

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
(BOCC)
September 17, 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)	Arian 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.

For the officially approved minutes of the Board of Commissioners' meetings; (normally published at a later date), see www.okanogancounty.org.

Summary: County wide burn ban will be lifted as of midnight 9/17/2019,

BOCC: JD, AH – CB off to a meeting. Staff: AHu, SC, DG, JP

Union negotiations today. With CB gone and AH in and out all day, there will be a lack quorum while AH is out of the chambers.

Summary: County wide burn ban will be lifted as of midnight 9/17/2019, **Planning:** Working on public records - Veranda Beach, **Fair Events:** State Auditor post audit, Cost of Audit, Loup Loup Ski Foundation, Fair office temp, **Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance:** Rough draft of an after-action report on the Fair, **Civil Attorney:** Various, **Noxious Weeds:** McClure Mtn access, **Finance:** All revenues are on course, no issues, **Public Works:** Revenue and expenses analysis, **Solid Waste** - Paint Product Stewardship, Washington Invasive Species Council, Maintenance & Roads, Buzzard Lake Rd, Hwy 97 Deer fence, Statler Bridge replacement, CCT road list, Barkley & MVID Ditch Project, Similkameen Trail, ER&R supplemental Budget, Surplus Dump truck, **Executive Session:** Potential or ongoing litigation, **Miscellaneous Business**

9:05 AH off to present County initial contract proposal.

9:10 AHu (**Planning**)

- **Working on public records** – a large request from **Veranda Beach**. Concern over a land slippage in the area. Might be part of an internal conflict between ownership and HOA – this is speculation.

SC (**Fair Events**)

- AH – based on **State Auditor post audit session** of 9/16 there is a need to fix the way some receipts are handled.
 - o Need to use a formal invoice program, computerized system with more than one person looking over the process and reconciling numbers. Perhaps have SC do the crosscheck with SW (Solid Waste) as SW has the same need. SC – some of the issues from the State Auditor pre-date SC and have been fixed. With a Fair Office onsite the receipts and deposits can be made in a timely fashion. October – May is a different issue as only SC is staff at the Fair office. Need to have another person to check and reconcile receipts and deposits. LJ – perhaps Kyle (Fair Maintenance) can help or maybe bring the receipts to the Treasurer or LC help reconcile. Needs to be “in” by 4 pm each day, must deposit before 24 hours are up each day.
 - o SC – there were occasional hand receipts due to computer not working. State Auditor did not specify what days or events when there were problems so it is hard to tell which days the Auditor is referring to.
- **Cost of Audit** is up \$6000 from last year – need to check details. JD – State Auditor get State funding to do its job and then bills County also – double dipping? Current audit bill is going up to \$75,000.
 - o AH - wants to show that the County is responsive to the Auditor’s concerns. Computer program update, show separately all sources of income (Rental on signage around Fair, RVs, other rentals, etc.).
 - o LJ goes over last year’s billing, costs for State Auditor, has gone up \$6000, why? The State does no itemization of its billing and yet requires county to itemize. County want some explanation for where the costs are coming from. JD – very uncomfortable with the steady increase in costs.
- SC wants to get more conventions to increase usage.
- SC – **Loup Loup Ski Foundation** wants to rent again for wine tasting. Asking to have a security cost waiver as they provide their own. SC passes out the security plan from Loup Loup. AH – motion to waive security fee for the event Oct. 2019. Wine is to be served, 5 badged security on duty and licensed bartenders. Motion passed.
- SC – **Fair office temp** has only one more week. Would like to extend that person through October due to a large number of upcoming events. AH wants to see revenue projection to cover the additional expense. Need to make sure total work time for temp is less than 6 months.
- AH – need to get a total revenue projection for the year. Might need to add funds to budget lines. SC - Security costs are up due to the increase in the number of events from previous years but to balance that there is increased revenue. Might need budget adjustments. AH – OK for temp for 3 more weeks, then two more if needed by SC.

JP (Admin & Fair Grounds Maintenance)

- **A Rough draft of an after-action report on the Fair.**
 - o Only one maintenance person is assigned to the Fair. Would prefer one more full time and a seasonal for mowing & watering and weekend work. A 6-month position – L&I, retirement and other costs. AH asks JP to work up a budget cost for the positions.
 - o Would want 2 people added for Fair time for two weeks. Goals is to cut down on overtime and very long days. AH – these two would be more a “Fair” specific and needs to have the Fair cover the costs from the Fair revenue.
 - o SC worked 37 straight leading up to the Fair. AH would be OK with a full time seasonal and 1 additional Fair time seasonal.
 - o Could possibly be a Job Source subsidized for the 3 Fair time workers and need to look into that possibility.

- More North End fence – currently someone could come through without paying admittance fee. Also need a removable ramp or slip across the race track for vehicle getting to the interior to prevent compaction at the crossing point.
- WSDA has put out grant applications for safety. Possibly look at grandstand, electrical, roofing, track ramp. Have JP look at the greatest safety issues on the Fair Grounds and pass the information to AH. County could use any labor as match for grants. AH would prepare and submit a WESDA grant if SC & JP gather needed information.

