

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
(BOCC)**

August 27, 2019

Jim Detro – JD (BOCC)	Stella Columbia – SC (Fair Events)
Chris Branch – CB (BOCC)	Maurice Goodall – MG (Emergency Mgmt)
Andy Hover – AH (BOCC)	Mike Worden – MW (Dispatch)
Josh Thomson – JT (Public Works)	Dan Higbee – DH (Building)
Joe Poulin – JP (Maintenance & Fair Grds)	George Thornton – GT (Citizen, County Watch)
Angie Hubbard – AHu (Interim Planning)	Tony Hawley – TH (Sheriff)
Laleña Johns – LJ (BOCC Clerk)	Randy Clough – RC (Central Service)
David Gechas – DG (Civil Att.)	Larry Gilman – LG (Assessor)
Tanya Craig – TC (Risk Manager)	Annie Lyons – AL (Noxious Weeds)
Shelly Keitzman SK (HR)	Charlene Groomes - CG (Clerk's Office)
Leah McCormick – LM (Treasurer)	Susan Speaker - SS (Clerk's Office)
Cari Hall – CH (Auditor)	Adrian Noma – AN (Prosecuting Attorney)

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: Reviewed some agreements, Oroville & Rural EMS levy passed, Public records requests, Exec Session – New filing from Yakama Tribe. New French Creek info, **Fair Events:** Overtime during Fair prep & Fair itself, Pig Barn, No more space for exhibitors, Agriplex committed except one spot, Tickets for passes on sale for \$30 per weekend, \$10 per day, **Interim Planning:** PC Board recommends hiring attorney/qualified consultant, **Executive Session:** DG, BOCC. 25 min. Return at 9:27. Ongoing litigation, **Risk & HR:** Potential Fair vendor of knives, Any problems? **Prosecutors Office:** Requesting permission to adjust County policy barring unsolicited resumes, **6-year Transportation Plan:** Proposed projects, funded and prospective, Enables seeking grants and funding & future planning, **Public Works:** Maintenance & Roads, Ellisforde Transfer Contract, Washington Invasive Species Council, Twisp Scale Replacement, Product Stewardship for paint, DOE Air Quality Grant, Peter Dan RD, Salmon Cr. Rd @ Cowan's, Vacate platted roads in Methow, CCT road list, Barkley & MVID Ditch project, Edelweiss Sewer System, **Public Comment:** JD inquiries about progress in TV District. GT: nothing new, **Treasurer:** Comment & concern on status of TV District, **CBDG Housing Rehab Grant Close Out, Misc. Business, Planning Director (PD)**

BOCC: JD, AH, CB Staff: LJ, DG, SC, AHu

DG (Civil Attorney)

- Requesting Exec. Session after Staff reports.
- **Reviewed some agreements.**
 - o CCT inmates, has some specific nuances reflecting Tribal status
 - o OBHC contract – received a signature from OBHC acting CEO. Needs BOCC signature. BOCC reviews contract. Move to approve. Passed
 - o Professional Services agreement. Conflict Attorney out of Chelan as needed in conflict of interest in Prosecutor's office. Special Prosecutor Attorney. Move to approve – passed.
 - o WSDOT property across from 97/Hwy 20 intersection at Okanogan. WSDOT wanting to sell property near the Osprey pit. Property allows access to a small development east of Hwy 97. Consider easement?

- Dispatch – Communication services agreement with WSDOT.
- AH – Since **Oroville & Rural EMS levy passed**, how to proceed? Bring in Lifeline for discussion, amend contract?
- **Public records requests** – come in spurts, this is the case now.
- **Exec Session – New filing from Yakama Tribe. New French Creek info.**

SC (Fair Events)

- Need an approval for **overtime during Fair prep and Fair itself**.
- **Pig Barn** – Want to build an office, portable on skids so it can be moved as needed. Possible use of a boom truck to move.
- Contracts ready to be signed
- **No more space for exhibitors**. Every spot if filled, even between buildings. **Agriplex all committed except one spot**.
- Entry on South and East about all done & ready to go. New entry mural in finishing touches.
- **Tickets for passes on sale for \$30 per weekend, \$10 per day**. Goes to Fair Board to cover expenses and Fair Grounds rental.
- Would like all to take a look at all the changes and improvements this year. A lot of maintenance and aesthetic improvements. A big improvement this year.

