

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
(BOCC)
July 23, 2019**

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| 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 Gecas – 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: Review of Summary Judgement on the French Creek, OBHC contract, Comp. Plan: date on hearing, boat races permits, **Interim Planning Director:** Capital Facility plan, **Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance:** Fair Grounds Arena & Track, HVAC last week, **OCCDA:** Fee reduction for use of Agriplex Annex, **Fair Events:** Billboard issue, AED, LTAC funding, Fair camping contracts, Point of Sale contract for credit cards, **HR & Risk:** Court Commissioner, Part time employees in Juvenile, OBHC meeting with BOCC, **Building Dept & Auditor:** Procedural question, Funding Superior Court judges, **Public Comment:** Jennifer Ward (Tonasket Resident) - Tonasket City and Okanogan Co. Law Enforcement Service, **Census Bureau Presentation – Road to 2020,** **Building:** Purchasing of a replacement PU, **John Culton, Sen. Murray Eastern Washington Aide** – Assorted topics.

BOCC: AH, JD present, CB absent. Staff: LJ, DG, AH, JP

DG (Civil Attorney)

- Hearing date has been set for Oct. 16 on the **Review of Summary Judgement on the French Creek** case. Waiting on receiving the new survey done based on the newly discovered material.
- Resolution written and sent to AH – it is early but will need an Executive Session at some point.
- DG has gone over the **OBHC contract**. Some comments came back from the Acting CEO of OBHC. One issue is having occasional meetings with the head of the OBHC Board.
- Aug. 12 **Comp. Plan: date on hearing** on the Yakama Nation case. CB working on that. DG has a declaration from PH. There had been a lot of progress made that DG has based on what he has seen so far. A lot of legal details have been covered. Working with a few lawyers on going over.
- Researched an issue on **boat races permit** at Pateros. Pateros argues that they need no permit from the County but DG has gotten passed that. Okanogan permit is very cheap compared to other areas. Also obtained a Lake Osoyoos boat race permit.

AH (Interim Planning Director) – Angela Hubbard

- **Capital Facility plan** passed by Planning Commission to the BOCC

JP (Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance)

- Checked on **Fair Grounds Arena & Track** work.
- Problem with **HVAC last week** is worked out. Maybe connected to a power outage – now working. Programming issues with the controls were fixed.

OCCDA – Requesting a **fee reduction for use of Agriplex Annex** for a training session for employees.

- The organization has gotten a funding increase and are expanding employees and services. Their former training location not large enough. Now one of the largest nonprofit groups in the County. They will be increasing their child care in the County. There is a lot of need for state supported child care.
- Need to provide training for all staff. OCCDA trains parents on improved parenting skills through its program. OCCDA provides child care, education, support to families.
- Looking for a reduced rate for using the Annex 3 -5 times a year for these mandatory trainings.
- AH moves to approve a 50% reduction in fees for use of the Annex and kitchen. Passed.

SC (Fair Events)

- **Billboard issue** – given the limited amount of funds spent why is there a need for a RFP? No design issues, just need an engineer to make sure it will stand up to winds. AH – using MRSC guidelines it requires following of all guidelines. Suggest talking to JT and maybe Public Works can do something.
- Location for an **AED**. Wants to train all staff and place at the main office.
- Discussion of whether **LTAC funding** would cover an installation of a permanent irrigation system. Looking for someone to design a system without also doing the installation.
- A lot of payments coming in for **Fair camping contracts**.
- **Point of Sale contract for credit cards** – about \$1000 per machine, would need to interface with QuickBooks and deal with BARS codes.

10:00 HR & Risk – TC on vacation so Shelly

- Dennis Rabidou & Judge Culp: Situation came up that was not on the radar. A **Court Commissioner** has gotten injured and wanted to know his status with the County in terms of employment. Currently not classified as a regular part time employee.
- Court Commissioners are an appointed position. Anything a Judge can do “at chambers” except criminal cases unless both parties agree to a commissioner. There are 3 appointed Commissioners – 1 regular part time, every Tuesday and as needed. Other 2 are off and on as needed. Must be a lawyer, have been to Judicial college.
- Want to get the injured Commissioner on as a regular part time employee. He has been qualified for that status for some time. He will need to pay ½ of the health care insurance costs to catch up. This is for the one permanent, part time position.
- AH wants to check details and talk to TC to make sure all is OK. Ramifications other than medical benefits like retirement, etc.
- Would like to get the change in place before August when the person will have the surgery for the injury. AH will be in later this week and will check on the details.
- DR – also inquiring about **part time employees in Juvenile** that are used to cover shifts. There is funding already in the budget for the positions. DR provides a draft of a resolution. BOCC feels it is OK, will pass to LJ.
- **OBHC meeting with BOCC** in August. Invitation for BOCC to attend OBHC Board retreat.

