

BOCC  
12/14/2015

Sheila Kennedy - Sk  
Ray Campbell - RC  
Craig Nelson – CN  
Lanie Johns - LJ  
Perry Huston - PH  
Albert Lin - AL (Cty prosecutor)

### **Monday's Agenda**

#### **Review Consent Agenda**

9:30 AM            **Briefing Among Commissioners**  
10:00 AM           **Conference Call - Insurance -Rocky Jackson**  
1:30 PM            **Update – Planning & Development**

#### *Notes*

*JD absent today. General review and discussion in the morning, Ph review in afternoon. Writer's comments in italics. This is a paraphrasing of conversations.*

SK & LJ going over items for week - schedule & looking into January.

### **Quad Counties**

Discussion of Quad County mtg might be better if regularly held at a more central location. - Coalville or Republic.

### **Money Source for County**

SK - regarding a comment she heard from a David Klevet (?) person offering to give info about money source for county. Will not reveal w/o guaranteed finders fee. RC remarks this person has done this before. SK reports she left the person with an angry feeling after telling him that if he had any feeling for county given the catastrophe of the past fires he would pass on the info for free.

### **Plowing of road**

RC - talking about someone wanting road plowed. Private rd (gets phone call - someone on the way?) Person open small feed lot and wants access. Neighbor of RC General discussion but not advocating county action.

### **Cattle guards**

SK - a comment about 90 da notice for beginning of process on cattle guards. Open range law, something about 20 ca notice conflict.

### **School Buses during bad conditions**

RC & SK - standard start time for school bus supervisors 6am to communicate and assess rd conditions. If bad conditions will go out earlier and pass info to PW (Public Works) about bus route conditions. First priority of PW is children's safety. Some discussion, need to see where PW is on this priority. PW apparently has conflicts with hours? - possible remedies need to go through union?

SK & RC discussion of some acquaintance with health issues. "Howard" grand kid coming up from Oregon.

### **Public Defender Appointment**

LJ - discussion. Dec. 22, Public Defender (PD) appt over coverage of driving cases involving mental health people and involuntary commitments. Costs not currently covered but atty should be at hearings. A bit of confusion over what exactly this is. SK - if contract is to cover "the people" w/ PD why wouldn't this be covered? Mellissa (PD) asking for \$500 to cover costs - per case or per month? This is duty above current contract? PD currently @ \$980,000 per year for department?

### **Employees - Legal Secretaries**

LJ - request for 5% increase for legal Sec. 3 who will help to cover a legal Sec. 2 who will be out on family leave for an indefinite time. SK - policy says can be authorized if individual has already worked 40 hours in position. LJ read exact part of contract, LJ reads proposed resolution. Contends need to be a specified period of time then could renew for another specified period of time. SK - conflict with "other duties to be assigned" and "cross training?" Need to discuss with

union for impact on language interpretation. Need to have consistency across departments.

### **Mental Health/Affordable Housing/Homeless people**

SK & RC - looking at computers while LJ & Tanya (Risk Manager in Mental Health), discuss. Too quiet to follow, Appears to be same issue? What form needed? to use? Problem of medical, mental issues in jail, no beds at Eastern Hospital, how does Behavioral Health fit in? What does judge do when no beds but needs an evaluation? When person goes before judge and no counsel present? Concerns mental health people who have committed crimes. SK & Tanya - people who don't take or can't take meds. These people danger to others but court case is over involuntary commitment of these people - get into criminal and then court.

SK - some people gave to Affordable Housing that are living under bridge. Turned away. SK - upset their needs not being addressed.

### **Executive Session: "Personal Matter"**

**Schedule:** SK & LJ will be gone on Dec. 23. Not available due to conflicts. No scheduled BOCC things for next Wednesday.

### **Vehicles transferred from Doug Cty**

LJ - two vehicles transferred from Douglas Co., Noah at Sheriffs Office will input for accounting purpose. Vehicles for prisoner transfer. Currently have 2 transport vehicles. 1 reserved for DOE litter, 2nd for transport. Sk inquires who will drive if corrections (Jail) currently is so understaffed. Ensuring discussion. Sk - does not know how this staffing works. Try to call Noah to clear up. Not available so left message to set up time for reviewing issue.