AHu (Interim Planning)

- A lot conversation between P.C. board members in Monday night meeting. Deliberation of issues over SEIS and Comp. Plan.
- **PC Board recommends the hiring of an attorney/qualified consultant** to review Comp. Plan and ensure legality and adequacy. Suggest changes as needed. BOCC expresses support for concept.

Executive Session – DG, BOCC. 25 min. Return at 9:27. Ongoing litigation

- French Creek – new information,

10:00 TC (Risk & HR) (SK conducting Oral Boards so TC reporting).

- Email about **potential Fair vendor** wanting to sell knives at Fair. Considered potential weapons, **any problems?** TC has asked vendor to carry liability insurance. AH – no weapons check at entry gates, many people carry pocket knives or multi-tool knives on belt. No check for legal concealed weapons, open carry state law. So hard to justify limiting vendor. CB – would like a clear definition of what kind of knives and what vendor proposing to sell.
- TC requests an Exec. Session – regarding the performance of a public employee (TC). 10 min. Return at 10:23.
- JD – publicly states appreciation of the level of professionalism and performance of girls.
- Need to review entire list of Dept. Heads – contract & pay, duration, job description updates.

10:30 AN (Prosecutors Office)

- **Requesting permission to adjust County policy barring unsolicited resumes**. AN recently had a job opening for 6 months for an assistant deputy. Wants to have the opportunity to accept and keep for up to a year resumes to establish a bank of candidates to use as a core whenever a job opening occurs. Would not change need to post opening and to solicit applications. AN states this would not be a competition with other departments, no conflict of interest, no nepotism. Discussion of how to advertise process of accepting unsolicited resumes if allowed by BOCC.
- AH – concern over the impact the process might have on office morale of current employees. Could look like a hunt for replacements. AN – only for new openings, not replacements. AN –

there is a statewide trend for difficulty in getting applicants, wants to counter this trend by building a bank of potentials to jump start process of advertising for new openings.

- TC – All Department wide policy barring accepting unsolicited resumes partly a cost control effort due to cost of advertising.
- CB – if an opening then would advertise regardless. AN – only would accept interested persons, contact points to follow up when an opening might occur
- TC – Currently can allow unsolicited resume if BOCC agrees and discretion of Dept. Head. If change should be open to all Departments.
- AN – just wants to have a revolving bank of contacts as a starting point for openings. When an opening occurs person in bank would be notified of opportunity to apply.
- BOCC & TC get exact policy language to examine. It appears possible with BOCC & Dept. Head agreement.
- AH concerned that process may be seen as a threat to current employees. AH negotiates all contracts and want to make sur a blanket OK for unsolicited resumes would not be disruptive to good operation of the department in general.

Public Hearing. JT (Public Works) **6 – year Transportation Plan**

- DNS is out – appeal window currently.
- **Proposed projects, funded and prospective** in funding becomes available
- Plan is **needed in enable seeking grants and funding as well as for future planning** and prioritizing. AH – any hierarchy in the projects if funding is obtained? No, other entities may rank projects, but not by Public Works.
- Move to adopt. Passed.
- JT – revenue forecast through foresees a negative trend. Limits on fees, leveling off of land values and declining tax base. Need to aggressively pursue grants to compensate.
- AH – WSDOT chip sealing is only on wheel wear tracks? JT – bulk of wear on State Hwy is primarily usage so wheel tracks worn down. WSDOT saves about 1/3 on cost of oil used. A big savings. County wear is primarily weather and spread throughout road surface.

