

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners  
(BOCC)  
April 9, 2019**

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

*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: Civil Attorney:** Perpetual timber rights, Coroner with FOIA, Software purchase agreement for Dispatch, Fiber line contract for Public Works & NCI Datacom, Agreement to extend services (Sewer & water Veranda & Champerty), Twisp interlocal contract - County providing building inspection, Filing domestic dissolution fee, **Fair Events:** Vintage Faire, Summer temps, Staff meeting Thursday, Proposed sign – Fair RV Park, Ribbons for the Fair, Premium Book, work on the Arena area, **Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance:** Domestic water working, Trustees at the Fair Grounds – County Temp replacement, Weed spraying, Permanent irrigation installation in the N & S RV areas, **Planning & Admin:** Illegal cabin on the Twisp R., Input for capital improvements planning, **Executive Session 110.(i):** FutureWise discussions, French Creek, **Auditor:** BOCC web site - Financial Reports, Few updates this month, Supplemental Budget Request form, CH - next Tribal Council on Apr. 17, **Public Works:** Maintenance & Roads, Network Connection, Potential Pits, WATV signs & routes, Drone for topo maps, Twisp-Carlton Rd speed reduction, Similkameen Trail, Okanogan Council of Governments, **Public Health Board:**

9:00 AH & CB Present, JD absent. JP, DG, SC & PH Staff.

**DG (Civil Attorney)**

- Has comments on research about **perpetual timber rights** on old properties of Biles Coleman and following companies. The old taxes are at question and in 1971 were discontinued and an excise tax was put on at harvest. Due to that law change can no longer collect property tax on perpetual timber rights.
- Helped **coroner with FOIA request**. If a request is from an attorney should include a subpoena – they need to be signed by the court. Trying to get an opinion from the AG on the need for the court approval.
- Examining a **software purchase agreement for dispatch** from Mike Worden
- Looking at the **fiber line contract for Public Works and NCI Datacom**. Recommended adding several clauses such as termination language just in case.
- Veranda Beach **agreement to extend services** using same language for Champerty Shores.

- Has been working on the **Twisp interlocal contract for the County providing building inspection** service for the city. Their attorney wants dealing through him not through the mayor. Agrees that the legislative body of Twisp needs to approve but does not need to sign individually but would need to be backed up with approval language in the minutes. Question might be that signatures might be easier overall in terms of logistics. DG has shared with Twisp that BOCC has mixed feelings. AH – just remove signatures and move on. Can always choose to not renew at the end of the year. Old AG opinion would accept an attestation from the Clerk or similar person.
- County collection of fees in the past for the **filing of a domestic dissolution** was not handled properly in the past. The fee should have gone to the state and then a portion come back to the County. The goal was to have uniformity across the State. As an aside the goal is not happening. The Treasurer is working hard going back and getting the past filings and determining the funds that need to be transmitted to the State.
- DG needs an **Exec. Session** as a follow up on the previous week's discussion. FutureWise discussion from last week and the French Creek road issue has new information that needs discussion. Best to bring up JT for that Exec. Session.

### SG (Fair Events)

- **Vintage Faire** people had a walk through, a compliment on how the grounds look.
- Interviews for **Summer temps** coming up.
- **Staff meeting Thursday** – the agenda is out.
- SC asks for an OK for her daughter to attend a BOCC meeting, the daughter has attending a public meeting requirement for a class. Definitely OK as BOCC is a public meeting.
- SC shares images of the **proposed sign** that will be along Hwy 97 for the Fair RV park. It will be near the County Shop on 97 for southbound traffic. Looking for a location for northbound traffic.
- **Ribbons for the Fair** are ordered. May need to bump up the budget to cover the amount. Will look into a supplemental.
- **Premium Book** final draft is in SC's office and being examined. Should be in the schools before the end of the school year.

### JP (Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance)

- Kyle got Fair **domestic water working**, only one leak so far. Need to change rabbit and sheep barns to irrigation lines and label as not potable. Currently using domestic line water but draws down pressure for the whole Fair when being used to clean out barns. The only difference between the lines is a required backflow valve on the domestic system. AH asks if the domestic water at the Fair has been tested. SC is scheduling tests.
- AH talked to the under Sheriff yesterday about using **trustees at the Fair Grounds** (Jail is down a lot of inmates this year). JP is to put together numbers for the budget supplemental for a temporary employee and check with CH (Auditor).
- A couple of different issues for a **weed spraying** slide in. The slide in would tie up the PU for other usages. JP passed out information on a tow behind with a smaller tank that would not tie up the PU long term and would also work for ATV. Some discussion on possible spraying for mosquitoes, SC passes on that is not really a big problem in most years. Considers wasps a bigger issue. JP has already set out wasp traps. A couple options for a tow behind boom sprayer. Will treat a large area – parking and more. Need to check into budget numbers, may not be in the budget this year. AH – check around with pesticide suppliers for rental for this year. Want to avoid more impacts on the contingency line, already a few big expenses that were missed the main budget.

