

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Feb. 14, 2017 (AM)

Present:

Chris Branch - CB (BOCC)
Andy Hover - AH (BOCC)
Jim DeTro - JD (BOCC, enters later.)
Lanie Johns - LJ (County Clerk)
Zach Kennedy - Z (Paid Lobbyist, working with Jim Potts Lobbyist)
Leah McCormack, - LM (Treasurer)
Joe (?) and Josh Freel - new maintenance people.
Debbi Hilts - DH (Human Resources)
Josh Thomson - JT (County Engineer)
Ben Rough - BR (Dept. Head, public works)

Content: Legislative update: wolves, firearms, Hirst/water, Cannabis; HR - wages, staff trainings; Maintenance; Treasurer's report; Pub. Wks: ATV's, ORV's WATV's: roads, signage in re court ruling.

9:00 AM - Commissioners' Staff Meeting-Legislative Update, Lobbyist Potts

State Legislature Update

Zach (z) - this week is also week before cut-offs for legislation.

Budget

We have until next weekend to help implement budget. Budget items can go until the very end, so we will not talk about that. Big problem - can't kick McCleary down the road, need to address soon. No one knows how to tackle. We will be in session until June/ July.

Gray Wolves

Tomorrow - at 8 AM Gray Wolves. Kretz. Do not have feel for what it will look like. Had trouble in the past, but people are now realizing there is a problem with wolves.

JD - a new pack that some local people have on trail cam. One is collared. WDFW is not really cooperating as usual. I saw pictures this AM. There are 5 of them. Z - have you talked with Donnie on that yet? DT - No. Z - If one has a collar, they should be able to say it's there. DT - can you still log onto site? DT - They have never cooperated on that. We have never had that privilege. We told them we really don't care because they (WDFD) wouldn't cooperate in the first place.

Z - Will have to deal with that.

Firearms: Z - There are a lot of firearms bills for this week. I really don't think they will go anywhere. If get out of one house, will not get out of the other. Either good or bad for rural areas.

Hirst/Water

A lot going on with water on Hirst. About 12 bills with Hirst and Foster decisions. They will probably call a meeting, do an amendment or substitute on one of the bills and include everything we want as a fix. Everything from overriding court decision or (?) Once in urban growth area, outside of Critical area, you are fine. I know you have some issues up there. Lots of folks are running out of water, so I understand the need for regs. We will just have to sit back and watch. Have you seen anything in particular that you want to pay special attention to?

JD - Is Kretz getting a hearing on it? Yes - On the docket at 8 AM in Hearing Room B in the House. JD - Nat'l resources then? Yes. Z - Backe (?) , Short, Kraft, Heller, Shay, - pretty good support, but not scheduled for exec session yet. Fingers crossed, we will see what we can do. On that bill, would just bring into compliance with what the feds are saying.

Z - Do we have any equations? We do not know what will happen on water. We are coming to cut off. Last year, we were on 50% of bills but this year not much of an idea of anything. I guess they can't hurt us at this point. It's really weird - on Monday, hardly anyone around. Fridays - most of legs gone by 10:00. Kind of a half- day around here. They are trying to figure out - we have no money, trying to figure out how to raise money.

Cannabis

Z - Cannabis - quite a bit of discussion. One re-distributes tax \$\$ based on retail AND production. Trying to fix so that county will be getting some \$\$ for growing. You guys get hardly any \$\$ now. On the retailers - what they found is that a retailer stores does not increase crime or violence, youth abuse, etc. Nothing to the enforcement, which is interesting because that's why they give the \$\$ to areas with retailers. The "sketchier" people are at the farms. The folks in town know they have to mind their p's and q's because they are visible. Starting to realize the need to re-distribute the tax \$\$. 75% of \$\$ goes into I-5 corridor now.

JD - We have no retailers. (*Others tell him in that we have 2.*) JD - One was annexed into the town. (*Other BOCC show surprise*) AH - Everyone thinks we are getting \$\$ from this. JD - On news, says Colorado has passed the Billion dollar mark (*on Cannabis*)

Z - We are looking at all this - but they are putting the production into Ag, controlled substance with Liquor Canvas Board, and edibles into Dept of Health. They are starting to figure out who should be in charge. AH - Now, if they will actually regulate. Z - this will be next step, . We will know more after Friday and find out what they actually want to move. After this week - my next e-mail this week will have lot more info on what we need to do going forward.

