

**Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday, 10/6/2020, AM**

Present:

Jim DeTro (JD) - BOCC, District 3
Chris Branch (CB) - BOCC, District 1
Andy Hover (AH) - BOCC, District 2
Lanie Johns – LJ

Notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch Volunteer via ZOOM or AV Capture. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Comments or explanations by the notetaker are in italics. These notes are published at <https://countywatch.org> and are not the official county minutes of the meeting. View the archived video of this meeting at <https://www.okanogancounty.org/avcapture.html> . Officially approved County minutes are normally somewhat delayed and can be viewed at <https://www.okanogancounty.org/Commissioners/Minutes%202020/2020%20Minutespage.html>.

Time Stamps: According to (real time, viewable on the clock on AV Capture screen) **OR** (AV Capture Time Stamp)

SUMMARY of important discussions or actions: Fairground fire efforts wrapping up, moving on to long term recovery. Auction canceled. Communications: Status of communications towers post-fires, needed repairs, funding sources; Public works: solid waste, post-fire; maintenance, bridge work, CARES funding.

9:19 - (Late start, due to power outage.)

Naomie Peasley, Fairgrounds manager; wrapping up efforts at the fairgrounds, looking for the LT Recovery group/s. Spreadsheet has been kept for donations in and out. RV park is closed for the season Discussion of online auction, Campbell's auction awarded the bid but in person auctions are prohibited at this time. It would need to be online. Therefore, auction is cancelled.

9:30

LJ – How close are we to getting to Phase III?
JD – doesn't think soon with this administration.
CB – doesn't see this happening soon either.
Alot of people have been asking the BOCC this question.

Kathy will be here today at 2:00.

Break *****

10:30 – Mike Worden and Karen from Communications Dispatch center updated on what fire did to our communication towers;

Jackass Butte – the hub of system suffered no damage (concrete building)

Tunk Mountain Site – very important – is fine. Needs upgrade as is a log cabin. In process of searching for a concrete building to make this more durable.

Pitcher survived, with the exception of buildings that housed the wireless, NCI Data, AT&T. Minor damages to Verizon building. This affected Public Works phones/radios, & Hospital, **McClure** survived and is fully functional.

Assessment for future needs; need fire hardening of sites or we are not durable in times of emergency. Karen stated cooling system needs repair. Generators are needed for the Courthouse as when servers went down, they were damaged. Upgrade Tunk to concrete.

The structures that were upgraded with funds from 2014 fire, survived this fire.

Discussion of looking to USDA for a grant to help with these upgrades, CB also suggested the Economic Alliance as part of prioritization process.

LJ – Generators are already added to budgeted requests

JD & CB both stated these upgrades need to be a priority.

11:00 Josh Thomson, County Engineer, Public Works; solid waste site meeting @ fairgrounds for survivors of the fire re; no tipping fees. Road maintenance and bridge work updates.

Also working on MOU for CARES Act \$\$

11:03 Meeting ended with some other discussions amongst Commissioners/Staff