

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

Jim Detro – JD (BOCC)	Cari Hall – CH (Auditor)
Chris Branch – CB (BOCC)	Stella Columbia – SC (Fair Events)
Andy Hover – AH (BOCC)	Maurice Goodall – MG (Emergency Mgmt)
Josh Thomson – JT (Public Works)	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)	Annie Lyons (Noxious Weeds)
Leah McCormick – LM (Treasurer)	Charlene Groomes (Clerk’s Office)

*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:** Professional services agreement, Letter of concern on immigration, French Creek, Court of Appeals, **Fair Events:** Arena Roping Chute, Horse stalls, Commercial Building, Remand and Reload scrap, **Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance:** Ameresco - Injection well & HVAC at the Jail, Mop sink at Agriplex Annex, Air bubble, **Admin & Planning:** WRIA 48 water rules, Tonasket EMS audit, Oroville EMS levy, Champerty Shores, Cannabis licensing, **BOCC Exec Secretary:** DIVCO agreement, Mid Valley Hospital support on grant, **HR & Risk Management:** 2<sup>nd</sup> half 2018 & 1<sup>st</sup> half 2019 Criminal Justice billings, Annual Loss Control visit, Employee ID Cards, Corrections testing, **Misc. Business, Auditor:** MOU with Oroville for ballot box, Elections, Pres. Election next year, Vote WA system, Precincts review, Licensing, Full payment to Building Dept, Fair facilities, State Auditor’s Office, **Building Dept.:** Wage increase effects, vehicle replacements, Discussion of changes, **Public Works:** Maintenance & Road, Primitive Rds, Statler Bridge, Hwy 7 - Tonasket N, Barkley & MVID, Edelweiss Sewer, Weed Spray program, Office Mgr. job, Leader Lake Rd, **Assessor:** Travel voucher for Wenatchee, Cannabis, **TV District, Public Health:** Community research on needs, infrastructure & services, Fuel costs, Purchase of new software, Personal vehicle mileage rate, Elected Officials position, Community Health, Environment, **Resolution 84-2019: Statler Bridge, Public Hearing – Dispatch / Communications. 2/10 of 1% Sales Tax increase,**

BOCC: CB, JD, (AH at MV Irrigation District site visit) Staff: PH, LJ, JP, DG

**DG (Civil Attorney)**

- **Professional services agreement** for attorney services when the County Prosecutor’s office has a conflict of interest. Found a retired prosecutor, a good value for the County at \$125 per hour + mileage. CB moves to approve. Approved.
- Received a strongly worded **letter of concern about immigration** rules and holds by the County. Sent a copy of the County procedures to the Risk Pool and TC. Letter writer is representing a particular defendant. Currently not associated with any group.
- Looked at a variety of attachments from Ms. Kuehler about **French Creek**, looking at a September hearing. DG will file something on behalf of County before then. Asking to review Summary Judgement given the new evidence and arguments. Still evidence coming in, example

of one from DNR about their interest. Some evidence going back to 1904 received just a couple of weeks ago. Still wanting a surveyor's report. Want to wait to until all details are in before filing. Looks like Gebber's would want to do their own survey.

- Motion of hearing with the **Court of Appeals**, decision is under advisement which is normal practice. Treasurer's case involving taxes.

### SC (Fair Events)

- A lot of little stuff, nothing serious
- **Arena Roping Chute** – JD relays that the issue has been resolved.
- Needs a truckload of dirt that will pack down for the **horse stalls**. JD – R. Sawyer might have white rock to be used. Haeberle Ranch has some rock that might work. R. Sawyer did some work last year at the Fair.
- **Commercial Building** no longer used for commercial purposes. Possible to change name? – Possible rename to History? BOCC OK, sees no problem and often has history displays.
- Got two loads of **Remand and Reload scrap**, 2 bundles for \$40. Are 1" X 4" and will use for a variety of projects. Some is more suitable than others.