Any last questions? Feel free to call/e-mail.

JD - With McCleary cloud, we are our VSP group is making good headway on VSP. So it probably won't be re-appropriated. They said if not funded, you can opt out. What do we do if we are 1/2 way through and they take funding away? Z - Sometimes it can nullify what you did - Dino Rossi is vice- budget (?) chair. He is good. We meet with him on Thursday??

JD - We are 1/2 way through - where does that leave us? - We are not hurting. Perry has accounting of what we have spent. This week, public works trust fund - I asked director to let us know. We could hold Eastlake sewer payment from the trust fund. (*Visible reaction from Branch.*) Z - doesn't make sense. They sweep funds that are self-sustaining. Why would you take \$\$ from funds from something that can self-sustain? PH - Clarifies we are not looking for more \$\$. We just need to extend contracts from \$\$ that has already been appropriated (still regarding VSP) PH - Contracts come out several months late. We just need to have the time we thought we would have. Z - We will bring up on Thurs. Let us know during week if you want us to testify for you or do anything

JD - I'm going to send you a map of Ok City on the wolf deal. I call the map part of the 'insanity.' It shows 97 splitting Ok Cty. On east side, wolves are de-listed federal, on W. side, State and Fed listed. If you cut off Reservation, there are 9 kill permits. If you go over border to Canada, there is a bounty on them. I call this bureaucratic crap as to what it does to your county alone. Look at the jurisdiction. Wolves know no boundary. Z - Do the wolves understand where they are supposed to be? (laughter.) JD - We should collar them and zap them when they are on wrong boundary. Z - I wonder what would happen if you strapped the collar to the bottom of a logging truck? I'd better get off the phone before I get myself in trouble. (*Laughter all the way around.*) It's another discussion.

Debi Hilts, Human Resources

Wages

DH - *has question about wages. Says Deb and Kay asked this morning because they are finalizing payroll. She is needing to know so she can et correct \$\$ for payroll.*

AH - Winthrop is annexing into Dist 6 fire Dist. DH - I can direct Lauri to do a resolution (*Laurie Thomas, Auditor*) JD - She should be happy with what we give. DH - \$11.80 and \$12.50 so we can go ahead. Roughly \$2.50 per person. (*Assuming wage increase?*) AH - We are over minimum wage. CB - Why are we increasing more than minimum wage? Is this good justification? AH - where does \$11.80 come from? DH - Doesn't know. AH - Tell her what it is. Stick with it. PH - Do we need a resolution? DH - I will direct Laurie to create a resolution? AH - Agrees. Confusing. DH - I will tell her to create it so it justifies about the \$11.00 (*or \$11.80?*) per hour and she can use for this month?

Collective Bargaining training

DH = Tania is ill. Hover, you asked for cost on collective bargaining? LERA - Labor Employee Relations. We would like to attend their conference this year. Good info, labor fundamentals, positive communication, bargaining, etc. 4 different classes for every hour, we would split the classes, so we would get a lot of info.

AH - I'm having worked up as to how much it would cost for me to go. DH - We would leave on Wed. \$350 per person for both days, breakfast and lunch, if register before 13th of March. About \$1,000 for both of us to go. AH - Quite a bit of \$\$ to be put into the....in non-departmental, legal services, so I was going to move money from that line item ...as an alternative to legal services. DH - Asking your permission to attend. PH - The objective is to train staff in the intricacies of collective bargaining, with less to the expensive legal advisors. CB - It is still legal fees. DH - to Hover - you would like to attend also? Yes. Anyone else want to attend? (*no one else.*) CB - I vote yes, it's what we talked about - to train staff. AH - It will see more \$\$ in the long run.

