

Okanogan County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Tuesday, January 5th, 2021 AM

Present:

Jim DeTro (JD), BOCC, District 3 in the meeting room
Chris Branch (CB), Chair BOCC, District 1 at home on Zoom
Andy Hover (AH), BOCC, District 2 at home on Zoom
Lanie Johns (LJ), Clerk of Board

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch Volunteer. Every effort is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible or otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note taker comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at okanogancountywatch.org and are not the official county record of the meeting. For officially approved minutes, which are usually published at a later time see <https://okanogancounty.org/commissioners/minutes%2020/2020%Minutes.pagehtml>

Time stamps below are in real time. To local specific topics, a clock on the AV Capture screen at <https://okanogancounty.org/avcapture.html> can assist in finding the correct spot on the video recording.

Summary of significant actions or discussions; Pete Palmer, Planning Director: CAO and Comp Plan updates. Maurice Goodall, Emergency Services Director: updates on Loomis water, All Hazards Mitigation Plan, and "Situation," Josh Tomson, County Engineer updates: Removal of tipping fees for fire victims, road conditions, quarantining Pub Wks staff; Solid Waste Manager, Kent: BioChar project, Approval of Consent Agenda;

9:05 - Pete Palmer, Planning Director: Reimbursement on WRIA planning grants received: \$88,000. Both Critical Areas Ordinance and Draft Comprehensive Plan have been sent to Dept. of Commerce for their 60-day review.

CAO: Figuring it out now through back documents; previous Director had already issued the (*Threshold*) determination.

Comp Plan: (*In answer to CB and AH questions due to public inquiries*): **Addendum to Draft Environmental Impact Statement** on Comp Plan is nearly ready. Anticipate putting it out for public comment in mid-January. **Planning Commission** meets again on Comp Plan last Monday in January (25th.) **Alternatives:** Four Alternatives are being

considered. Right now, we're going through to make sure and identify if they will change or not. Some numbers are associated with (*unintelligible*.) Some details might change. The choice among Alternatives will be BOCC's decision. They consider the Alternative recommended by the Planning Commission and also public comments received during the Public Comment period.

Maurice Goodall. EMS Discussion re Loomis: mitigations, and grants. Water Association should qualify as a private non-profit doing work of a gov't agency by providing water to Town of Loomis and Fire Dept. Tim Cook/Dept of Health to be consulted.

All-Hazards Mitigation Plan: Meeting tomorrow (12/9/2020)

"Situation:" Unnamed situation is discussed: There is a little grumbling over Facebook - people think we need to tell them which roads/parts of roads are icy, etc. We can't do it all for them. If there is anything drastic, we'll do something. Public Works snow removal policy has been given to me by Josh. Will look it over and see if we can help people understand how things are plowed. CB asks if MG talked with Sheriff today. He did not. MG only heard about a "situation," but has nothing to provide. Will feed info back to BOCC if he learns anything.

9:25 BOCC approved minutes from December 28th & 29th, clarifying conversation regarding discussion with Prosecuting Attorney.

Clerk's Office and Human Resources have nothing to report today*****8

9:30 – Discussion of Consent Agenda scheduled for this afternoon; 2 appointees to the Noxious Weed Board., Veterans Advisory Group – Resolution changing criteria for 8791 – tasked with reviewing, recommending, and approving money from relief fund for disadvantaged county veterans. These appointees can be from the community -at -large, rather than just established service organizations.

Moved, seconded, and carried to approve consent agenda as amended.

9:45 Josh Tomson (JT), County Engineer and Kent, Solid Waste Manager

With the board's blessing, will extend the removal of tipping fees for victims of the Cold Creek Fire until March 31st. JT will write this up for the Chair to sign.

Report of road conditions, and use of staff who are quarantining with COVID. This has been approved by the Health Dept with certain criteria. Especially snowplowing.

Discussion of new road crew shops: information/bids from 2019; \$323,000 for construction and \$122,000 for materials. This comes in under the \$500,000 budgeted per shop. Materials have gone up in price since then.

JT will search paperwork for utilizing and finalizing the on call architect and provide that to the board. He was also check on duration to see when it needs to be renewed.

9:59 – Discussion of BioChar Project – land use consent form needs to be signed by chairman of the board for the temporary use permit. Moved, seconded, and carried to authorize chairman to sign for” C-6 Forest to Farm”

10:02 Discussion of property by airport (*in Twisp, I believe*)

“use of property in GAP, DOT property” Other landowners in the area are not losing use of.

10:05 Discussion of jackknifed truck at the intersection of Hwy 20 and 153. Traffic re-routed to Lower Beaver Creek as detour.

10:10 Meeting Adjourned until public comment period at 1:30 and other business at 2:00