

BOCC  
12/21/2015

Sheila Kennedy - SK  
Ray Campbell - RC  
Jim DeTro - JD  
Craig Nelson – CN  
Lanie Johns - LJ  
Perry Huston – PH  
Albert Lin (Atty) - AL

*JD here a short time today, left for a doctor's appt. and a funeral came back about 2:30. General review and discussion in the morning, PH review in afternoon. Writer's comments in italics. This is a paraphrasing of conversations.*

All a little delayed due to snow. Got going about 9:15.

SK – Josh (PW) still coming in Tuesday? Maybe this is his week off? *This to LJ.*

**Community Action & Director:**

SK – Two items: Community Action annual review denied raise to director, currently at \$92,000 plus benefits. Director gathering information to present to Com. Act. Bd. RC – feels no raise as turned away homeless person who was living under bridge – so more \$ to people. *(no information that the director had any direct responsibility, no other info to this anecdote from last week by SK. Apparently no follow up or research, just anecdote).* JD – against Sec 8, people will come bringing crime and theft. Homeless people are source of problem. Com. Action & low income housing – build it and they will come. RC – this inability to screen out people costing county. Sheriffs, Prosecuting, crime is an issue to be considered. SK – yes there is a homeless problem. JD – is the cause a build it and they will come? Rc – some but look at mill closing, disability people can't afford. SK – there is low income, but still people under bridge not able to get into places. Still a large chunk of \$210,000 in homeless fund so why collect it and then have homeless? Needs to look at this issue – will collect info before decide.

**Misc.**

JD – asks LJ: did contract come in? LJ – haven't seen it. Sent email out but no response. *(No context to know what this is about).*

*Discussion of NWCN item on cable last night that stated some people in Carlton fire not getting paid for fire suppression while others did (Gebber's Farm). DNR paying some*

*but not others. General BOCC feeling that there was a co-op agreement in place that had Gebbers responding to fire that put them on priority, also if you don't bill the DNR you don't get paid, must also give a rationale that actions on behalf of greater public and not primarily self-serving. Also lands protected must be under DNR jurisdiction.*

**Misc.**

JD – leaving due to doctor's & funeral. Might be back by 2:00 pm.

JD – Peter gave a good speech about problems of fire. RC – some person on Public lands has a lot of respect for them among Contract Fire Fighters

**VSP, Conservation District Decision**

RC & SK – discussion of CD taking on more than it can do with VSP. BOCC might not have enough impact on VSP with CD. Whether State VSP pilot projects are working or not, are being approved, supported. Thurston Co. fell behind on pilot, felt state \$ not forthcoming. Local CD got it back on track. RC – CD will hire someone to do VSP so BOCC does not know what this person is and capabilities. Maybe PH has personnel to cover but PH feels does not have expertise.

**Open Space Classification**

RC – a lot of second home people have a lot of land put into ag. open space. Need a little bit of ag. commercial interest to be legit. Need to be careful as changes may open whole exemption from state legislature for legit. Ranchers. Could be \$ lost to county. Need minimal improvements to qualify as ag. (SK – need to discuss with Scott Fuhrman (Assessor) who goes out and specifically looks at tax status. Scott F. says push back from owners if too careful on this item. RC – Open spaces lumber often abused as no intent to ever harvest. Revenue source is prime key for lower tax classification. SK – need to be sure standards apply to all are the same. RC – need to make sure that F&W that use open space classification in calculating PILT must fall under same standards. SK – fire damage up on Scotch Creek on Wildlife areas not taxed appropriately. Were also a problem driving fire. RC – wealth environmental people up Methow did no want livestock – grasses waist deep. This seen as a problem – bets this land is in open space, “This is a pet peeve.”

**Misc.**

SK – nomination for Co. employee of year. No later than Jan.15.

LJ – was out working on network issue. Employee who had left Co. changed a lot of network access privileges. – not known why – LJ needed to go and change back to what was needed.

SK & LJ – let department heads reduce staff to a skeleton crew and closer early on Xmas Eve. Need to post if their departments are doing so. This is normal procedure.

LJ – needing to put in a “conferencing bridge for a call in next week (*no discussion of who, why*).

RC – working on phone & texting 10 min +

SK – asking LJ. Has Anna's evaluation come across? Next Tuesday all afternoon available for evaluations. Will send evals to HR person 'Deb' then Deb can compile all of BOCC's for next Tuesday

RC & SK – position needs to coordinate with Engineer, not work for engineer & be under Planning.

SK to LJ – pull a couple of items out of review & we will sign. Building rentals at fair grounds. SK – moves to accept Fringe Fair & Philips Wedding contract for rental of building. Approved.

### **Firewise & CD**

RC – asks of LJ about Firewise consent agreement. LJ – Firewise contract with CD. \$20,000 for postage & media, \$40,000 for ?, 16,428 for Tribe. \$103,000 for local CD. This is how \$ split out from grant. SK – Tribe pretty happy about getting money. SK advises Tribe should also apply on its own behalf next year and get more money.

