

Okanogan County Board of Commissioners Meeting

August 29, 2016

Present

Jim Detro - BOCC

Ray Campbell - BOCC

Sheilah Kennedy - BOCC

Albert Lin - Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

AM: No notetakers in attendance. Significant items from BOCC minutes:

9:40 Executive Session (unusually lengthy: 90 minutes) Note that BOCC minutes indicate an executive session to discuss “the performance of a public employee with the Clerk of the Board and then the Risk Manager, from 9:40 AM until 11:10 AM.

Public Works, Administrator Ben Rough: Solid Waste

Admin Rough discussed decisions before the board and or SWAC and what kind of oversight the SWAC has over the decision. He found out what SWAC responsibilities were in terms of the contracting. They are more broad brushed and want to discuss budget, new items and any new items and do not wish to discuss anything else that would dilute the purpose. They felt anything that is within the normal scope of work within SWAC would not need to have their blessing first. Commissioner Kennedy stated the time the board wanted them to weigh in on did have a budget impact. As an advisory committee it was felt that certain items would come from them as an advisory issue. Admin Rough clarified what budget items, the SWAC would be most interested in participating in a discussion about. Admin Rough explained how the advisory board would like to consider the items the board would like direction on. Commissioner Kennedy replied the SWAC would not be approving anything but rather they be given a chance to weigh in on the decision the Commissioners make. Commissioner DeTro expressed his thought that the SWAC is a very active advisory committee and they have really good participation at the meetings. He thinks some may not understand what is expected of an advisory board and some focus on the longevity of the landfill. Commissioner Kennedy asked if the SWAC goes over budget, revenue, and expenses of the landfill. Yes, they do. So, why wouldn't the SWAC desire to advise the commissioners on the security fence issue and what things are important to consider. Admin Rough explained what the scope of work included to address efficiency and cost effectiveness. We will retain the option to contract with someone else if we need to. Certain tasks may require a separate contract to accomplish. It will need to happen very soon. A comp plan for solid waste will need to be considered and the CUP possibly opened up to expand the foot print of the landfill and that will be a big task. He thought some of the work could be done in house with his experience in planning. We either increase the size of our recycle operation or we allow the private sector to do the business. We are trying to figure out a way to break even or we have to put it out to the public sector.

The public has been invited to SWAC to discuss recycling ideas, business models, in order to help them succeed. We don't have to monetarily support them but rather the county could support a grant application process and provide a letter.

Commissioner Kennedy would like the basis behind the cost. She would like to see the study and if one wasn't done then one should be done.

PM: 1:30

Agenda:

The agenda reflected on the website is not correct. Instead, a handout for a Planning Department Study Session as well as Administrator Officer Study Session reflected the discussion for this date in the afternoon.

1:33 - 1:42: Executive Session. "Matters to which the county may become a party."

Road Map Update/Roads within USFS Boundaries - Returning Roads to the County

Mr. Huston with two other planning employees explained to the commissioners that the roads that have been turned over to the USFS by commissioners these and in the past have now been marked on the county map.

The roads were turned over in 1955 and primarily 1976 for maintenance and decisions regarding use. Some of the roads are partially the county and partially the USFS. There has evidently been a great deal of discussion around these roads and the best method of choosing the ones the county now wants returned to them, how to best accomplish that and the process. Present also for this discussion was Mr. Lin Prosecuting Attorney's representative for the commissioners. No specific roads were named at this time and Mr. Huston will provide a list of roads that the commissioners could consider. Mr. Huston suggested once the roads were identified that the commissioners have two means by which this can occur. One is Admin Code 2477 and the other is Easement Agreements. Mr. Lin offered the information that roads created or turned over to the USFS before 1976 may not be under the authority of the commissioners and litigation under 2477 may need to be considered. His concern is they may not prevail in court if they chose to take it that far. Deputy Prosecutor Lin recommended that the commissioners consider using both methods 2477 and Easement Agreements with the USFS depending on when the roads had been handed over and under which agreement. There are also roads that were handed over in 1955 which further complicates situation and more difficult to determine what happened. Commissioners want Mr. Huston to bring back to them a map showing the specific map with the roads under consideration, commissioners will decide which ones they wish to pursue and then will proceed with beginning discussion with USFS. Discussion around legal procedures may be necessary to protect roads that reverted to USFS before 1976. Deputy Prosecutor recommended that they proceed slowly and do not threaten any type of litigation, at least until it is known how the federal elections are over and settled down. Commissioner Campbell wanted to make sure that none of the roads selected by the commissioners that are on private property are not affecting any financing that may be going on with the landowner. The commissioners are very firm that certain roads be returned to the county but do not want to consider litigation at this time.

Subdivision Code

The subdivision code may be ready for public notice by Sept. 26th. The withdrawal of D.N.S. documents may affect this date pushing it out further.

Supplemental Appropriation

Mr. Huston reports at this time that his department is not in need of a supplemental appropriation internal changes within his department have affected his budget positively.

Juvenile Detention Resolution

Mr. Huston presented a draft resolution for consideration by the commissioners. After review by the commissioners Ms. Kennedy stated that she did not want to be locked into keeping the detention facility no matter the situation and wished language to that effect placed into resolution. For instance if repair to the facility is not feasible to repair without a levy and levy fails they will have to look at further options such as Martin Hall. Currently insufficient revenues would not allow county to do significant repairs if required on their own. Also confusion is resulting by the legal actions taken against the commissioners Ms. Kennedy really feels that the resolution needed amended for their protection. Commissioners requested that Mr. Huston locate structural engineer to examine facility, as well as agency or individual familiar with regulations put in place by state to see if facility meets those requirements. In Commissioner Kennedy's view due to the requirement of keeping staff, children and the public safe Martin Hall is not out of the picture for adjudicated juveniles if the facility cannot or needs to be upgraded to be in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Send back to commissioner for review after new language has been added and then it will be determined if correct to send to judges and Juvenile Court Administrator.

Oroville and Tonasket E.M.S.

Commissioners were given proposed budget from Lifeline and Mr. Huston from this July 2016 thru July 2017. Lifeline reports that all ambulances currently taken over by Lifeline are now fully equipped. Discussion around purchasing new ambulance. Mr. Huston reports that he feels that the money is there for the purchase of a new ambulance. It did not appear to this writer that a motion was made to make the purchase but that could have been the decision. Last changes made to Lifeline contract, many of the same issues listed before regarding the repairs to building remain although pest control was completed, and commissioners requested Mr. Huston provide quotes for other requested repairs. Oroville Inter-Local Agreement was sent but has not been returned. County is receiving bills from prior to the time county assumed responsibility for ambulance service. There is also the issue of some missing monies but the financial statements will have to be reviewed again.

Capital Facility/Purchases

Grandstands for fairgrounds will go out for bid as soon as possible, so public process can begin. Restrooms are on hold for now. Purchases for the sheriff's office appear to be a little mixed up none of the commissioners are clear about what has been approved, cars, officers, or radio's. Administrative Assistant will review past notes and contact sheriff's office to see what their understanding is.

Okanogan Land Trust

Jerry DeBaker current director of Land Trust introduced himself and provided the commissioners with booklets explaining organization. Commissioners were interested but made no comments or questions so difficult to determine what if anything this agency can provide the county.

Note: Note taker left 4:45.

BOCC adjourned at 5:00 according to BOCC minutes. BOCC minutes include a fairly extensive discussion among BOCC, Mr. DeBaker, and a "Mr. Murray" that did not occur while note taker was present. It is not clear how much of the minutes are information from the booklet given by Mr. DeBaker and/or how much discussion could have occurred during the 15 minutes after note taker left.