

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
(BOCC)
Feb. 26, 2019**

Jim Detro – JD (BOCC)	Tanya Craig – TC (Risk Manager)
Chris Branch – CB (BOCC)	Leah McCormick – LM (Treasurer)
Andy Hover – AH (BOCC)	Cari Hall – CH (Auditor)
Josh Thomson – JT (Public Works)	Stella Columbia – SC (Fair Events)
Debi Hilts – DH (HR)	Maurice Goodall – MG (Emergency Mgmt)
Joe Poulin – JP (Maintenance & Fair Grds)	Mike Worden – MW (Dispatch)
Perry Huston – PH (Planning)	Dan Higbee – DH (Building)
Laleña Johns – LJ (BOCC Clerk)	George Thornton – GT (Citizen, County Watch)
Ben Rough – BR (Public Works)	Tony Hawley – TH (Sheriff)
David Gecas – DG (Civil Att.)	Randy Clough (Central Service)

Notes are impressions and interpretations of the note taker. Every attempt is made to assure accuracy. Specific comments by the note taker are in italics and not part of the official record or intended in any way to be other than the impressions of the note taker.

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Summary: Fair Events: Omak Fire Department practice at Agriplex, Floor work in the Annex, **Admin & Fair Maintenance:** Juvenile Sewer Bid, Stairs the back of Juvenile, Job reclassification for maintenance at Fair Grounds, **BOCC Clerk: Ricoh copier lease is up, Exec. Session:** Pending or potential litigation, **Assessor:** Survived first big test, Mobil devices no longer supported, conservation easement purchase & valuation, mineral or timber right sales & valuation, CCT land purchases, Perpetual timber rights, **HR & Risk Management:** Report on salary comparisons, Sheriff reviewing policies & procedures, **Public Works:** Maintenance & Roads, Network connection to Public works, Pickup bids from last week, WATV signage, Twisp-Carlton Rd speed reduction petition, Okanogan Levee Repairs, Area 1 Leadman, Similkameen, **Letter from Assessor, Public Comment:** TV District update, **Supplemental appropriation:** Superior Court, **Salley Bull – Citizen:** OB services, Affects NVH, MVH & Three Rivers, **Central Services:** Backup Software Purchase for County System, **Weeds:** Emergency staffing request, **Veterans Affairs:** Veterans Affairs Intern, **Miscellaneous, Emergency:** Emergency Management Committee

JD, AH & CB present. PH, SC DG & JP staff present.

SC (Fair Events)

- **Omak Fire Department practice at Agriplex.** Might have shown up today. Wanted to do a training at the Agriplex. Problem is setting up for an Elk gathering over the weekend and usage conflicts.
- Wants to work in **floor work in the Annex.** 2 verbal quotes but SC is unsure what the floor looks like under the current rug plus removal of glue residue. The floor needs to be very clean regardless of what direction we go for replacement. Finding people to do the job is the issue – maybe JP crew will be able to do the work. Will discuss this with JP. AH – check into contractors list at Valley Lumber, maybe Home Depot but AH does not know, also Midway Tile and Tonasket Flooring about what they know or can do.

JP (Admin & Fair Maintenance)

- **Juvenile Sewer Bid.** The bid in question has resubmitted their bid but they are not on the Small Works roster, JP has contacted the contractor but has not had a response. Discussion of necessary bid bond, minimum wage, prevailing wage, able to perform job in time allowed.
- **AH – stairs going down the back Juvenile.** Has JP found anyone to do the work? JP needs to go out to bid – maybe \$24,000.
- **JP – What of the job reclassification for maintenance at Fair Grounds.** AH – is really a promotion, new title: Fairgrounds Maintenance Coordinator. Will be OK to come back to Admin work as needed but needs to be written into the job description.

LJ (BOCC Clerk)

- **Ricoh copier lease is up** since last year. Wants to apply for a new copier. Would like to bring in info about options when BOCC time allows. Planning (PH) did the same a while ago, PH does not see got any advantage in what they did. Includes a maintenance agreement. There are at least 3 companies operating in the area – Ricoh, Xerox at least have local people. Next Week.

9:30 **Exec. Session 42.30.110 (i) – Pending or potential litigation.** 20 min. to start. PH, DG & BOCC. +10 min, +10 min. Return at 10:10. No decisions.

10:15 LG (Assessor)

- **Survived first big test** – Learned a lot and will make some changes to streamline. Down one position – an appraiser. Working with HR to hire. Will start at Appraiser I during training until finish necessary training, then an Appraiser II. Will need to have all work signed off on by the Head Appraiser for 1 year until becomes acceptable then an Appraiser III. Union position so seniority matters, as well as someone wanting to advance. An appraiser generally is a 10 yr. process to reach full skill level so hiring of a good person who wants to stay is important.
- Huge event yesterday. **Mobil devices no longer supported** and will require replacement. Current device is based on an iPad but the updates in the IOS (operating system) has caused the software provider to move to other devices. Data collection does not transfer to the office PC environment and has to now be printed and hand inputted. A new system is being developed based on a Surface device to match the national market. Currently in transition before a new device and suitable software is available. Will make it through this year's re-evaluations but will need new device and software in the fall. With a device an appraiser needs to do 30 locations a day to reach work goals, if having to use paper and re-enter would need to meet 50 locations and then spend time entering data. With any device fee's from using data on Verizon will be an additional cost. No current funds needed – will need 4 new Surface devices plus software and an annual software license. This is to allow the BOCC to be aware of the upcoming issue.
- **CB: Asking about a conservation easement purchase** from WDFW and how this affect valuation and tax assessment. LG - Purchase by WDFW generally raises value more than what the rancher was paying so the County gets more taxes. If a private conservation purchases the easement then the assessment is generally less so the County gets lower taxes. Assessments are based on comparable sales value. Private conservation easements might be as much as a 50% reduction in value.
- **AH.** What if someone sells a **mineral or timber right** to someone? LG – have to look at how it affects sales. Generally timber right sales have no effect as people are just buying land to live on. Law has changed so no value on perpetual rights – changed at state level. Old unpaid taxes before the law changed is a Treasurer question. Always was a minimal charge but now nothing. Mineral rights sales are different as it has the potential of making the land much less usable.