DH (Building Dept) & CH (Auditor)

- **Procedural question.** Working on the new budget and there is an issue with the truck purchase supplemental. There is no set amount until the vehicle is located. Will need to have a resolution to allow going ahead with a “not greater than” resolution.
- CH & AH – discussion of **funding Superior Court judges.** County only pays 50% of the wages, nothing on benefits.

Adjourn until 1:30

1:30 Public Comment

- **Jennifer Ward (Tonasket Resident)**
 - o Presents documents on **Tonasket City and Okanogan Co. Law Enforcement Service** agreement. Review of documents with OCSO (Sheriff’s Office) activity with Tonasket since agreement. Issue is definition of the 40 hours of service to the City. One officer assigned to the City is currently in Academy training and not actually serving in Tonasket.
 - o JD & AH: City agreed to the contract details early on, Tonasket getting more emphasis as any passing through OSCO person enforce in the City until the deputy is out of training. There are no other complaints from Tonasket residents except JW. AH – City knew County resources were stretched but agreed to arrangement.
 - o Status of “laid off” employees having eligibility for lateral hire by County – question if they were under employment by the city at the time of contract with County.
 - o AH has no knowledge of specific hiring requirements at OCSO.
 - o County has limited jurisdiction over cities.

2:00 Census Bureau Presentation – Road to 2020

- Constitutional Requirement, all people need to be county with no restriction.
- Helps determine House of Representatives representation, funding distribution, used for a variety of purposes – state & local boundaries, planning.
- What’s new – 1) self-respond component online. 2) technology – field workers will use mobile devices.
- People counted where they live – 2 years of work in determining a variety of sources of data. PR Campaign (Jan – Feb. 2020), self-respond (Mar – June) – will physically count certain populations – group living areas, tribal and transient locations (RV parks, etc.). Non-response following (May – August 2020), Tabulate (Dec. 2020) and report.
- A lot of previous data is now gathered by sampling – American Community Survey.
- General Survey data – basics: name, address, # of people, gender, age & DOB, etc.
- Only provide aggregate data, has never been violated. Prohibited from releasing personal data. By law do release after 72 years.
- Hard to count populations – homeless, immigrants, children <5, migrants, renters, low internet access, seniors and others.
- Sharing of a variety of Okanogan Co. statistical data. Analysis indicates a low expected self-response rate in the county. Describes some efforts to reach everyone. Complete County Committees (CCCs) to be formed. Local & regional members – government, community groups, churches, etc. represented. Goal is education across the state and organizing. Jan – Feb. goal si awareness for the County. March – April work at motivating to self-respond.
- Recruiting and hiring workers – centers in Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, Olympia and Spokane. Will be Okanogan Co. people hired in Okanogan Co. for at least 2 months of work, variety of jobs, need to be at least 18 years old and are currently hiring people. Need to establish a local CCC.

2:50 AH move to approve Consent Agenda – passed

3:00 Discussion with DH (**Building**) over purchasing of a replacement PU.

- Use of ER & R program, budgeting. Clarifying enabling resolution – does it allow a possible deal on a new vehicle – yes.
- Jerry – Concerning purchase of replacement vehicle. Dealing with buying of vehicle, possible use of ER & R.

3:21 **John Culton, Sen. Murray Eastern Washington Aide.**

- Will be at ECOG on Friday
- Drought declaration in County – what is the County looking at?
- Cherry & Fruit concerns – Chinese tariffs really affecting prices on cherries, also wine prices are bad. Other international market fluctuations.
- Cheap food drives consumers to imports.
- State Issues: Minimum wages – County wages are affected, gap between skilled and unskilled scales are narrow. Possible mileage tax would have a bigger impact of rural counties like Okanogan. Tax base is limited in County. Wholesale of fruit leaving county has no sales tax, so no local tax revenue.
- Forest health – a lot of local support. Smoke Jumper Base near Winthrop, no specific earmarks available but can look at overall USFS budget. Road issues at the end of the runway at Base – need to get issue to Sen. Murray. FAAA is one sticking point. Dealing with Joelle Riggs, FAA.
- Farming is most impacted by weather and climate changes, some do better than others with changes. A lot of other impacts involved also. Hay is good, fruit is bad under changes.
- Sen. Murray signed on to the Brace Act (Small RRs), new owner of local line is looking at making necessary investments.
- Medical – working on CHC 5-year renewal, ACA impacts, costs, profit margin on med. supplies, public option could be benchmark for the industry, drug pricing, cost of training medical people, low Medicaid reimbursement.
- Digital Equity Act – broadband coverage in rural, remote areas
- 2020 being an election year legislation will be problematic.
- Wolf issues.

Adjourn