### JP (Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance)

- **Ameresco**: will come out and look at some issues with the geothermal HVAC system.
  - o **Injection well** has sprung a leak.
  - o **HVAC at the Jail** – temporary screen installed during construction was not removed when permanently hooked up. Screen has corroded and partially blocked water flow – the blockage trips system due to low flow. Small metal filings are somewhere in the system from the corroded screen and obstructing the system.
- Got looking into a **mop sink at the Agriplex Annex**. The parts would be for under \$300 and the installation and labor would be a bit more. Need to consider budget impact.
- Will meet with Kyle at the Jail to try to remove an **air bubble** in the system.

### PH (Admin & Planning)

- Yakama attorney inquired about **WRIA 48 water rules**. May have a SEPA if major changes are coming. BOCC and PH discuss issues, no specific conclusion.
- **Tonasket EMS** – State audit follow up from last audit a disaster. Contract with Lifeline has resolved a lot. Now set for Sept. PH needs to wrap up some inventory issues before new audit.
- A discussion about **Oroville EMS levy**. A lot of misinformation, a person inquired and PH helped them with the correct details – PH has scheduled a talk Monday at 10:00 am. Claims no affiliation – just an interested citizen. Feels the person has not gotten the full information from other sources.
- Friday met with Treasurer and Assessor about **Champerty Shores** – has rough estimates from Barker for job.
- CB relates **Cannabis licensing** has no part of enforcing anything against those grower/producers who aren't paying personal property taxes. AH – relates a possible relevant case from Kittitas County land use case and enforcing local enforcement. CB – Found that that case was overturned on appeal and the State could but didn't have to enforce local rules.

### LJ (BOCC Exec Secretary)

- Kelly had given BOCC a historical record of wage increases showing current increase on agreement is well within the historical levels. Move to approve **DIVCO agreement** at \$43,700 plus tax. Approved, authorized BOCC Chair to sign the contract. \$4000 increase from last year.

- Email from **Mid Valley Hospital asking for support on a grant application**. Grant request to Sunderland Foundation for bringing the building up to current codes (chiller replacement, upgrade lighting, electrical, facelift for front entry and lobby).

#### TC (**HR & Risk Management**)

- All revenues have been receipted for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of **2018 Criminal Justice billings** totaling \$283,231.10
- **1<sup>st</sup> half 2019 billings** will begin shortly as I will receive the last incarceration report for June on the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month.
- TC vacation 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>. Shelly is doing a good job and will be taking care.
- **Annual Loss Control visit** from the Risk Pool will take place on August 20 – focus on Jail
- **Employee ID Cards?** – May want to consider the option to have first name only, some agencies require both?
- Shelly has been quite busy and is selling in nicely. After today's she's already completed about 10 new hire orientations.
- July 27, **Corrections testing**. 10 candidates, one a lateral from Texas.

#### Misc. Business

- Does ECOG change notices get passed to Water Conservancy Board? – Ground water rule changes.

AH returns.

#### CH (**Auditor**)

- **MOU with Oroville for a ballot box**. Need to put boxes in all cities, bill failed to make accommodations. Need to have a plan in place to meet law.
- **Elections** – mandated conference they attended. State has moved Presidential primary to March, need to get software ASAP – looking at the budget.
- **Pres. Election next year** – will need to keep the Auditor's office open from through 8 pm, no building security during those hours. Given the amount of partisanship would like to see some during the primary and general.
- **Vote WA system** – 100% on State wide system. Some good / some bad – a lot of fine tuning as issues are discovered. If all works can print Voter Card ID within 5 minutes.
- Want to look at a **precincts review** – way too many right now. Best time would be at re-districting after census. State recommends consolidation of precincts. Will reach out to concerned parties.
- **Licensing**: Twisp licensing office closed doors with only 3-days notice. Auditor needs to mail out a RFP from the State for a replacement. Will take applications, interview and rank proposals and send to the State. Then will go through steps to open another sub-contractor office. This will take some time. County is authorized to have up to 4 County stations due to population. Currently only the Okanogan office and all the rest sub-contractors. Problem is lack of Auditor's office personnel. The RFP has to be out at least 3 weeks – generally better to have posted for 5 weeks.
- AH discuss must send **full payment to Building Dept.** for operations and enterprise for creation of their separate fund by Dec. 31. Will transfer funds over to their restricted fund. AH – issue is current wage increase request. No specific language that says have to make good from County Current Expense. Will want to work with the Building Dept. to set up for the transfer from Restricted (Temp. Sum) to the Building Dept. Approximately \$357,000. Details will be worked out in December.

