOCC)

Lanie Johns (LJ - Clerk of the Board)

Andy Hover (AH - incoming Commissioner)

**Content:** Citizens question lack of posting of agenda on time the previous week, causing citizens to drive many miles for nothing; they ask if something more can be done when the clerk is unavailable. BOCC says "That's life!"

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD (4:00)

Audience - Nora Sheridan, citizen

**Isabelle Spohn, citizen:** Asks about the agenda not being posted by the required time last week.

*(Some people drove a long way - at least one drove from Oroville, at least an hour away - but the BOCC meeting had been canceled for lack of a quorum and citizens did not know because the agenda had not been posted on the county website. Note also that several weeks later, there was a question about the agenda and when the BOCC office was called on Monday, there was a message that the office opens at 9AM.)*

Spohn asks: "How does this happen, and how can it be improved?"

Lanie (Clerk of board) stated that she had had an unexpected call from her son about needing to be picked up. She picked him up and then forgot to post the agenda on Friday or over the weekend. She apologizes for this and for not being perfect. She mentions that citizens are always welcome to call the office about the agenda and that the office opens at 8:00 AM.

*(Note: The problem is that some people have to plan ahead to be gone from work and that some people live so far away that finding out at 8AM on Monday is not enough time to prepare and get to the meeting by 9AM.)*

Spohn: Lanie's problem is understandable, but could there be some back-up for Lanie when such things happen? The agenda has not been published on time before, sometimes when Lanie was ill.

Jim DeTro - It's something that just happens from time to time. None of us are perfect.

There is mention by both Commissioners that Kathleen Descouteaux (previous clerk's staff) has been promoted to a job in the Court and that there are two new employees. They are working on training employees. Mention by Lanie that only a small number of people are qualified to work on the website/ put out the agenda.

**Nora Sheridan, citizen:** Also upset that the agenda is sometimes not published by the required legal deadline - and can't something more be done?

There is some brief back and forth discussion by Campbell/Detro regarding lack of personnel and the fact that the front office is also being remodeled, making things more difficult.

Ray Campbell - Says he is not going to apologize for something that is just the way life is.

Note taker leaves by 3:20.