Staff Training needed - opportunities, cooperation of elected officials

DH - Confirms an "ok" on training. I got no response except a negative response on (?) PH - I am working on it. Friday e-mail. DH I did receive one official - Ana? Feedback was from elected officials. They say they have conferences and don't need to take these courses. It shouldn't be mandatory. Would become an excuse for overtime. AH - What are the courses you were suggesting?" DH - Basic 1st aide, Bus ethics, effective communication, time management, bullying, workplace violence. Sexual harassment, general harassment. 10 topics in total. All important issues. General information for people who do not know these general principles. AH - Webinars? DH - Yes. We cannot make it mandatory. I will send out the sexual harassment link to entire county. When they pass test, it will bring them to a course list. Then anyone can take any course on the list. HR list over 80, management over 30 lessons long. They can take as many as they chose. CB - Average length of lesson? (15- 30 min at most.) PH - I would suggest you confer with (?) Other elected officials - If they choose to not require their employees, they should be required to sign a statement that they are assum-

ing responsibilities. Ok to assert your independence, but they are covered by risk pool. AH - good idea.

DH - We already have one official who has chosen not to comply. He is not going to make it mandatory nor make employees do it. AL - two issues. 1) Risk pool and 2) whether you have coverage. Even if you deny coverage, you can still be on the hook. AH - How do we go about saying this is mandatory to people who are elected, just like we are? County policy needs to be something where we can afford protection. Going through the training is part of it. AL - other questions as to whether or not this particular issue..whether they go outside the scope of their duties in re their response to county, whether personal liability on this potential individual's part AH - personal liability when not performing the training? AL - this is all hypothetical. AH - If I were working in lumber yard..... AL - By failing to do the training something happens. Someone who works under the person files a claim. CB - So we know absolutely that we can't force the issue? DH - Definitely. I found out the hard way. This had not been brought to my attention. AH - How far can we go to protect county employees but also not force the elected to do something? DH - Make the elected officials understand a-worst case scenario.

CB - People could easily say we were not trained, whether it's safety issues, or....That's one of threatens they say to run more like a business, but can you? Private sector is working this way. It works to have their very part-time people take it. A variety of things come up. AH - We were able to call L &I inspector, have him come up and write up the issues. They couldn't give a ticket, because we had voluntarily tried to fix problems.

DH - Pub Works have very structured training. No issues at all. Very on top of it. CB - sexual harassment important. DH - Nothing throughout the county. C B- I never thought I needed it, but took the training the other day and learned a lot. How much resistance did you get? AH - I was talking to sheriff, and he was wondering about getting all elected officials together in one room and go over some things. How about it? CB - It's been my objective for awhile, but we have not had time. AH - asks Lanie to send out a memo to elected officials and see what days they would be available? We could try to put something together. CB - If there are enough selections. LJ - Main topic? AH - budget, next safety/protocol/policy DH - Personnel training. CB - Good way to put it.AH - Only thing you can do is try.

(Note taker question - why are there always these problems with other elected officials?)

From audience - Joke about offering them free beer to attend. All laugh.

MAINTENANCE/FACILITIES

9: 45 - Joe (new maintenance staff) passes out info on an assessment of facilities. These folks will go through everything - HVAC, stoves in jails, in 2 days will go through all the

buildings. They will take this and put into our maintenance program. When DIVCO comes in and works on this, will come up with an analysis. PH - does it include juvenile detention? Joe - It Includes everything. AH - how extensive? Joe - top to bottom. Safety - emergency exits, fire alarms, etc. CB - ADA? Joe - part of it is ADA. CB - Good basis for cap facilities report. PH - assume a written report? Joe - not only that, but will plug it into our program. DT - Visual aides, photographs? CB - Capital forecast? Joe - went through with other commissioners. database is in the maintenance program we've had for a couple of years now. CB - How did you come up with this company in San Antonio? Joe - the facilities dude recommended this. Grant county has done the same thing. There are trainings at the end of April that will train me. Douglas city uses religiously. LJ - We had it before, but previous maintenance supervisor didn't have time to put in all data. Joe and I talked about it and as we worked with it, we saw we could benefit a lot. Joe - when we get the upgrade, all that info will be put in. LJ - we can measure our savings. Joe - If we put in \$\$ from one unit, we can evaluate. Can show us what is coming up next year, can put into budget. it's Virginia Grainger, the Juvie, Courthouse, DOC, ...etc. All of it. PH - In past we've done similar assessments. Needs to be integrated into Cap Facilities plan... make sure when this comes in. be sure we can walk it out so it goes into 6-year work plan/Cap facilities plan. This will inform the budget. Moral - we have a piece we didn't know we had. Joe - looking down the road as to what has to be replaced.

