

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
(BOCC)
May 7, 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 (Assesso)
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: Canvassing certification, Another Tonasket Recall, Property tax foreclosure, **Fair Events:** Fair rental payment, RV payment envelope, Billboard location, repairs need, Community Service, **Admin. & Fair Grounds Maintenance:** Planning Dept. HVAC, Compressor at Court House, Used floor scrubber, **Planning & Admin:** Risk Pool discussion & Volker letter on Comp. Plan in Executive Session 110.1 (i), **HR & Risk Management:** LRI institute, Potential Counselor position, Therapeutic Ct. discussion, NCIData Fiber contract, Jail Services for cities, **Public Works Utility Franchise, Public Works:** Maintenance & Roads, Tonasket City easement, WTC field trip & Public Hearing to May 23rd, Box culvert on Salmon Creek, Survey contract, Levee rebuild near Twisp, Elmway levee, Oroville EMS levy, Fairgrounds track materials, **No Public Comment, BOCC Clerk:** Temporary Veteran's position, Extension Office manager, **WDFW – Regional Director Jim Brown:** Wolf Management Policy Comment Protocol, 3 Processes - Periodic Status review, Possible moving of animals, Post-Delisting Management; Lack of knowledge and effort outside the NE & NC Washington, Budget issues

BOCC: AH & CB, no JD. Staff: LJ, DG, SC & PH

DG (Civil Attorney)

- Was at the **canvassing certification**
- **Another Tonasket Recall** files. Will monitor the process but no County involvement. Hearing on May 15.
- Another case filed on **Property tax foreclosure**, an appeal.
- Needs an Executive Session on the Comprehensive Plan, re: a letter from Volker. Maybe later?
- DG is reading up on the French Creek case on recent changes

SC (Fair Events)

- There is a **Fair rental payment** from the Fair Advisory Committee. Similar to last year. The contract is ready. Need a motion to move the Fair rental funds to Current Expenses.

- The campsite **RV payment envelope** needs to change (Auditor). There needs to be better management of cash payments with a second party verifying the process. The funds paid need to indicate which camp site location is being paid for. Currently no connection to any particular site or person. Maybe a sticker to be put in a window, a cost for such an envelope might be \$300 for a thousand.
 - o Need someone to verify transaction funds in and out besides SC and a neutral person – OK to have Kyle be the observer/witness? OK – BOCC
- **Billboard location** is still being worked on. Will need a site plan. Need an inspection form city to verify proper installation.
- Request OK to pay facility fund from Fair fund for Fair Rental - \$45,000. OK – passed.
- Some **repairs need** to be made after event over the weekend. Need to report to TC (Risk Manager) and look at the security cameras. Need to do additional cleanup of the Agriplex floor.
- Senior Class from Okanogan wants to do **Community Service**. AH suggested rock cleanup at track and arena area. Wants JP to check with TC about volunteer waiver forms. AH will be at the grounds at noon.

JP (Admin. & Fair Grounds Maintenance)

- 4 people have given bids for replacing the **Planning Dept. HVAC** unit. Should get them all in today.
- Have another **Compressor out at the Court House**. Acid buildup in the system, can only do so much problems is in all the older units.
 - o LJ – when the energy audit was done the complete replacement was put on a priority list. Need to think about how to cover the cost of replacing all the older units. AH – need to look at a phased replacement plan and cost options. JP – would prefer exploring extending the geothermal system to the area. In the meantime, compressor replacement is about \$2200 – Superior Court needs the replacement. LJ – no funds are dedicated for the fix. AH JP need to look into the costs and funding.
- Was contacted about a **Used floor scrubber** at about \$2000. OK to investigate? A hand mop of the Agriplex is 7 hours compared to much shorter for a powered scrubber. The power scrubber had been used in a large store in town. OK to investigate and report back.

