

**BOARD OF OKANOGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**4/23/2018**

**In Attendance at Meeting:**

Jim DeTro- JD (BOCC)

Andy Hover - AH (BOCC)

Chris Branch – CB (BOCC)

Lanie Johns – LJ (Clerk of the Board)

Perry Huston - PH (Administrator & Planning Director)

Leah McCormick – LM (County Treasurer)

Carrie Hall – CH (Treasurer’s Office)

Dave Gecas – DG (Assistant Prosecutor)

Four Yakama Nation representatives. Names known by the note taker: Hans Smith, Tom Ring.

*These notes have been taken by one of several volunteer citizen note takers and published on the website of Represent Okanogan County (ROC.) The notes have been taken as close to verbatim as possible, with any writer’s comments or explanations in italics. For officially approved minutes of Board of Commissioner meetings, normally published at a later date, see [www.okanogancounty.org](http://www.okanogancounty.org).*

**Summary of significant discussions**

**11:30 Finance Committee Meeting**

*Note taker arrived at 11:30. Talks were underway on upcoming major projects, including a new emergency communications center and a big move for multiple county departments. The main topics discussed were the need for strategic planning to coordinate the projects, funding and protecting the sustainability of county finances.*

**Update – Planning**

**Comprehensive (Comp) Plan and Meeting with the Yakama Nation**

*The Commissioners’ Meeting Agenda was inaccurate, showing an executive session scheduled at 1 pm, followed by a meeting with the Yakama Nation and then a discussion of the Comp Plan, as time allowed. Actually, the meeting with the Yakama Nation was regarding the Comp Plan and was conducted in executive session, so notes are not available for that discussion.*

**11:30 Finance Committee Meeting**

*Note taker arrives at 11:30; Finance Committee Meeting is underway. Sustainability of County finances is being discussed.*

PH – *(discussing current opportunity for longer-term planning.)*

CB – Create some future options.

AH – PPE (?) In order to get that done, this communication center.

PH – Pilot project has some effects on end user, but doesn't impact *(too rapid to record)*.

AH – If you are going to have a long term plan for emergency communications, then they integrate and people understand you have a county-wide plan. Instead of people thinking – oh, they want a new building and we are already paying a lot of taxes.

CB – Conversation *(too rapid)*

AH – Need to have direct conversation with Commerce. Understand how that \$5 million will be used.

LM – *(too rapid to record)*

JD - \$5.2 million through Commerce, after fires. Maycumber's advice was don't let Commerce control it, or you will end up with 36% of it. Give Commerce a one-time fee, about \$10,000. Our main concern is getting as many dollars to the County as possible.

CB – We won't necessarily agree on how this will be spent...

JD – They will have so much bureaucratic process...

CB – We need to get that process, how to spend the money, together.

LM – Talked to *(State Treasurer?)*. He said he might be able to help us. A little financial help with the communications center. Maybe some funding could come from multiple places. If I know something, I can call the State Treasurer's Office.

AH – We have the big move, we have the communications center, but no step-by-step plan.

JD – This money can't be used for the big move.

AH – No, I am talking about an integrated plan. Then, we can add on to the Juvenile Center, allow Criminal Justice to move....

LM – State Treasurer's Office won't write us a check, but their referral would be invaluable.

PH – Over the years I have seen value in chatting about things while you still have plenty of time.

AH – Maybe a good place to start would be to have Mike come back in here, show us the basic plan... if this thing gets built, who would move in there. That would help us understand what departments could get moved,

LM – Lanie, are we paid off on the (?) bill?

*Lanie explains that the final bill is just about to be paid. LM explains that paying that bill off will allow that fund to be built.*

PH – Get a handle on how best to target resources.

CB – Could I get better history on the timber excise tax?

Carrie – *(too rapid to record)*.

LM – Do you want to do 10 years?

CB – Yes.

JD – Suggest 1975, 80, 85, - 5 year increments. Or 10 year increments.

LM – You are wanting to know current expense?

CB – Yes.

*(multiple rapid over-lapping conversations; LM & CB discuss the details of current expense accounts, timber sales etc.)*

AH – Reads from email; *inaudible*. Conversation with CB *inaudible*.

PH – Quick question. You saw emails regarding SMP map changes. Need to know if you want to put that conversation on the schedule. The quickest we could get to it would be next Monday – *(rural/conservancy on the tributaries)*

11:50 LM and CH leave; JD leaves. PH has an individual conversation with AH, apparently pertaining to the SMP maps.

### **1:30 Meeting with the Yakama Nation**

*Introductions are made. The note taker was delayed by setting up a live stream and did not catch introductory remarks by PH. Evidently, they pertained to how much of the upcoming discussion could be held in an open public meeting and how much required discussion in executive session.*

DG – We could spend the whole time in Executive Session.

AH – We are discussing the Comp Plan, which is of public interest. We could either discuss now in general terms and then go into executive session.

CB – Could start there *(in executive session; expresses concern that the conversation might inadvertently stray into confidential matters)*. Move to go into executive session for 2 hours.

*(JD checks schedule, notes item at 4 pm)*

AH – Don't want to spend whole time in executive session.

*Motion to go into executive session is seconded and passed.*

1:45 pm. Note taker leaves.