PH - Time window? Tomorrow... Joe - They will come in, take numbers off everything, for example HVAC, and will say this one is 10 years past lifespan, so we can go to DIVCO and ask about what has been spent...average replacement cost, etc. PH - when report? March 1 and 2. From there, a month/month and a half to input into their program, then they put it into facilities/maintenance program and I will get immediately. You can also have access. Nothing in there that will be held secret from you.

Fairgrounds: Josh (Also new) - can we get the fairgrounds into that? PH - only a couple of buildings. Do we need to look at quonset huts? Maybe the agriplex/annex. Josh - it would be nice to have someone go in there and document. CB - Can you find out what it would cost to do that?

PH - heating/cooling in Agriplex - heating is pretty fantastic. There is more modern technology. Could we come up with some ideas besides some two old heat pumps, etc, what kind of supplemental heat in terms of modern technology?? AH - If Joe calls them and asks how much would that cost? Would we look at Agriplex.. PH - grandstands are toast - bathrooms? Josh - would like to have them look at the grounds. CB - (can't hear.) AH - may be structural lists, with emphasis on agriplex, a run-down on.... PH - Caution - what will they compare quonset huts to? Josh - I want them to look at whether they are structurally sound or immediately a hazard? Would like to know, just coming into this, what do we have to work with?

Leah McCormack (Treas) - If person coming in does anything at fair grounds, we want to be sure they are paid for from the right budget. All agree.

Josh - extra heating for the Agriplex? Approaches DeTro, gives him sheet. DeTro asks about propane. AH - what is going on over there? JD - Josh, Perry and I talked. It would be nice if you could push the button and have a lot of BTU's to take the chill off. CB - Are we (?) enough ??? and landfill to??? Josh - No. We would have to come up with a way to... JD - For Agriplex, we could probably get one of the big shops to (give us fuel?) AH - Recommends talking to the guys who are running them in their shops. JD - Other alternative was propane. That's what we were thinking. When we redo kitchen in Agriplex, we want to go with propane. Next step is to look into that. PH - In Agriplex, going through 100 + gal per day, depending upon weather. Running it at 24 hours. With this, if you could crack it on to take the edge off...if you took it up to a beeline and took it up to tweak it. Even if used a propane tank, you'd gain. Josh - if we turn on 2 hours before event, could bring it up to 80 and turn off. AH - It's thermal mass, best to turn on earlier, turn it off, warm it up, etc. PH - You could use the floor heat to bring it up to the baseline, and then take it up. Maybe if you took it up to 50, and then use this to bring it up more. If 40 outside, the floor heat does get good. If we had something like this to take the edge off.

AH - Maybe Josh can talk with shop buys to see whether they are always looking for oil, or do you have extra? LJ - to heat courthouse, we went through \$60,000 per winter with oil. AH - This is waste oil. We are talking about all of our shops. Wonders about waste oil availability and also mentions that these stoves require a lot of maintenance. Josh - at landfill, 16,000 storage container plus weed sprays containers that we rotated. 5 days week, 8 hours day, and to have big container full.

JD - Other thing was vehicle. Ben says may have a truck for Josh. They will report to us.

Broken discussions including all..... discussions of plow, asking lot, dumps trailer that S-10 cannot handle. Josh - now it needs tires. CB - within our system? Yes. Public Works. Josh - Is there a chance I can meet with just you 3 today? Not all together. AL - legal? Josh - Just personal item. AL - must be public meeting. PH - Suggests he talk with chair (DeTro.) Josh - sooner the better. JD - will meet with Josh now. The rest of you meet with treasurer.

Leah Mc Cormack - introduces herself to Josh, whom she has not met.

10:10 - Leah Mc Cormack , Treasurer.
(While Mc Cormack getting settled)

AH - moves to approves vouchers. (For what??) CB seconds. Passed. CB and AH sign.

New Financial programs and safeguards

Introduces Pam Johnson, chief Deputy. Important to note she is office manager, and I say God Bless her - she has a lot of responsibility, I so appreciate what she does for the staff and for me.

Other thing - sometimes people have misconceptions that all we do is collect taxes Overview (See hand out ...reads from handout.)

Adds to handout:

2. statements are about 60,000.