PH (Planning & Admin)

- **Risk Pool discussion & Volker letter on Comp. Plan in Executive Session 110.1 (i)**. PH, DG & BOCC, begin at 9:50. Return @ 10:20.

10:25 TC (HR & Risk Management)

- Attended the **LRI institute** last week – info on social services. Talked about new family leave act. A lot of issues still to be resolved in that law and there need to be clarifying legislation. “Stacking” of a variety of benefits – sick leave, medical leave, annual leave and more, can add up to more than a year. A concern how to stretch other staff while keeping the position open and unfilled and additional costs if need to add a temp. to cover the work. TC will be monitoring Employment Security for legislative action.
- Addressing Superior Ct., Dennis Rabidou about **Potential Counselor position**. Unsure about funding, might need another meeting? TC will work on the issue. CB -come back to the BOCC to address systemic issues to see how the whole process integrates with OBHC and Courts. Can’t really make a decision with knowing more. AH – is this possible position to replace OBHC? Position would split funding and needs to allocate time to justify funding source. Ct. funds for position currently in are in Current Expense due to no specific position. New position would use these funds, really would decrease funding in Current Expense so would impact other programs.

- Discussion the **Therapeutic Ct. discussion** talked of a higher paid position to do more, feels like a drifting or mission creep? Now some talk of 2 positions getting a wage increase, needs clarification. CB – OBHC is involved in influencing the discussion, need to see how the duties & personnel are being shifted around. TC – work of liaison between Ct & OBHC still needs to follow fund restrictions to make sure everything is done correctly. OBHC or Sup. Ct. funds always an issue plus admin overhead. Discussion of all the various moving around of costs, admin., who does what. Wants the Ct. to come in and help the BOCC to sort out and “draw a diagram.” If Funds dry up what are “we” going to do? AH needs clarity on this issue to move forward. CB – has no issue with using the white board to draw a diagram to show what is going on.
- Finally a go a signed **NCIData Fiber contract**. Everyone is happy. Need BOCC OK – passed.
- Billing for **Jail Services to cities** is out – one city is behind a couple of payments. AH may get a phone call. Last billing was for about \$303,000. Only received about \$287,000 – one city behind would make up the difference.

Public Works Utility Franchise – JT

- Frederick H. Van Doren. Public hearing on upgrading irrigation water supply line within County Rd. right-of-way. Monse Bridge & River Rd. Chris Fisher, CCT, resident of Okanogan Co. wants project specifics.
- Water line source not a p. Works issue, just an application to work within County right-of-way. Source of water not a County concern.
- This is a renewal of an existing franchise that has been in existence for 50 yrs.
- Resolution 54-2019 for Franchise agreement – Passed.

JT (Public Works)

- **Maintenance & Roads** – typical Spring work. Stabilizer supply to arrive on the rails somewhere in the system. Don’t know when it will be available.
- **Tonasket City request for an easement** along the south edge of the Tonasket County shop. Would require a relocation of a gravel supply pile. A 50’ request, feels 35’ is reasonable. Kurt Danison specified, will need to ask him for a rationale. JT wants to avoid as much as possible. Would want a fence to keep the Shop area secure. CB – gravel pile was originally much smaller – is the large pile necessary? Affects line of sight for the RR. Tonasket want a good access to the play fields – a County donation of the right-of-way may be problematic. A possible annexation of the area by the city – needs to research. Current access to play fields is through an industrial area and warehouses. JT will work with the city for clarification.
- **WTC field trip & moving upcoming Public Hearing to May 23rd**, already have been working on opinions for the hearing. Could continue working until that date. A change in speed limit on County Rd South from Twisp, it would be good to put out a public notice of need to continue the hearing until the later date. Discussion of logistics for the upcoming tour between AH & JT. Start of tour will be at the Pateros bakery @ 9:30 then up the Methow R. to Twisp for a open meeting, then over to Tonasket by 4:00 pm.
 - o AH wants a list of projects over the past 3 years to be able to pass on to WTC and changes that have increased costs – any State funded projects.
- Got CRAB funds for the **Box culvert on Salmon Creek**.
- **Survey contract** – have a scope and estimate. Trying to retrace a very old survey base line from forks of the Methow down to Columbia. Looking at #30,000 to do an initial field search at most likely spots to find old traces. Would be more funds to look more. It is a control line that a lot of surveys are based on. Approval of contract to NCW Survey Services.

