

**BOCC**  
**March 6, 2017**

Jim Detro – JD, BOCCpp  
Chris Branch – CB, BOCC  
Andy Hover – AH, BOCC

Albert Lin – AL, Deputy Prosecutor  
Perry Huston – PH - Planning, Admin  
Lanie Johns – LJ- County Clerk

**issues with “LaserFiche, Cattlemen’s meeting Friday night, Hirst decision analysis by Special Attorney, Cascade Loop concern about BOCC & LTAC, Oroville Reman & Reload & RR, Capital Asset List, Affordable Housing account from Community Action, Methow Valley EMS, Jail Medical Officer, jail budget and history of costs, Fair Advisory position #7, State Wildfire Advisory Committee member, Public Health voucher, Capital Asset list, NPS Grizzly North Cascade, fair grounds restrooms**

9:00 JD – latest Trump Scandal Joke – “He used Russian Salad Dressing during the campaign.”

LJ & Amanda McAlister (AM) – training as substitute for BOCC Clerk.

LJ – **issues with “LaserFiche”** – it was down Friday and weekend. She is providing paper copies for BOCC review. Going over consent agenda & vouchers for Public Works, Planning professional services, etc.

JD – **Cattlemen’s meeting Friday night**. USFS Tonasket Reidy waffled and did nothing on the letter of Non-Compliance, once out cannot retract as they are part of the official record. Reidy also won’t put a retraction letter or amendment. Joshua Reed & Reidy stated that Off days from are firm and non-compliance is a serious issue. Jessica Utt relays that phone calls from Newhouse ignored for 4 days & relayed that Newhouse was going to go to Tidwell. JD refers that similar pattern was in Chelan RD and where permittees were removed. He sees the same potential in the TRD. Calls Reidy a “rogue” ranger out to get permittees off District.

AH – **Cascade Loop concern about BOCC & LTAC** not paying voucher. Contract says it needed notice within 5 days of deadline. CB – has talked with person likely to come in and ask for reconsideration. AH – BOCC needs to follow procedure or could get in trouble. LTAC is an advisory committee, BOCC has the final say. CB discusses previous or past LTAC policies with AH. CB feels BOCC generally needs to follow deadlines so business of county that needs to be done is timely. AH – need of dollars by the Cascade Loop not the issue, its policy of needing to follow. Contract details. CB has there been consistent following in other cases? Application Workshop & reviewing procedures has been done in the past, need to emphasize deadlines.

Dal Dagnon arrives and checks on NP discussion (in the PM).

9:30 AL arrives and hands out papers - analysis of the **Hirst decision by Special Attorney Mackie** on how it impacts Okanogan County. AL has come to the BOCC as he wants to share the document with the County Bar Assn and as the document is under Attorney/Client privilege needs permission to do so. This is for a meeting on Tuesday along with CB and the Bar Assn. At this point JD quickly requested a short Executive Session for discussion of the performance of a public employee for 10 minutes.

Back in open session. JD asking if Columbia Carbonate closing? – some rumor going around to that affect. This would threaten viability of railroad in the valley. This would severely impact the **Oroville Reman & Reload** if there was no rail. Discussion of whole RR system – Oroville – Wenatchee Line. Discussion of impact if Reman & Reload if the RR stopped. Big deal. Underlying issues about what might need to be explored, jobs, economic grants and more.

**Capital Asset List** reporting. Review of reporting County agencies not meeting today's deadline. Agencies need to report any capital asset of \$5000 or greater – Emergency management, Planning not yet, there are more.

Back to LTAC & voucher deadline – only Cascade Loop has filed an appeal on BOCC not paying due to not meeting a deadline for turning in vouchers.

LJ & BOCC have not received a check for **Affordable Housing account from Community Action (CA)**. Concern over lack of evidence of not administering of funds for a few years. CA had accumulated money without using but had filed for admin costs each year. Details of documentation & distribution of admin funds not provided. Seems that the bigger picture is that CA collected money for Affordable Housing for several years (12?), minimal admin fees were assessed at that time. BOCC moved to gain control of the fund and gave a 60-day notice. CA then quickly distributed all the money and assessed a larger admin fee up to the maximum allowed by contract and reaching back to the beginning of the contract. BOCC concerned about lack of details and process and wants to gather information on what is going on. A retroactive billing for past admin fees likely to have problems with State Auditor. Lack of supporting documents for actual admin costs – time sheets, expenditures, etc. were not provided. BOCC will invite CA director in to discuss. Set time for Tuesday @ 10:05. CH reads email on the subject he has prepared for CA and gets OK to transmit.

10:52 Move to **Methow Valley EMS** – approve voucher for services for AeroMethow, approved at approximately \$52,000. Adjourn and back to BOCC.

BOCC moves to allow Sandy Mackie to share Hirst letter with County Bar Assn. – Approved.

AH – checking on Asset List status. Looking for information from Planning, Fair & Assessor.

