

**BOARD OF OKANOGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 23, 2022 PM**

PRESENT:

Andy Hover (AH) - Chair, District 2

Chris Branch (CH) - Vice Chair, District 1

Jim DeTro (JD) - Board member, District 3

Chrystal Hawley, Deputy County Clerk

Tanya Everett, Human Resources

Mr. Moscovitz, Candidate for County Prosecuting Attorney

Albert Lin, Candidate for County Prosecuting Attorney

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note takers comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at <https://www.countywatch.org/commissioner-and-board-of-health-meetings.html> and are not the official county record of the meeting. For officially approved minutes, which are normally published at a later time, see https://www.okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners_proceedings.php. Time stamps included below indicate the location of each video segment on the AV Capture video , which can be found here: [Okanogan County, WA](#)

SUMMARY: Selection of Prosecuting Attorney Two candidates for the position of Okanogan County Prosecuting Attorney interviewed by Board of Commissioners. Candidate Moscovitz cited the need for leadership that will solve the problem of “revolving door” prosecutors in this county, emphasizing his own leadership ability, developed during 10 years with the military. He cited integrity, service, and excellence being 3 core values important in a Prosecuting Attorney. Candidate Albert Lin emphasized his ability to mentor younger attorneys, his experience in both the civil and criminal sides, and promised the Commissioners he would “remove the thorn from your side that has surrounded this office.” Commissioners unanimously appointed Albert Lin, stating that they need someone who can pick up the job immediately and citing Lin’s previous experience as a civil deputy attorney in this county. Commissioners praise the high quality of both candidates, encouraging Mr. Moscovitz to apply if there are openings in the Prosecutor’s office at a later time.

0:4:39 - Pledge of Allegiance. Interviews for Prosecuting Attorney Position - 15 questions delivered by Tanya Everett, Human Resources/Risk Manager, and answered by each candidate.

0: 05:16 - Mr. Moscovitz (in person)

Moscovitz - summary of Moscovitz’s answers to first two questions out of 15: Especially given the situation here in Okanogan county, says he can offer leadership to solve the problem

of “revolving door prosecutors” situation here. Has good judgment and legal mastery. As a department head, he can lead that department and is uniquely qualified. States he has done more in his career already than others have done in their entire career. Has had a previous military career, specifically involving leadership. He is the kind of prosecutor needed here, with ability to look at the big picture and for the common good. Can lead and take the experience of deputies and others to work together for mutual goals. The three most important values in this position are integrity, service, and excellence - the same as the Air Force Core Values. He has already argued before the Washington Supreme Court, taken steps to help his employer and compatriots by taking appeals off the plates of others to increase his own experience and help the team. He does what’s right, even when no one is listening. The major goal is justice for the citizens of the county.

An additional 13 questions are answered and may be followed on the AV

0:54:51 - Moscovitz Final statement & discussion about details of availability.

BREAK

1:00 :00 - Albert Lin (remotely)

1:04:58 - Summary of Lin’s answers to first two questions out of 15: The county needs a working prosecutor with experience, integrity, and good judgement on both the criminal side and civil side. He has the experience to mentor the younger attorneys and other attorneys. Leads by example, by taking cases to trial and succeeding. This gives the office confidence in his leadership and professionalism who takes the tough challengers. Cites murder convictions, convictions on assault, sexual assault, and property crimes. On the civil side, he has worked with the Board of Okanogan county and concentrated on the important issues. The county has agricultural use and tourism, and cites his own knowledge and skill in working with all department heads so we can concentrate on the important issues such as the Comprehensive Plan, land use, zoning, and roads. His style is to lead by example. Works hard and demands the same of his team. States he filed a lawsuit against his previous employer in Grant County, and Commissioners are aware of what his opponent did in destroying that office, much like the prior administration did in Okanogan county. My previous opponent in Grant County wound up being disciplined by the bar association. You need someone who understands honesty, professionalism, and integrity. You know I would keep Okanogan county from liability. A prosecutor needs to protect public safety, work with law enforcement as a team.

1:30:42 - Lin Wrap-up - “I will remove the thorn from your side that has surrounded this office.”

Executive Session: 20 minutes

1:54 - Motion to appoint Albert Lin.

Discussion

CB. We had 2 very, very good candidates. Not an easy decision. One has a huge amount of experience in this office, and we need someone who can do that immediately.

AH - Would hope that if we have any other openings in this office, that the other candidate would apply.

JD - Happy that we had the quality of candidates that applied.

CB - Really appreciated what Jason had to say.

AH - All the paperwork will be ready to sign next week.

Lin Approved Unanimously.

1:58:22 - Adjourned