3. We send to cities and other counties and remit to them, collect the portion of the taxes where people live on boarder lines Disburse funds, etc...

4. AH - when you said the refunds...is that people that paid taxes and then the fires destroyed their houses? LM - yes, that's one refund. Or when tax correction lowered value of something already been paid. LM- It affected the school district levy amount. A disaster like this is huge for the county.

5. Pam: Wa Fed Bank working on us maintaining a certain level in our checking act and are giving us an earned credit. We are able to bring down our fees. LM - actuality is that this is residual money. In my opinion, this is the best way to go. Huge for county. B of A (Bank of America) - every January, I had to fork out the money. As you know, January is not a very good month to pay big bills. This will help cash issues.

AH - so this is for all year long. Yes. LM - my thinking - we are actually the first big county that has done all of our depositories through Wa Fed. Because they are local, we have worked with these management persons before, they and their staff are bending over backwards to give us everything we want. I sent out RFP's when looking for a bank, and a requirement was that the bank had to be local. Had Wa Fed, Wells Fargo, NCCascades. NC did not meet minimum requirements, but because WA Fed was less in fees than Wells, we went for that. My thinking was that I could go out to any bank in the country. But this is Ok city taxpayer \$\$\$, I want to keep here.

“Positive pay” - shows date, amount of warrant, and the warrant #. We didn't have who it was paid to. You will recall situation at Leavenworth Hospital and B of A would not recover fraudulent items. Adds the names of the person you are paying to immediately Warrant, date, who to, and amt. We can see the next day. Before, you could not reject after 48 hours. We must reject within 48 hours. Also, Pam and girls who worked diligently.... Pam - all electronic. Must upload into banking system. Had to contact each hospital and ESD in Wen for all 8 school districts. We were able to do that, along with county to upload all our info. We also have ACH and wire filters. We are notified of any automatic transfer out, and we have to approve before it happens. In Chelan county, it just went out AH: was that a ...

Pam - it was a one-time deal. Someone had set up a payroll file, and someone hacked them on Friday night. No one on Monday knew what had happened. (\$1 million.) No one would cover it, but they recovered some of the \$\$ but could not retrieve what had gone out of the

country. Now, out of country is an automatic denial.

CB - Is there some kind of cyber ass't, or county-wide....Pam - Only cyber asst's have been with our IT dept. Between bank and us in putting in our different filters and working closely with them. Like tomorrow is a pay day. We give them that these 3 files are going out, with this \$\$ amt. They double-check with their system that these are approved. But this is a double verification that these are our files. AH - Another nice thing of dealing with a local bank. Everyone knows your name.

Leah - nice that we have put in blocks in place where companiesno one gets into accounts to debit. Pam and I are very strict on that.

#1 and 2 on 2nd page - we moved this to back burner, we are switching to Quicken.
DT - do not go to Windows 10! LM- we were already warned about this.

10:30 - Lin leaving. Scattered conversations. Lin says Let's talk about it next week.
LM - about Quicken, really excited. All will be sent through Laser printer, all ice for staff.

Taxes

Up and coming weeks and months:

To JD - your property taxes/assessments will come later this week.

On website starting tomorrow - communication taxes' tc. Short plats - need to be done today if don't want to pay full 2017 taxes. Boundary line adj - any time you make it slightly smaller, will make you pay all taxes and create 2 new parcels.

Last year - foreclosure sale. Sold 17 parcels, but still 70 some parcels, paid and redeemed in 4 days before sale. Minimum bid for 17 parcels. SHE CONTINUES WITH UP DATE OF DELINQUENT PARCELS. (She is the auctioneer, not professional. We make it through. After each parcel is sold, they are paid for here and now. We used to adjourn for 1 1/2 hours and come down to office. People took advantage of this. Not 100 people in here anymore. May be 20. I put a stop to the delay, so they have to pay right after they buy.

Please be sure to ask me any financial questions you have. If I cannot answer, we will direct you to someone who can.

PH - discusses a couple of parcels that have not sold. BOCC has some concerns - county surplus parcel. Surplus - Those properties the city owns that they no longer use. Tac Title - The ones that no one bids on and so it reverts to county by default. If sold down the road, the taxing districts will still get their \$\$.