### **Phone Charges & Maurice**

LJ – Maurice, Emergency Dept, turned in a stipend request for cell phone. Consulted with LJ. LJ now sharing with SK. SK looking over full details of plans & request. SK after examining details of request does not see supporting documentation for request for change in stipend for cell phone of \$44.11). SK passes material to RC to look over. RC agrees with concern a lack of supporting documentation. LJ goes over breakdown of phone plan & billing. Provided by Maurice. SK is going to email to see if Maurice will come down and give details.

### **Misc.**

RC – asking LJ about how to get to time sheet on network. LJ leaves her desk to help RC. LJ went off to work on problem.

LJ – contract going to be emailed out today – from Amy?

### **Grant Oversight**

LJ – a bunch of invoices for Methow Trails, rejects originally for lack of sufficient information on the invoices. Replaced with corrected invoices, took out all unqualified expenses. Discussion that this puts extra burden on Co. to review to make sure submittals are qualified. Puts county at risk in case of audit. This is a request for reimbursement against grants that CO. is administration. Most need 50% match and need to document that match.

### **PH Arrives - Study Sessions**

1) discussion of small computer issue. Ben checking to make sure BOCC IA proposal is intact.

2) Chewuch transportation Plan review, PH has gone over, attached documents and

passing pile of stuff to BOCC.

SK to LJ – is Josh coming for PW update on Tuesday? Appears to be unavailable. Is some one else coming?

LY @ 12:02 leaves to check on something.

RC – hands SK Methow Trails invoices. No comment from RC. SK – leafs through, no comment.

### **Behavioral Health**

SK to RC – Does JD sit on Behavioral Health Board? RC – Yes.

Maurice comes back with documentation. SK – this connects dots? Maurice agrees, goes over details with SK. Sounds OK now, Maurice leaves.

RC – receives email from an IC for Tunk Mtn complex, just checking in with RC to see how things going.

### **Afternoon PH Session**

#### **Interim Zoning**

Public Hearing on extending Interim Zoning Ordinance for 6 months. Discussion if allow full 6 months then process will extend that long. Why not 4 months? SK arguing for a short time frame to put a sense of urgency. PH argues that there are unpredictable factors in public input that could delay plans and need to have 6 month time to allow for that. 6 Month extension approved.

#### **Pateros Fire Dist**

PH – Do. Co. fire dist 15 update (Pateros). Provided a lot of info. To PH to support Dept. of Commerce request. Will also include Yakima Nation in process. No conflict or hold up due to Dept. Commerce. Carlton Fire grant issue. SK – if we get a copy of agreement ASAP county can move forward quickly.

#### **VSP**

PH – VSP – 2 draft resolutions before BOCC, one using CD as implementing, other with Co. (PH) as lead. Resolution would have 11 – 13 on work group. Both possibilities would build around same work group. RC trying to clarify details. Need substantial ag on work group. State requires rep from environmental community. RC & PH not in agreement over what group/community mean. Make up settles on 3 from each main watershed from Cattlemen's, Hort., Farm Bureau, 2 Tribe (Yakima, Colville) if want to be involved, 1 Methow Watershed, 1 Environmental, 1 at large. Ag groups & Tribes pick their own, all others BOCC appoints. *(work group is already stacked from ag business, now one environmental instead of two as discussed earlier and is hand picked from BOCC. Craig Nelson warned of lack of diversity, clearly this makeup goes opposite direction.)* SK – prefers in Co. lead, concern about workload on CD, state can always pull funds, feels Co. in better position to deal with that possible issue. PH cannot guarantee he would not need to come back to BOCC for additional personnel so would

need more \$. RC anticipated that additional \$ would be needed. PH clerical support would be needed in order to have a quality record in case of challenge. Already have a fair amount of "science" to support development of process. Later on will need some help making a legal document. At first will need to prepare a backlog of materials, - bibliography, etc. Need to develop a budget just like with Shoreline Mgmt. Plan. RC – prefers under Perry rather than overloaded CD. SK –sure that whatever comes out will be challenged. Perry has more experience than CD with such challenges. This resolution will come to BOCC by Wednesday, Perry promises out by Monday to BOCC. PH – must have an acceptable "work plan" to state by 120 da, plan must be approved by State Conservation. Comm. SK still concerned about whole VSP but will support. **AL points out that Co. has inserted additional paragraph in VSP agreement with state. Feels a strong possibility is a catch point. PH feels won't be a problem. AL not sure how closely it will be read. PH & RC a back & forth about nuances of balancing ag and critical areas. SK feels whole thing being shoved down on Co. Has heard from producers and they support VSP. If paragraph saying that agreement is null & void if ag. exemption taken out by legislature. RC, SK, AL – keep paragraph in.**(Off to a great start.)

JD returns, 2:27

### **ATV proposal**

PH gathering data. Preparing to open up a stretch. Previous concerns raised have been discussed. Researching to make sure various concerns that was dismissed as frivolous does or does not have support. Re: ATV operating without legal approval. Spec. Detective for Sheriffs working on issue of illegal ATV operation and will work in process.

### **Misc.**

AL hinting around on Ex. Session on Tuesday regarding Futurewise court decision from last week.

### **Flood Plain Building permit**

Variance for building on flood plain. Hearing officer allowed building if party signs legally binding hold harmless agreement in case of damage. It is a condition of the issuance of variance. This is an application on Chewuch drainage. **This is a first in county.**

*Leave for another meeting @ 2:36*