DG (Civil Attorney)

- Tomorrow hearing for the Yakama reconsideration motion.
- A couple of records requests
- Still working on the Oroville EMS contract for services from Lifeline.
- Twisp building inspection services contract ready for signature
- Candidates have filed for offices, the web site did not provide links for submitting some information to County and candidates missed deadlines. County has given more time to submit.
- Clerk of the Board asked about details on Title III funds.

AL (Noxious Weeds)

- AH – a resident in the Methow had a week action on their property. A concern over the bill for the Weed Board action. This is over **McClure Mtn access** road that goes through their property. A variety of agencies use the access road to do work on the communication facilities on the top of the mountain – County & State. The land owners have granted access for many years without compensation. Is there a way to work with the issue? There may be weeds away from the access road that need to be taken into consideration.
- AL – there were time restriction for herbicide application put on by the landowner. Majority of weed sites were not on the access road. Have tried to work with the owners for some time. Hard costs are \$1800 for contractor, administrative costs of \$500. If land owner is generally willing to work with the County only hard costs are billed. Weeds used this same process as with any others. JD – does F & W respond? AL – F & W have really stepped up but the DNR lately. AH – land owner not wealthy. Maybe only the “on” the road sites? AL – that would only be \$150 of the total cost. AH wants a % of the costs to be absorbed by the County due to variety of McClure Mtn access.
- All right of access on this site is verbal agreement. AL will get numbers and reach out to the other agencies using the access and seeking a contribution to the week control costs. There are not washing or cleaning stations available to ensure no seeds enter or leave the site.

LM (Finance)

- Chris is holding his own, had a skin graft yesterday, a long way to go. Treasurer’s Office is really short-handed and stretched.
- SW (Solid Waste) loan will be paid off next month.
- **All revenues are on course, no issues.** Investments have gone down a bit, but sees them going back up to old rate by the end of the year.
- Apologizes for the limited report due to staffing complications and Fair. Spent 64 hours in 5 days at the Fair. CH (Auditor) spent 50 hours. All of these are voluntary contributions.

JT (Public Works)

- AH – would like a **Revenue and expenses analysis.** Looking at the road funds. Looks like that by 2025 will be in deficit. Costs are going up at 3% per year. No real revenue increase seen –

property tax only can increase about .25% per year. Need a long term look at how to deal with the issue. Will need to schedule a session to review the issue.

- October the bridge inspections will be done.
- **SW (Solid Waste) – Kent**
 - o **Paint Product Stewardship:** one of the better agreements from the State. State will provide containers – separate for oil based & latex based. When full notify State and they will come and pick up. Kent talking with other entities – Tribe, cities, recyclers and others. Costs cover by a small fee on purchase of paints.
 - o **Washington Invasive Species Council:** Will meet in the area and make a specific informational look at the Twisp steam heating plant for Apple Maggots on Sept. 26.
- **Maintenance & Roads:** Grading and cleaning culverts, Area 2 (East side of County) working on last week's storm damage.
- **Buzzard Lake Rd:** Land owner built fence in ROW (Right of Way). The location interferes with maintenance of the road. The land owner is asking for an exemption to normal ROW. Not really feasible.
- **Hwy 97 Deer fence:** Project by Nature Conservancy and Mule Deer Foundation – There are to be gaps for driveways. Some driveways need larger entries due to large truck and farm vehicle access. Working on a solution.
- **Statler Bridge replacement:** Contractor in last week. Work began this week.
- **CCT road list:** Still working on a legal review of letter to the CCT.
- **Barkley & MVID Ditch Project:** Talked with person last week – pumphouse contract is out, moving forward. Need everything done by Oct. 15 to leave enough time to complete.
- **Similkameen Trail:** Same, need to put in next budget
- **ER&R supplemental Budget:** Had ordered a new paint stripping truck, schedule delivery was supposed to be Sept. 2020. Arrived this week. Need to adjust budget to pay for the truck now.
- **Surplus Dump truck** is ready for the Fair Maintenance. Work with JP for payment schedule.

11:40 Executive Session

- **Potential or ongoing litigation.** JT, DG & BOCC. 15 minutes. Return at 11:50

1:30 Public Comment – None

1:40 Miscellaneous Business

- Move to approve Consent Agenda less the Commissioner's Proceedings. Passed.
- Move to approve Sheriff's Services agreement with Brewster. Passed
- Move to approve appointment to Fair Advisory Board – Brock Hires. Passed
- Move to approve Resolution 120-2019: Lifting of County wide burn ban, effective midnight 9/17/2019
- Move to approve Resolution 121-2019: Cancel outstanding Treasurer's Warrants. Passed
- Move to approve Resolution 122-2019: Budget amendment, Board of Equalization – to cover travel, room & board for Training. Passed.
- Move to approve granting signing authority to Interim Planning director: DOE contracts. Passed
- Approve County Vouchers. Passed
- Approve Health Dept. Vouchers. Passed

Adjourned.