- Met with the Corps of Engineers and Chris Johnson about a **Levee rebuild near Twisp** – nothing new, still looking into the site.
- **Elmway levee** – hold up in passing easements from the city to the County. CoE is in a hurry, could JT sign the agreement or would the BOCC? Will have the BOCC chair sign; will be on the consent agenda next week.
- **Oroville EMS levy** – will be on the consent agenda today, need to be at the Auditor's ASAP.
- **Fairgrounds track materials** – sandy loam is OK, will mix with other material for the arena.

Lunch

1:30 No Public Comment

LJ (BOCC Clerk)

- Resolution to fund **temporary Veteran's position** @ 3:00. Need a resolution to approve the position.
- **Extension Office manager** & moving classification up.
- AH & LJ going over BARS #s for Veterans, WorkSource funding to begin the position then followed by Veteran's funding. Mention of a permanent position in the budget needs clarification of title of position – Veteran's Relief Asst.?
- TC – discusses with AH about funds for this fiscal year then what to do for next year. Could put a time limit or a renewal of the position. Person needs to be trained and certified to fill the position. Will be a temp. position, part time office trainee – Veteran Relief position.

2:00 WDFW – Regional Director Jim Brown.

- Presenting on **Wolf Management Policy Comment Protocol**. Formal Wolf Policy review policy to start. Wants to inform the BOCC of the timing of the process and windows of opportunity to comment.
- **3 Processes** going on:
 - **Periodic Status review** – any TES (Threatened, Endangered, Sensitive) reviewed every 5 years, a little late on the wolf but getting started. Process will take approximately 2 years. Looking for a viability review and then send a recommendation to the Commission. The Commission recommendation then would begin the SEPA process.
 - o AH – How is the WAG (Wolf Advisory Group) involved? WDFW – input but not binding, will/could get into the SEPA process for any change in the TES level.
 - o North Cascades, South Cascades & NW Coast still under Federal listing so the State has to follow that listing. Federal listing is under review and may change.
 - **Possible moving of animals** from more populated to less populated areas to reach population goals. Just a review, even if possible WDFW does not need to review.
 - **Post-Delisting Management** process – a 3 - 5 year process Close to delisting right now
 - o Goal is 15 breeding pairs spread out in the 3 regions for 3 years: or 18 pairs spread out in any 1-year triggers State delisting
- **A Lack of knowledge and effort outside the NE & NC Washington**. Has been a big focus on those areas has taken resources from following up or looking for verification in the South Cascades.
 - o Some sightings and ample prey base suggests that there is possible pack presence. WDFW needs solid evidence.
- Currently 27 packs, 126 individuals, 15 breeding pairs. A pack may exist without a breeding female.

- No solid, confirmed info from the S. Central or S. Cascades. Lots of reports but they are not confirmed.
- The pre-scoping currently getting started could provide an opportunity for comments from the County. Send any such comments directly to J. Brown, likely through PH.
- AH – Colville Reservation: “Somebody” says 40 animals (WDFW person?) – J. Brown no official number at WDFW.
- In looking at the map there is an obvious absence of packs in North Eastern Okanogan County. A lack of Elk prevents spread in elk preventing spread? Too many people? Killing? Lack of resources to look?
- Believes wolf in S. Central & S. Cascades are present from anecdotal reports but need solid, verified evidence to do anything.
- **Budget issues** – WDFW has a \$7 million deficit, had no fee increases in the last legislative session – fees are dedicated to WDFW programs.

2:45 Notetaker leaves for another meeting.