Investments

An investment made yesterday - Had a count for TVI time collar e investment. The 1 Million has earned 6,000 each year for current expense. it matures tomorrow. We'd like to send out 1 million....we wen yesterday for another 1 million, interest will be paid out next year. instead of 6,000, it will be 10,000 plus. It is "non-callable." Thing is that our investment, because of gov't entity, it is different form private. I do not do risking. Have been in many meetings saying don't do this. You never know when ripped out from under you. Do not like to go out 5 years. I think 2 years is the max, especially for this million \$\$ This is residual \$\$ that I can go out and invite for the county because all of the interest goes to county current expense. not schools, fire district, etc - which get their own interest. (all are in different investments.) There are 5 throughout the month. We stagger throughout the month.

Other thing - NACo e-mail on secure rural schools - Wanted to be sure you got that. it has always been concern. Every 2 yeas. JD - last time I talked with Dwight, they did not want to attach to omnibus bill because if they lose got down for ... our PILT is separate now. But difference is that if it comes down o what they are trying to do right now, our secure rural schools will (gestured up) Scattered out through western states, and counties will get the \$\$.

Bob says it will go up big time. LM - That does not go to current expense, but to school district's Public works, Title 3 for projects on forest lands.

AH - For federal PILT - LM = we do not do the billing. Do we know the difference between what they are supposed to give us and what we get? PH - they just pick a number and divide by # of federal acres. JD - now 2.4 million. It's a bump. Some people were bitching to me about going to meetings, but we had a special deal - we got the \$2 million at that meeting.

LM - about PILT, when I hear depth say we need to set aside for a rainy day, the problem is that if fed PILT for 2.4 or 2.2 million were stripped away, rainy day funds would mean nothing. Since 1012, 1.9 - 2.4. At one point, they only goes us a percentage, then later in that year they changed the date, which hit us for close to 600,000. A manipulation in DC. Usually comes in by June 20th. When you are expecting 2.2 and you get 1.9, there is an impact.

Encourage you to ask anything pertinent

JD - Privileged tax - fed \$\$ that come into county for water that run through generated thru dam. We get about 460 - 480.. We get 13% of the Wells pool. An option to take 33% of the Wells - that privilege tax. Will go up in 2018. CB - Like a big utility tax. We know we can call you any time!! Thanks.

Misc. & Schedule

10:45 - ALL LEAVE BUT PH AND CB.

CB - Everybody Left!! chit - chat between CB and PH.

AH - To note-takers: Detro and I are going to cattlemen's dinner on Thursday Not discussing business on Thursday.

PH - USFS - no USFS rep will be here on Thursday. Next Tues they cannot be here 1:30. Made 2:30 instead. AH - Detro needs to know. PH - I sent out draft letter of explanation. AH - AL has already corrected it. CB - minor issue, but good grammar. YAKAMA. Discussion about change in name, difference with correct spelling. Perry - sent draft to Yakama nation for them to look at

LJ - on Tues 21st, Matt Reidy called and said they would try to be here late. Wenatchee cannot make it. AH - Matt is in Winthrop in the morning and for lunch. PH - connecting messages.

.EXECUTIVE SESSION - requested by DeTro. - Personnel, request for sick leave. 10:56 Moved approved for 5 minutes. Passed. Returned 10:58.

11:00 - Public Works - BEN ROUGH, JOSH THOMSON

Ben - a lot of time needed for **ORV's** today.

JT - **Road conditions** - 76.5 hours of OT, due to snow and ice. Next week - bids for liquid asphalt, including for chip seal. Also, a stablizer for unpaved roads.

PH - BOCC moving ahead with a run at **county parcel**. Landowners deciding whether they want on system or not. Will send proponent an e-mail.

Road log - questions re the 2009 resolution and what we are doing about that. AH - follow up on this later.