### **Letter to Editor on Zoning**

SK - asking about letter to editor about zoning. Method question why going over zoning. Jason - Director, & Jason Sutherland Attorney for Methow Valley Conservancy. That group has been reaching out to whole community. Isabelle and others, Maggie, environ. community all in communication. RC - the group has a more "realistic" environmental group. BOCC still looks at this group as

advisory. Referring to the group being represented by letter is a small “fringe” group.

### **Citizen Comment - Road condition problem/Public Works**

A Mrs. Burney drops in and wants to make comment. Lives up towards Conconully. - Concerned about road conditions over the weekend. Still car stuck ditch up in the Devils. Communication is a problem with PW.

### **Dept of Commerce Grant**

Sk - reports & discussion. Tanya & Melissa - discuss dealing with grant administration. LJ will audit making sure all documentation is in order. Make sure documentation matches reimbursement requests. Need to be organized by topic, time to make it easy. LJ needs to make sure complies with Dept of Commerce. LJ does not need a totally mirrored file as long as documentation supports reimbursement. Need to avoid any interest gain on grant money so there is an arrangement to immediately process reimbursements & distribution back to groups implementing & incurring costs (less than 10 days). SK says great it be would great to pass this info on to Melissa & Tanya.

### **Meeting with Fire Districts**

SK - Kretz asking about getting together all fire chiefs. (BOCC has already done this). Only a few showed up for BOCC) Concern that BOCC efforts fall through cracks. Jan. 5 mtg for Kretz. Not much time for coordination. RC wants to have plan in hand before going to chiefs. Looks like Kretz is forcing deadline with this mtg. SK - concerned about too many directions pulling. Many small fire districts can't efforts to generate matching \$ to get a portion of \$6 million state money. Want to connect various groups. Many people spread out all over. Many outside people that were brought in not willing to work in rural structure protection due to lack of training in wild land fire.

**Roads:** SK - have received info from Lois Davies. Felt road crew was on top of it but felt hands were tied. RC something not matching up with all the complaints coming in about road issues.

### **Communication w/Goldmark**

SK - concern that there is lack of contact from Com. Gold mark looking for ways to coordinate. wants to be involved in process but no communication.

**This week's Letter to Editor again (re citizen advisory committee on land use being 50% of members not residents of Okanogan County.)**

RC - comprehensive plan not meant to address fire issues.

SK - pretty much left Methow alone. Letter was complaining about lack of representatives for their district or some review committee. Rc - feels it was a good group despite having reps on committee from Douglas Co. and did work Okanogan Co.

**Pay raise /Prosecutor**

LJ reading proposed communication to Prosecutor office about pay raise out to (due to?) absence of other worker. Apparently BOCC has discretionary power to approve this 5% increase. This is \$300 for the month of December.

**State Lands Board appointment**

RC - discussion possible appt. to state lands board and background of two candidates. Preferred one over the other but both OK. WS Bd of Nat. Resources is advisory. Clallam Co. Com. not re-elected so there is 2 yr remaining on that term and is to be filled by this apptment. RC - gets info on candidates, shares with SK. Person with extensive background discussed as one to support, from Forks area. Business, engineering, wood industry background.

**Misc.**

SK - Has JD applied to that one Bd? RC - Don't know yet.

SK - Perry going to VSP training on 12/21 - a Monday, BOCC people can't attend.

RC - Reading screen, mumbling about something, SK turns head to listen then goes back to reading her screen.

RC - Jim back tomorrow? LJ - checks schedule on computer, yes.

LJ - Josh & Kenny will be at BOCC at 4:00 pm to discuss PW roads issues.

SK - move to approve PEBB for non-bargaining units. RC 2nd, Approved.

RC - looking at phone, texting for several minutes.

### **After Lunch: Planning/Admin Study Sessions - Perry Huston**

RC sat down, went right to phone.