Noah Stewart (NS) arrives and goes over **Jail Medical Officer**. Doctor is retiring in October and would need to be replaced. Contract currently with Omak Medical Group if expanded to this position would be much more expensive. The salary for current Jail Medical Officer is about \$50,000 less than if Omak

Medical were to cover. NS wants to give BOCC a heads up and OK to look for a replacement and to keep cost down. AH – need to know timeline to get an applicant through process. NS knows that it is difficult to find someone to work in jail. In the past replacement process to find was done by NS, he now wants to make sure he follows County policy.

While here NS goes over **jail budget and history of costs**. Under current budget NS has to cover building maintenance costs in his budget. He wants to transfer costs to facility budget which is common practice in County buildings. Current budget line is already under current costs and NS doesn't want to juggle jail budget to make it work. Each "juggle" would involve using a supplemental budget process and involves time and publication (additional cost). The need for detailed supplemental process is a state auditor requirement. Sheriff Office representative and Jail both concerned about cumbersome process under new budgeting process. Revenue (reimbursements) goes into a special account and then budget items need to reimburse out of that account through supplemental budget process. Due to time lag there is a need to have a large buffer to cover this process as it unfolds. This makes the overall budget process more difficult. So the large number of supplemental ads in papers draws a lot of public inquiry, also leads to extra money to cover advertising costs. The public appearance is difficult to deal with and leaves an untrue perception.

11:00 Carol Sivak is interviewed for **Fair Advisory position #7**. She is from Malott. She has interests in horse racing and children's games in the arena. AH expresses his backing for the various kid's opportunities involved in the fair. BOCC has a short discussion over making appointment and proceeds to appoint.

JD – **State Wildfire Advisory Committee member** would like to meet the end of next week (Gary Burke – DNR). A time is set for Friday next week.

AH – **Public Health voucher** – move to approved and OK.

BOCC goes over of **Capital Asset list** that needs to be done and certified by end of the day. Several agencies are still out standing. The list only covers items valued over \$5000.

AH – he is getting questions about how BOCC is dealing, or not dealing, with Hirst & water. Consensus of BOCC is the need to wait on legislature for clarity and direction. The discussion evolves to discussions and conversations in general over any item or concern and how public and others perceive. AH & CB talk back and forth about how deal with any issue. Reasonable limits of open-ended discussion and lawsuit potential and possibility of misunderstanding of give and take discussions. There is a need for reasonable back and forth to share concerns and insights.

12:15 Lunch.

1:14 Note taker returns. **NPS Grizzly North Cascade** presentation, about 10 people present. Ph – grizzly re-introduction. 2 presenters – 1 from NPS, 1 from USF&W. Detailed out the history of proposal and future timeline. No current reproducing grizzly in the North Cascades. Remarks may be made at: <http://>

[parkplanning.nps.gov/grizzly.deis](http://parkplanning.nps.gov/grizzly.deis) under proposed 10j experimental introduction. (allows greater management flexibility). AH & JD splitting hairs over mortality/emigration terminology regarding grizzly leaving or being taken from an area. JD accusation of an effort to keep grizzly numbers in donor areas within endangered status by moving bears to NCU. (Speculation?). NPS refused to comment. Two most likely donor regions – Wells Gray in BC & Northern Rockies in US. In the two have adequate populations, similar food sources (80% vegetable diets), no history of conflict with humans in those areas.

JD – Stehekin Rd kept closed to not interfere with bear proposal – NPS replies not true, not open because of difficulty maintaining and cost versus the number of users.

AH – question about release sites and control of grizzly.

JD – brings up “smoke & mirrors” over wolf reintroduction. Reference to concern about how wolves are managed.

AH – what is holding up delisting of bear in Yellowstone? NPS – court proceedings. (AH – concern about how outside groups can interfere with management processes. NPS – 10j designation eases a lot of that influence and delay. Comments need to reflect purpose, need & objectives. Range of alternatives being considered and environmental concerns.

Gregg – general experience with grizzly is seeing the rear end of bear running away.

George – increase in high altitude meadow complex likely to increase in suitable habitat due to increased fire activity. NPS – not willing to agree, NF&W – likely.

Twisp R. – mother, hiker, very supportive, wants to see restoration to improve experience. Supportive & thinks too many opinions are formed by fear not facts.

Other Person - need to consider that Sasquatch community is getting restless and aggressive. Will this impact or be impacted by grizzly. Have to know that you don't want to make a Sasquatch angry.

Live Stock – against because eventually will be a problem. If aren't here why bring them? If a good bear is introduced then what's to prevent it going bad?

WDFW could manage a problem bear but not help with re-intro. So if a problem bear the WDFW is most likely to be management with process.

JD – brings out bear print cast from Aeneas. Paper article claims 140 killed cows over 2 years.

AH – wilderness, forest is not the issue. It's when they come into fields, yard and near homes, then they are a concern.

3:00 Tom Bassett – architect for **fair grounds restrooms**. All estimates came in way over estimates. Seems to be what is happening all over state – increases in all variety of components. BOCC understands issue and will go ahead. Motion made and passed to accept low bid. BOT Pateros is winner. Bassett will move ahead with notification.

PH – BOCC needs to get budget in order to proceed. Pick up the potential for a bond to pay for Fair Grand Stand rebuild.

BOCC leaving for a tour of jail project and note taker leaves.