- **CB. If CCT purchases land** for Trust, how does that affect? Tribe can apply to the State for an exemption, never is denied. BIA is the body that controls the application and can be a slow process from them. Letter has to come from BIA and is one parcel at a time.
- **AH. Wants a letter of history of decisions to not collect taxes on perpetual timber rights.** *(This part of the discussion is referring to last weeks offer and understanding with agreement with Dave Greveling on “Finder’s Fee” for disclosure of possible uncollected back taxes on perpetual timber rights – GT)*

10:47 TC (**HR & Risk Management**)

- **Report on salary comparisons** for Department Heads in Counties comparable to Okanogan County.
- Positions have different mixes of duties so comparison is complicated.
- **Sheriff is reviewing policies and procedures** in the office. Risk Pool has a training process with daily questions that require responding from officers as part of the training process.

10:55 BR & JT (**Public Works**)

- **Maintenance & Roads**
 - o More of the same, more snow and more on the way. Some drifting, trying to get old blowers working. They are very old. Looking possible purchasing of surplus WSDOT blower but on waiting list.
- **Network connection to Public works**
 - o No news, hopefully temporary up in running by end of the week.
- **Pickup bids from last week**
 - o 2 bids – compared the bids to the state bid. After consideration and comparison of options and possible selecting parts of different bids will award **full bid to Jess Auto.**
- **WATV signage**
 - o Review of possible sign options, settle on one design. Go ahead for manufacture and **installation of 20 signs to begin** with.
- **Twisp-Carlton Rd speed reduction petition** – MP 9.05 – 10.05
 - o Will need to do a speed study and consider
- **Okanogan Levee Repairs**
 - o Responding to CoE proposal.
- **Area 1 Leadman**
 - o While going through process of advertising, interview and job offer consideration would like to be able to have ability to implement an “Out of Class” 5% wage increase for the acting person if the hiring process exceeds 2 months. BOCC adopts resolution.
- **Similkameen** – just a reminder of needing to consider a solution
- No more separate BR agenda, will be merged into JT agenda.

1:30 **Letter from Assessor.**

- State law changed on timber rights, it does not allow collecting of taxes from timber rights since 1975. Still looking into the collection of possible back taxes from before that date.

Public Comment.

- **GT – TV District update.** Communication with KSPS has been opened by from an email blockage at the KSPS end. KSPS has a new translator ready to install as soon as able to access Omak Mtn. Issue is the snow conditions. Goal is to first get back to past performance then hopefully reach comparable service as in the Methow Valley – 21 channels, HD Digital signal.

2:04 Supplemental appropriation.

- **Superior Court** - \$3305. No staff comment, no public comment. Passed

2:10 Salley Bull - Citizen

- Salley Bull Bringing information on **OB services** in valley and her efforts to reach out and work with the various hospitals and groups of concern. Still working on the effort and will keep pestering people.
- **Affects NVH, MVH & Three Rivers.**
 - o Visie3d hospital strategy meeting – was no talk of OB
 - o No pre-natal in Oroville Confluence anymore, now sending to Tonasket.
 - o Concern over upcoming loss of OB, Pre-natal services
 - o What to do
 - o OB services are basically money losers but act as means of keeping future clients as parents want to stay with clinic that provides services

3:00 RC (Central Services) Backup Software Purchase for County System

- Provides a spreadsheet with software comparisons.
- Discussion of laptop, software options for updating. Which budget lines to use and more.
- Move to transfer funds to pay for updates passed

3:35 A. Lyons (Weeds) – Emergency staffing request

- Update of job descriptions of all current positions.
- Gives updates & salary survey with comparable positions in other counties
- Asking for all position raises
- BVOCCC will take under advisement
- A. Lyons asking to review and update weed code. Will need a public hearing for adoption

3:40 Pull minutes from Consent Agenda

Fritz (Veterans Affairs)

- An opportunity for 200 hours from Work Source to hire a **Veterans Affairs Intern**. This is approximately 5 weeks. County will be able to continue if wants after that time. Has found a high quality candidate and woman veteran.

Miscellaneous

- Move to approve Consent Agenda #1 & #14
- Ordinance for amendments to Cannabis, code sections and use chart. Approved
- Conditional consideration of sales tax for Communication infrastructure. Approved
- Additional help in Sheriff's office. Approved.

MG (Emergency)

- **Emergency Management Committee** meeting to be set in BOCC Chambers march 4 & 5. Discussion of wage adjustment for manager of program. Current unsure of needed process to approve, discussion of process and procedures.

Adjourn