- **Fair facilities** – set up a fund to receive separate from Fair itself.
- **SAO (State Auditor's Office)** – struggling to balance the books during current audit of County between the Bank and Auditor numbers. State having difficulty, about \$16,000 difference. State want to say a mis-statement of funds. CH feel her office is correct but State is using a different process and getting a different result. CH has checked over an over and they balance.

#### DH (Building Dept.)

- Can resend **wage increase effects** to AH. Also sent revenue projections before.
- Lowest mileage vehicle is 180,000 – need **vehicle replacements**.
- **Discussion of changes** involve with change over to Bldg. Dept setup separate enterprise fund as mandated by State – vehicles, wages, balancing budget, etc.

#### JT (Public Works)

- **Maintenance & Road:** Everything Chip Seal – 20 trucks involved, up the Methow, then Brewster, then up Valley. Extension on Lost River Rd. – Okayed, local owners to pay. Discussion of issues involving stabilizing gravel roads.
- **Primitive Rds** – memo sent Tuesday morning. A few updates. Removal of many roads from list, some additions.
- **Statler Bridge** – on Consent Agenda – call for bids, need banks to give OK on some owner's right of ways due to mortgages.
- **Hwy 7, Tonasket N** – Quiet this week, pavement next week.
- **Barkley & MVID** – AH: ditch issues with **State Airport and Irrigation right a way** at Winthrop. State plan did not include pre-existing rit of way and infrastructure of irrigation system. Having trouble with FAA and State. JD offering to help with FAA discuss. Discussion of title for JT – Engineer (not Director) – a lot of Tribal funds tied up on the project. If can't get it done this year the funds may be lost. Big costs for fixes request from FAA.
- **Edelweiss Sewer** – load application about ready. Need a resolution to allow JT to authorize signing on application - \$150,000. BOCC okays.
- **Weed Spray program** – State is banning use of 2,4 – D around residential and Ag. Lands. Alternatives much more expensive – will impact costs.
- Have offered **Office Mgr. job** – accepted.
- **Leader Lake Rd** – a DNR road, not a County issue.

#### LG (Assessor)

- Needs a **travel voucher for Wenatchee** – 1 meal.
- **Cannabis** – law only says need to be current to apply for a license – no need after that. County issue, same as taverns, etc. Generally difficult to collect on personal property.

#### GT (TV District)

- Report on progress with TV Dist. 1. Getty to submit lease application, will go to Nespelem to review packet. Shaw Cable is dropping satellite feed for major Spokane channels on Aug. 15. Will need to do a quick install and switch around to continue service.
- Payment in kind: Only OK after a contract between TV & KSPS and must include language to authorize. Otherwise can only surplus through normal procedures, same as EMS districts.