ORV/WATV/ATV ROADS AND SIGNAGE (SEE HANDOUT)

Notetaker comment: *Order of conversation may be altered for clarity's sake, to allow summaries. This session was very difficult to follow. It follows a ruling by the Courts that affects the status of roads in Okanogan County as to which ones are open or closed at this time to ORV's, ATV's, WATV's, or some combination among them. The county needs to decide what to do about posting or removing signs as to the status of the roads. There is confusion regarding the overlap of ORV's, ATV's, and WATV's and how to interpret the relevant state statutes, which give every appearance of being contradictory. The discussion centers around how to deal with signs on roads, the most efficient way to do it, which roads are open/closed according to designations as ORV roads, ATV roads, WATV roads. Josh Thomson recommends that the County seek an opinion by Wa. State AG (Attorney General) due to confusion and apparent contradiction among the statutes. BOCC spends time going over the various*

statutes and trying to interpret them. The discussion includes several people at a time thinking out loud, trying to figure out ambiguities among the statutes and debating the meanings. It was not possible to follow much of the conversation without the handout, which we received at the end.

Procedure: Josh Thomson - As resources, references a map with roads in 3 . He shows a map of designated wetlands. Also has handout. Has roads categorized according to dates of ordinances, etc.

There is discussion of whether the various vehicles can go through towns or not, what the relevant speeds are, whether vehicles must connect between towns and ATV areas or facilities, and whether or not to repeal the existing county regulations, wipe the slate clean and start again; get an AG opinion; revise the existing ordinances, etc.; when to start posting or covering signs, and so forth.

PH states that legal counsel suggested an overall repeal and that his idea of amending the ordinance(s) was not too attractive to counsel. Repeal everything, then do a amended ordinance seemed to be their preference. It seems to be agreed that doing all the signs at once is much more economical.

Debate on signs:

JT points out that they could amend 2006 ordinance and not require signs, since posting on website meets state law. The only requirement for signs is in our own ordinance. Huge number of signs, wants clarification. No one has talked about WATV's, so we need to come up with something on our own - it may not match the requirements. Where there is a network and everything open to ATV's, we could put signs along the perimeter. We need to figure out where to put them all over again. Branch points out that not having signs adds to the confusion. If you can't read a map, it makes things even worse. AH says it's just like hiking - you need to know where you are. JT points out most people in county can read a map. JD points out they need to know if bills on ATV's etc. in the legislature survive. PH points out we do not have a final ruling from the court; that comes in a few weeks. CB points out that it could go into June.

PRE- PROPOSAL OUTREACH (PH would like direction.)

Approaches of BOCC at this time (Summarized.)

DeTro : *We need to know what is going on with the bills in the legislature first.*

Hover approach: *Points out compromise is needed. He is conferring with a group of people. He doesn't want this to fly in the face of everyone who sued. He thinks there is a compromise, and it's being worked on by both ATV'ers and a bunch of other people. He is hoping by next week there will be a meeting with things hammered out and what areas to work on after*

Tuesday of next week. There are already things being done. Tells Branch not to bother for now to make other contacts (see below.) Prefers to get local people (rather than large organizations.) "There are some things going on, I will say that." He is trying to get people to talk, trying to be sure no one gripes about what the lawsuit said. Points out we still have these roads marked. Thinks there are a few groups of people laying back a bit, know we are doing work. Do we want to rescind 2014 ordinance and do something else?

Branch approach: *CB says he wants a list of the commenters and comments on ATV ordinance, etc. Asks Hover, who are you talking about that you are meeting with? I need to know what they know. CB wants everyone to be able to be involved who wants to be. Should get some interaction with ATV'ers in both valleys so that every group can be involved. Go back to the comments from all groups and individuals. Let's get some citizen involvement happening and include everyone. Include them in what mitigations they might suggest. Look at the SEPA input. And get people from all geographic areas together. Could we go by school district? Other boundaries? By drainage? Do you want me to get ahold of these groups that are interested? (See above. Hover says not to bother for now, there are already things being done.)*

Rough - at this time: *Maybe consolidate school districts ? (to save time on SEPA, etc.)*

Huston - at this time: *Regardless of other considerations, we still need to do an Environmental Checklist.*

Decided Upon for Now:

*No action until after at least next Tuesday (see above.) Also, need a final direction from the court ruling; comes in a few weeks.

*JoshT. will get ahold of Albert Lin (Deputy Prosecutor) regarding request for AG opinion.

*Ben will do organizational chart. (PH suggests form of a "decision tree.")

*Group went over existing 2014 ATV guide, which is not very clear and needs work. CB says WATV users are directed to website, JT points out it does not have all roads. CB says it must be looked at from standpoint of a new ATV'er. Agreed that it needs work.