- Note from M. Egerton (Nulton Irrigation) on costs for developing **plans for permanent irrigation installation in the N & S RV areas.**

#### PH (Planning & Admin)

- The **illegal cabin on the Twisp** river, the owner has been contacted and the owner called and will remove the cabin.
- Letters are out to departments for requesting **input for capital improvements planning.**

#### SC (Fair Events)

- On Thursday SC wants to get a call out for volunteers to **work on the Arena area.** AH – Saturday there will be a work party. Need to get JP & Kyle there to help out. Bull pens are looking to be a big project due to heavy piping and all being welded up. Discussion on the location of new pens, looking at options compared to the location of the arena bleachers and light poles. AH – considering options on having the bleachers ADA compliant and the roof options. Announcer’s booth needs moving, size consideration and is view. They are getting some price quotes.

#### 9:50 Executive Session 110.(i)

- **FutureWise discussions.** BOCC, PH & DG attend. Review of last week’s meeting. Return at 10:17
- AH – a question to TC about **dental coverage** – if County has or puts in it needs to be uniform across all the contracts and other employees.

#### CH (Auditor)

- Wants everyone to be sure to look at the **BOCC web site** where there is a link to the **Financial Reports** for people to see. Summaries on the budget are on the site are updated monthly. Feel free to call the Auditor with any questions.
- Just a **few updates this month**
- Legislative Bills.
  - o Voter registration to allow easy and late registrations, amendments are making it different.
  - o Ballot drop box – current law will not be amended. Requires a lot more placements – County already has the necessary boxes ready to install.
  - o Statewide voter online registration is going live in the end of May, a lot of bugs are being ironed out. Auditors statewide have access to test the system. A local person will be trained as a trainer to do work locally and help others locally.
- The Auditor’s web pages across the state have been hosted by the State. This will change and be pushed back to the County level. CH will hope to have the results automatically pushed down to the local sites by the State site. CH has a plan to update locally if this is not able to happen automatically from the State level.
- Working on a new **supplemental budget form** for all departments to use. It will include the costs to publish and advertise so the full costs can be calculated. Goal is to simplify the process and be consistent across all departments on requests for supplemental appropriations. Always need to explain for everyone to make sure the request includes why it is needed and justified well. Many departments seem to overlook the necessary information. This also involves moving around with a budget. AH – it is OK to tell people that if they don’t do the process correctly the supplemental is not going to happen. CB – brings up a need to educate people and help them get the right form. CH has done many of the supplemental requests for people in the past.

- Does not want to have CH & LM signatures on the upcoming ID cards. Need to keep the digital signatures secure. The digital signature can open many doors and many financial transactions. Will now want a signature out without assurance of security on the part of Emergency Services. Recommendation is for direct deposit of checks instead of signature and issuing checks. Can send electronic checks (same as direct deposit). Can make some reasonable changes with accounting system. Advise looking at adding these policy changes at any change over in systems.
- State PILT? – CB bill would act to make payment perpetual – no new information.
- **CH will go to the next Tribal Council on Apr. 17** to discuss placement of Ballot Boxes.

#### 11:20 JT (Public Works)

- **Maintenance & Roads:** Starting to dry out. Many chip sealed roads are breaking up and will need maintenance. Starting to grade roads as they dry up.
- **Network Connection:** Temporary solution as an upgrade is working for now. Not ideal but hopes for better. Contract still for new fiber line is being worked on.
- **Potential Pits:** A great possible pit the Methow, want to move forward. AH will help out meeting with concerned parties. Pit on Fancher Loop Rd – working with rancher who is agreeable to a lease so County can expand current pit.
- **WATV signs & routes:** Working on sign placement. A legislative bill – still moving forward, would allow opening any County 35 mph road with process and approval.
- **Drone for topo maps:** looking at a drone software – Drone is about \$2000, software a bit more but there is open source software to be considered. Can compare on a trial basis to make a decision. Software builds a 3D model of the area as needed.
- **Twisp-Carlton Rd speed reduction** – MP 9.04 – 10.05: will put out a traffic counter and schedule a public hearing for May 12.
- **Similkameen Trail:** Need to look at soon, PW has no budget funds to do the work. JT will get an estimate of needed cost.
- Discussion on the monthly **Okanogan Council of Governments** taking on a variety of problems. CB suggests more collective efforts between governments as they are more likely to get advantage of combined efforts. Need to look beyond only transportation efforts.

