

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, January 12, 2021, AM

Present:

Jim DeTro (JD) - BOCC Chair, District 3
Chris Branch (CB) - BOCC Vice-Chair, District 1
Andy Hover (AH) - BOCC, District 2
Lanie Johns (LJ) - Clerk of the Board
Maurice Goodall (MG) - Emergency Management
Josh Thomson (JT) - Public Works
Sidney - Solid Waste

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer via AV Capture. . Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note taker comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at <https://countywatch.org> and are not the official county record of the meeting. For officially approved minutes, which are normally published at a later time, see <https://okanogancounty.org/Commissioners/Minutes%2020/2020%Minutespage.html>.

Time stamps below are according to the county's AV Capture video. To locate real time, a clock on the AV Capture video screen at <https://okanogancounty.org/avcapture.html> can assist in finding the correct spot on the video recording.

Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions: **EMS:** Discussion on collapse of Omak Dist 1 TV tower and related issues; Telephone service issues in same area; Two executive sessions; **Solid waste management:** Douglas County recycling fee, illegal dumping on Salmon Ck, asbestos, plastics; **Legislative update** on carbon tax, litter cleanup \$\$, methane cap and trade; **Roads and maintenance:** Cold springs fire, Cameron Lakes road finances, refunds, etc; Tonasket sewer and shop.

Commissioners' Staff Meeting (9:00 AM, AVC 01:48)

Discussions of changes in agenda
Cari Hall 10:30 meeting apparently canceled.

AVC 05:37 - Maurice Goodall EMS

Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan - Still being worked on.

Omak District 1 TV Tower: Problems with snow, etc. Omak District 1 TV tower, Omak Mtn. is down. He's in touch with George Thornton about what to do. KSPS and other stations trying to figure out what to do. It collapsed. Discussion whether there was an emergency broadcast - they broadcast to the tribe. FNX is the station. Sabrina Disautel didn't know what it

was. George says it's a TV station that is broadcast over there. Trying to get it up and going. About \$30,000 to get it up there - but can't get up there right now. Will work with him to push out the information. Quite a few people use it. If you subscribe - from an antenna, you can get it. CB mentions snow cat.

Telephone service up in Oroville was up and down for about 2 weeks. When Maurice called, it was fixed that day. Century Link - and the company that feeds them was the problem. If he doesn't know, he can't do anything about it.

Weather forecast discussed. Heavy winds for Spokane.

Omak - They want something broadcast for whole valley on emergencies. Discussion of the nature of broadcasts continues....oriented towards emergencies.

AVC 0:14:22 - Maurice leaves, so do all Commissioners. (**Executive Session?**) Dave Gecas and Pete Palmer appear to go with them.

AVC 1:14:10 - Commissioners return from Executive Session. Personal experiences being discussed. Time going by quickly discussed, Basement project. Plumbing issue. They appear to be killing time until another session and return of Hover

AVC 1:20:24 - Hover Returns. Executive Session, 15 minutes, Naomie Peasley invited.

AVC 1:33:40 - BOCC returns from Exec. Session. More personal historical anecdotes and jokes, old landmarks, experiences of the past as county officials. Several consent agenda items approved.

AVC: 1:50:00 - Josh Thomson entering for Public Works.

11:00 - Public works - Josh Thomson and Sidney (Solid waste manager.)

Solid Waste Issues

Douglas county Recycling: Received boxes from Douglas County for recyclables. Hauling from Douglas county to our site. Taking a lot of time to process. Want to establish a cost or a fee. We have to sort through debris and don't think Okanogan County residents should pay. We need a price to process that material. It's not our contract, not our county, so we shouldn't be paying. They have no other place to bring it. The only other possibility is East Wenatchee or Wenatchee or Spokane.

CB facilities provided to put on the train haven't been provided.

JD - has a friend in Utah who has a switch yard and a rock crusher. He mines the rock, railroad guys from him. Brings to NYC, and he brings back garbage.

Illegal Dumping - Recurring problem on Salmon Creek

Salmon Creek, old dump - we waived the tipping fee for clean-up there is more garbage. They wanted me to waive tipping fee. He can't do it, has to be BOCC. I told them I'd bring it up.

AH - A way to get garbage dumped for free.

Sold waste person - Eco blocks would be better.

AH - Would rather enforce the no dumping "fee."

JD - Yes this would encourage people to keep dumping.

AH - Put up a camera. I'm serious.

CB asks to follow up with him, since it's tribes, etc.

AH - Up Salmon Creek.

CB - With tribes and garbage situation - Let's have a conversation about garbage dumps. Transfer station at Disautel - a sign is up that says "Our trees have eyes." Seems to be working.

AH - If there's a piece of property that needs to be cleaned up, I'd be willing to....

CB I It was in the stream too.

JD - I agree with Branch. We need to go to the enforcement side.

CB - Agrees. It's by the creek and it's so close to town anyway. Big temptation and impact.

AH - And it's recurring. Same piece of property.

CB - AT my place, downtown - a wooded area. I saw some folks stop by side of road, and later on I was on there, and there was a whole garbage can. Wonder how much of that goes on. Miscellaneous discussion.

Asbestos issue discussed.

Cold Springs - Extending that. I added "Non-asbestos." If we waive asbestos it won't be properly managed. They may not even know it's asbestos.

Extending 1-29-2021 extending deadline for disposal from Palmer Mtn. fire.

Resolution 8-2021 Approved. -

Other Recyclables - Discussion.

CB - Asks about dealing with plastics. Are you sending them somewhere?

Solid waste - Market just coming back now. Not much niche plastics. Cardboard, glass.

He directs everybody to the Methow (chuckles from people.)

JT - Talks striping being mixed with glass, makes it reflective.

Legislative Update on Recyclables. Sidney

2 Important Bills:

#1- Carbon Tax - Cap and trade, over 12,000 metric Ton, have to go to auction to buy credit points to mitigate greenhouse gas.

#2 - Litter Clean-up - senator from King County pushing it. n-ramps and Off-ramps. If you see all those homeless camps - looks like the intent is to clean them up. If we do not use the \$\$, they could take it for that. State may be concentrating on state highways rather than our areas.

Methane cap and trade: about 10 years down the road, we may get to that. Wants municipal land fills to be exempt from that. It's big business. CA is doing about \$5 - \$12 billion per year. 5th largest cap and trade in the world.

That's all I have.

Josh Thomson - Roads and maintenance. No issues from weather last night. Wind storm tonight, will see what it brings. Surprised we didn't lose power last night. Police chief in This was talking about transformer sparking. Others - it was on and off here and there.

Cold springs fire. Cameron Lake Road is a federally eligible route, so not eligible for FEMA approved. So we have to go through ER funds. Already approved, Have about \$30,000 in costs we'll be reimbursed for. 100% because it's on reservation, We have contract for guard rail replacement.

Over #20,000 and hazard tree removal. Nothing else from FEMA. Issues related to CRAB discussed.

CRAB 2021 road levy certification for Okanogan County approved.

Tonasket sewer and shop: JT - Gary went to Tonasket in re sewer. Looking into that. Debate about location. People talking over each other. Discussion about the Tonasket shop road. More discussion about location. CB - Asks Josh to talk with Kurt Danison about this.

JT - Goes over Consent Agenda items for today. Other talk among BOCC about small road issues, chit-chat about personal experiences about the snow, various roads they travel etc. .

Adjourn at 11:33 until 1:30 at Board of Health, back here at 3:00. (Chit-chat continues about the weather. Talk a bout nominations and elections - something to do with Public Works. Mic is turned off.