*PH - Will get CB the record of comments, etc. Does BOCC want a compromise? Assuming a proposal? To whom are the instructions given? If you want to take it on, do it. If you want staff support, whom do you wish to begin that process? CB - tells him to look at all SEPA comments.

Additional, more detailed Discussion on signs, ATV's ORV's, WATV's, etc.

PH - No study session Monday due to holiday. Will put it back on study session, meanwhile, continue the general work we have been doing.

CB - Wait and see. I want to be sure that in those conversations, everyone is involved.

AH - Need to know what you mean. There is a group that came out and challenged this. I want to be sure there is not another group that didn't challenge but need to know they are included.

BR - RE the trails brochure, if ATV club working on it, we should contact them AH -let's do it now. Funded by Ok Trails Coalition? Branch asks if it was tourism funds. (the brochure.)

AH - Yes. Is it just the Methow that was "anti?" Trying to think broad, etc.

PH - Can figure out. Doesn't have to be county-wide. Up to BOCC as to where to direct resources. CB - Was thinking of basin by basin approach on some. Some of them have 10-12 roads that go into a community. If you go by school dist, might work. CB - Can almost do by areas - by school districts? PH - Up to you. Can we isolate areas?

PH - We are now embarked on clicking off the roads that go 35 or less and do not go anywhere. AH - points to one - there are a lot of interconnecting roads - Gold Creek is open to ORV use. There are sections of property that might be good to have, so folk can ride all day long and ride 100 miles. Getting to the point that as long as you do SEPA on these, it's a good chunk of property.

CB - Are there discussions on other mitigations? Law enforcement was brought up by me....but better signs might be another form of mitigation. If ATV club agrees, it can be an effective mitigation. JD - have you talked to Stevens, Ferry, Pend Oreille? They will say that our actual incidence is down, because the legal folks (ATV'ers) are patrolling for outlaws. BR - if SEPA review for each one? Would take 7,8,9 years to do it.

AH - the ATV clubs are out there picking up garbage, etc. CB - if they can show their programs, ...a lot goes on in an area in Wenatchee - they do a good job making an ID of someone making a problem....If you talk about USFS where there is a lot of problems ... AH -We have nothing we can do about that.

CB - SEPA is important because that's where you get appealed. Important you make it known that people understand comments came in and you are replying to that comment. AH - We can also say we are doing SEPA on all roads and well, as it's supposed to be done. We could open up 90% of roads because we did checklist. Not my goal. There are folks who do not want it, to figure out some sort of compromise. If everyone can live with certain roads, in advance, that's what we want. CB - Making sure...when I expect someone to ap-

peal, I look at their website to see what their overall objectives are...I do that because maybe it would depend upon your major concerns and insert it into the prospects.

BR - Should we wait to try to coordinate an AG opinion? AH - I think we need that.

BR - We really want that info on website. AH - Should we take down all signs? BR - Need to wait until we know the process. If we do knee jerk and take down all signs ...we need to wait. JD - If we take signs down, if we did conjunction with road restrictions....PH - would take more energy to cover them all. AH - Do you pull them ALL down? BR - all or nothing JT - if only taking some of them, we need to reconfigure. AH - we would have to amend our code..JT - something in accordance with state law....PH - proposed signage can be proposed mitigation. Will probably have to do SEPA as to whether signs are appropriate. Pull signs down re ordinances it applies to . JT - not possible. PH - anything open is still open. The ones open- but challenged - not open?

PH - I need a proposal to write SEPA around. Then we write it. Timeline? AH - asks DeTro what he wants. BR - If we change signs, better to do all at once. JT - How will new sign say it? Only WATV? ONLY ORV? Not WATV? Too many questions still open.

PH - Get prosecutor up and ask for AG opinion. Be specific in language. Take care of that. Not going to be able to open new roads now. I need a proposal to write around.

AH - Trying to understand that critical paths are met and hopefully no one being irritated about signs up. and court has not said anything on that yet.

BR - do we need Frank or Joe present? Sheriff's office? PH - they don't show much interest. They do not see it as a big law enforcement issue. JT - Tracking collisions, etc. - it has not been an issue. Or from roads crews for damage.

Meeting ends, several conversations going on. BOCC goes to lunch, notetakers leave.