#### Lunch

#### 1:25 Public Health Board Meeting

- **Approval of minutes and financial reports.** Need two resolutions to amend details of Dept. of Retirement accounts. Need to create separate accounts from County as Public Health has a separate EIN number. Resolutions 2 & 3 passed to do this need.
- **Community Health Update:** Permanent Budget Bill passed for all State Public Health departments. Substance Abuse survey – shows public perception of a lot of alcohol, prescription drugs & marijuana leading list of abuse. Does perception data match what the quantitative data indicates? Difficult when some questions need individual attention and reading to be interpreted. 11 drug affected babies at MVH sent to Spokane in 2018, trending higher in 2019.
- **Environment Health Update:** Solid Waste funding from the State – Can't absorb more reduction in State support. A large cost is water pollution monitoring. Bill to yearly inspection on septic systems at \$14 per year. Getting some liquid waste complaints.
- **Laurie Jones** – has been asked for input on possible new OBHC director. Wants people to cite credible sources when discussion vaccinations. Pertussis outbreak has calmed down. Some salmonella – perhaps from this being chick and duckling season. 1 Tularemia case has turned up in County – like acquire from a mowing project at parent's in Idaho.

### 2:40 BOCC (Miscellaneous Business)

- Reviewing past minutes
- No need for Communications Bill support letter as it made it to the legislative floor.
- PH has sent a **memorandum to secure surveying services**. Wants and RFQ. Next state of Champerty Shores project. Discussion of what kind of resolution needed – establish a roster, or look for a special skill to apply to upcoming circumstances. Motion to staff (PH) to work with PW to establish a surveyor’s roster.
- Move to have Vice Chair to sign a **credit application for a NW Wholesale** account for herbicides and agricultural supplies – approved.
- MW (Dispatch) – Power outage for County administrative area after midnight. Will affect Jail and Dispatch. Will need to run generator if necessary.
- Possible Modification to emergency services bill – Would allow a local levy for Communications Services at 1/10 or 2/10 of a percent to be put to the local voters. Maybe not getting out of committee and the to the floor of the legislature. Wants BOCC to send a letter of support for the bill.

### 3:30 Public Comment

- **Dave Mullins: commenting on failed EMS levy in Oroville rural** – wants to know what can be done to re-establish local EMS services full time. Current service during working hours during the week, not evenings and weekends. Interim service out of Tonasket as needed and available. Wants to know what he can do personally. AH – says Dave M. can advocated for the passage of a replacement levy. Possible to combine the Oroville City and Oroville Rural? AH – City would have to allow County to annex city into the County. Cut down of the hours to Oroville Rural was done to stretch available dollars. Dave M. asks if it is possible to have a short-term volunteer service. AH – any funds to support a volunteer effort would take away from current part-time service. Dave M. wants to talk to Fire Chiefs and bring EMS under the Fire District. Complains about working that was on the past levy. CB accepts that problem. BOCC plans to have a public meeting in Oroville, file for the new replacement levy by May 10, levy itself in August. CB – in the past some bad feeling between Oroville city and Oroville County. Dave M. will work towards combining the two districts. LJ – last public hearing for past levy was July 2018. Discussion over procedure to putting up the levy when having a lengthy back and forth during the time allotted. PH – conversation about arranging a meeting with Oroville and County about levy. PH has it on the list and needs to get at it. Will contact “Wayne” and set it up. Need to get on the ballot by May 10 for voting at primary. Aug 6 for November election. Discussion of timing and strategy for pursuing levy in the Oroville area.
- BOCC concludes that they are **not ready for a 1/10 or 2/10 Communications levy this year** no matter what the legislature does.
- PH to get ahold of “Wayne” and get paperwork ready to file by May 10 for the levy at August Primary. BOCC has just now decided that they are not ready to run the Communication levy this year. Leaves no conflict between the two levies this way.

4:25 Notetaker leaves to attend another meeting.