#### 1:30 Public Health

- Taylor Bositch – UW – doing **community research on needs, infrastructure & services**.
- Review of finances

- Looking at **fuel purchase costs**: Through Public Works would be an increase of an average of .01 per gallon. Will stay with current system.
- **Resolution 2019-04: Purchase of new software** - Very good public face – can see health data, restaurant inspections, kitchens. Laurie looked at Oregon site - whole of Oregon uses the same software. Approved.
- **Resolution 2019-05: Personal vehicle mileage rate** to match County - .58 per mile. Pay mileage 1 way if a DoH vehicle is available.
- Notice sent to all cities of need to fill **Elected Officials position** on DoH Board. Only one letter of interest to date, normally wait 2 meetings. This is only one.
- **Community Health**:
  - o A **Hunta virus** case. No death this time, unlike 3 years ago. Rancher, 3 potential exposures to virus. Aerosolized Deer Mouse dried urine is the source. The Tonasket area.
  - o Letter to schools that there are **no more personal exemptions for vaccines** – new exemption form is out to schools, also coaches.
  - o Using foundation \$ for software. Had hoped for an increase but look like it will be usual \$42,000.
  - o **Tracking Cannabis poisonings** – probably edibles.
  - o **Health Care Summit at the Casino on July 25**. 10a – 1 pm. Scarcity of OBGYN. CB – What of Confluence? Need more cooperation between entities.
  - o Someone smoking cannabis on County Courthouse steps – no one said anything.
  - o **JD – Report on Hydatid Disease**. Possible infection from a variety of wild and domestic canines as well as being present in ungulates. Naturally occurring.
- **Environment**
  - o Letter to BOCC from D Hilton. **Water adequacy in WRIA 48** as seen through Public Health. Dave has been involved for over 20 years. Many procedures do not seem to make sense – consolidation of users to a single well would be advisable. The 5000 gpd usage in WRIA 48 is excessive – so this encourages many, many wells without any knowledge of actual usage. If drilled and permitted is allowed – no good way to prevent. Would encourage small systems for shared usage as few users exceed 1000 gpd ever.
  - o **Cisterns** – no current allowance for adequacy of water for a building permit. If were to allow would need to approve the water source, other issues.
  - o **Mitigation** – depends on location of a site, each is case by case. Big concern is again source.

3:00 BOCC

- **Resolution 84-2019: Statler Bridge**. Approved, Removed from Consent Agenda

3:30 **Public Hearing – Dispatch / Communications. 2/10 of 1% Sales Tax increase.**

- **History**: need for updates, aging network infrastructure, Tech is old, not necessarily old equipment – though at end of life due to obsolescence. Increasing maintenance costs, unreliability – increasing failure likely
- **Current system** is basic, out of date. Limited capability. Immediate replace of most imminent components that are likely to fail in the short term, long term is ongoing rehab. of the system. Currently only 1 emergency channel available, need for 4 to serve each function, increase capacity. Goal is to simplify, automatic switching between “channels”, easier on users.
- **14 letters of support** – cities, fire districts, EMS & Sheriff.
- New RCW allows increase of up to .2% of sales tax for Emergency Services.
- Request to put on Ballot
- **Comments**:

- Lives in the Methow and have helped with communication facilities on McClure Mtn. since 1954. Concern about cost to public and impact on low income. Concern about what funds will be used for. Who all is to use.
- City of Omak: City admin not against or for but does have questions about how funds are to be spent. Oversight.
- Pateros Mayor – High need for upgrade. Feels current plan is at the end, best choice for County
- **BOCC comments:** CB – question before the voter – not required to have a committee to look expenditures of funds. May do so or BOCC to look at expenditures. AH – main duty is safety of public & fiscal responsibility. Funds would go to specific fund dedicated to the purposes of the Emergency Services. JD – about 30% of sales tax is people who are non-residents.
- **Resolution 85-2019 Move to approve putting issue on ballot.** 2/10 of 1% for Emergency Communication & facilities.

### **Misc. Business**

- Adjourn as BOCC, Open as **Oroville EMS:** Discussion of Audit report. Adjourn as Oroville EMS, Open as BOCC
- **Approve County Proceedings**
- **Approve Consent Agenda** less #3 (Statler Bridge)
- Mover to adjourn as BOCC, Open as **MV EMS: Approve voucher** – Aero Methow – passed. Move to adjourn as MV EMS, Open as BOCC.

Adjourn