### **Craig Nelson -Cons. Distr. - Voluntary Stewardship Program**

PH & CN (Craig Nelson) - Conservation District. presents draft resolution for BOCC to adopt for VSP and operation by Con. Dist. Must make a decision within about a week one way or another. This is a draft for BOCC consideration by Dec. 23 deadline. CN - ConDist (CD) Bd in agreement with two concerns. CD would put full energy to accomplish task. Concern about being not supported or dead end. 2) Need to have commitment from BOCC that the process will be operative, effective and support from industry groups (Cattlemens, Farm Bureau, Hort. Assoc.) RC & SK - both concerned about 2 separate working group and overlap creating extra work (Methow & Okanogan drainages working groups). PH - if proceed with VSP needs agreement of Cattlemen, Farm Bureau, Hort Assn. to continue. SK - sees two carrots - 1) \$ from state to develop, 2) State would assume suit responsibility. as compared to CAO. PH - VXP requires protecting CAs (Critical Areas) and agriculture industry while CAO not as protective of ag. Industry. RC & SK - a lot of decision making will be made outside of county. Future wise, Con NW, MVCC are examples. RC - does not want to go before GMA board, if county is not working to protect CAs. Sees VSP more programatic towards ag. then CAO. PH - makes negative concern about GMA. County that is pushed as VSP model model in court, FutureWise. Proposed example did not go far enough for FutureWise. SK - concern \$ are not enough or swept then what happens? CN - feels that while program would go on hold or timeline would be

extended. PH - feels CD is a wonderful agency to take care of VSP in county. CH - talk about appointing too small a group - inevitable conflicts, attrition, etc. RC - need small enough group to be efficient. PH - discussion of "Environmental Rep" on possible Bd. MVCC & OHA both mentioned with concern. Asking if redraft for 1 advisory board with 13 reps. CN - advises that need to assure broad & enough reps involved to protect against challenge. PH & CN - SEPA would need to be done.

### **Omak Mill Closure?**

Phone call from Richard Yarborough of Okanogan Wood Products (Omak Mill). 60 da Warren Act notice that they are exiting west coast and looking to close mill. Are looking for another buyer. Work on strategy with intent to keep plant working. Atlas is name of company ownership. Many environment violations, with so much burn a concern if there is a sustainable harvest future, Atlas is expanding elsewhere and is in cash pinch, has applied for EPA permit but has not received; all reasons. Would be a 2-3 month shut down, could always continue to work. If Richard can put together a buyer might continue longer. Worried about possible rash of accidents as plant winds down. - often the case as people get tired and careless. If so plant could close immediately. Tribe might be willing to rollover various agreements. Possible Canadian and other partners.

RC & SK - complaint about Environmental & Climate placing burden on US economy. RC says many 3rd World countries "dropping" out due to cost of policies (seems contrary statement to what happened in Paris?)

### **Chewuch Transportation Plan - EIS Challenge by County**

Michael Liu - letter on Chewuch Transportation Plan. Rd closures: ATV, Recreation, Harvest, Hunting may be injured parties to join in challenge. This about upcoming EIS Challenge. RC - damage due to Rd closures lack of access for fire suppression. Ads also saw down erosion in burned areas, also allow soaking in of melt waters (Albert, atty, wonders if there are studies to support

those views.) RC feels co-ordination is talking with all three commissioners. PH - says some coordination in past was with one commissioner and may even be a paper and/or email trail to back that up. PH - advises an also challenge under inadequacy. Ph wants to force coordination and CC Congressional reps. RC disagrees - he has been advised not to write Congressional reps. PH - wants to move with speed. RC wants to consult with his "people." Should know by end of week.

### **Hayes Land Swap/WDFW**

PH - State F & W Possible land swap, Hayes property (?). owner wants letter sent ASAP allowing. BOCC wants to change writing so slow down and ask questions. Discussion of in stream flow on Methow. BOCC adopted Watershed Plan - in stream flow revision falls within Plan so should be subject to BOCC review. Some legal opinions at odds with this.

### **Zoning**

Zone code hearing next week for 6 month extension. Ben - even though Fair Grounds on Tribe land wants to avoid Tribal Permitting process. County wants to use own permitting. Issue with "trenching", site prep, digging in lines and need to examine for archaeology. Need to look out for employing proper ration of native workers on project.

### **Salmon Restoration SEPA - Methow**

RC- wants to see any SEPA on Salmon Restoration project on Methow involving removal of riprap. Sees potential for damage down stream causing erosion and threatening property.