JT (Public Works) & Kent (SW)

- **Maintenance & Roads:** Use of Dura-Patch equipment – used to repair small areas with chip seal, much more durable than hand patching and packing with asphalt mix. Culvert cleaning, may start grading soon as it is getting cooler and reducing spark hazard.
- **Ellisforde Transfer Contract extension:** New contract for another 5 years: Looking at small changes in contract, adding a provision in case of sale of business, operation of Transfer station would be a County discretion.
- **Washington Invasive Species Council:** asking to feature Apple Maggot response from County as good practice.
- **Twisp Scale Replacement:** Scheduled for Sept. Found a decaying concrete area and have repaired.
- **Product Stewardship for paint (DOE):** HB 1632. Meeting with DOE coming up. Statewide RCW change in rules. Possibly County could become a collection site. Looking into feasibility.
- **DOE Air Quality Grant:** Funds are available for a chipper. Lack of personnel to implement chipping events and opportunities. Chelan Fire operates such a program. Better than burning of plant wastes.
- **Peter Dan RD:** A couple of small works to be done, small slippages. Met with contractor this week, costs will be covered, work late Sept. or early Oct.
- **Salmon Cr. Rd @ Cowan's:** will meet on site with PUD to make sure the plan of work fits.

- Petition to **vacate platted roads in Methow**: 2 platted roads and an alley. County code requires petitioner to have to pay fee comparable to value of land that benefits from vacating roads. Around \$10,000 – on consent agenda, a public hearing set for Oct. 1
- **CCT road list** to include certain County roads: would allow CCT to do maintenance on County Roads. In progress.
- **Barkley & MVID Ditch project**: Nothing new. Permit is out to do work on Evan's RD. AH – will contact one land owner about project.
- **Edelweiss Sewer System**: Did not get Trust Fund loan. Need to look at a rate increase to cover comparable funds as loan. Would double current rates, undeveloped lots would pay ½ of full fee. Looking at avoid winter freeze up problem. Another option is for County to give system back to HOA for them to solve.
- Purchasing policy: JT looking at break points between formal, informal, and minimal bid processes. Will next review Personal Services purchase procedures.

1:30 No **Public Comment**. **JD inquiries about progress in TV District**. **GT – nothing new**.

1:38 LM (**Treasurer**) – **Comment & concern about status of TV District**

- Concern over TV District want to bill all District member whose exemption has expired. Exemption is for three years and this is first round of expirations. Concern is cost of sending out billing and problems with current level of service from TV District. Procedure of dealing with expiring exemptions and the public relations issues involved.
- LM concerned over the lack of service and many customers reluctance to pay assessment due to the dropping of signal, difficulty and cost of bill and making of exemptions.
- Discussing of District difficulties and issues of District and lack of options. Will be an item of discussion at next TV Board meeting. 2nd Tuesday each month @ OCCDA office, 4:00 pm.

2:00 Public Hearing: **CBDG Housing Rehab Grant Close Out**:

- Lael Duncan (LD), OCCAC Director, John Baker, Project Head.
- Original grant at \$500,000. Was unable of expend all grant funds due to lack of contractors willing to work under requirements – prevailing wage requirement, paperwork, having necessary certifications. Exploring apprenticeship, other avenues to have work done.
- Were able to utilize approx. \$377,000. 12 low income families helped: 9 on SS only. Did also expend approx. \$136,000 in weatherization project with some BPA funding.
- Funds went into local economy.
- Contractors did not like prevailing wage requirement, paper work and other regulations. Needed certification for lead removal.
- AH – admin overhead costs? LD – fee was part of application for the grant and approved.
- LJ – part of grant need was need for SEPA (LJ prepared). Project manager in County determined not part of job description so was prepared by LJ at County expense.
- LD working on a new proposal for a loan program for low income housing improvements. Proposing loan forgiveness under conditions, generous terms and interest – 1.9%, 15 yr.
- End 2:19 – Move to accept, passed.

Misc. Business

- Resolution annexing land to Ok. Fire District #10 – small piece. Approved
- Move to approve: Temp. Tech. position. Approved.
- Move to approve: Consent agenda, excluding #4 & 7. Approved.
- Move to approve: Aug. 12 & 13 and 26 & 27 proceedings. Approved.

2:30 AH reviewing proposed **Planning Director (PD) job description.**

- Derived from Kittitas County PD job description. Adapted and sent out by CB to BOCC.
- AH concerned about including responsibility for Comp. Plan, including development and suggesting changes, as part of job description. CB strongly feels that responsibility for Comp Plan must be part of job description. Some pointed discussion over positions. CB will attempt rewrite and AH will accept some in job description.
- Discussion and decision next Tuesday.

Adjourn