

Okanogan County Board of County Commissioners meeting August 8, 2022
AM session

AH – Andy Hover, BOCC Chair, District 2
CB—Chris Branch, BOCC vice-chair, District
JD- Jim DeTro, BOCC member
LJ- Lanie Johns, Clerk of the Board
CH- Crystal Hawley- Deputy Clerk of the Board
PP – Pete Palmer – Planning Director
Joe -County maintenance dept.
KH – Katie Haven, public

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note takers comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at <https://www.countywatch.org/commissioner-and-board-of-health-meetings.html> and are not the official county record of the meeting. For officially approved minutes, which are normally published at a later time, Click [here](#).

Summary of Significant Discussion: Fair Budget; Planning Dept Report- progress on scanning documents, tech support and hosting of new planning software, meeting with City of Omak on crime and public safety, miscommunication with Tribes on application for large expansion of Gamble Sands Resort, historical sub-area planning groups; Maintenance report – tree trimming and AC unit replacement; USFS notice of exploratory drilling in Chesaw Area; Board of Health appointments.

The time stamps refer to the times on the AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date. Click [here](#) to go to the video.

8:47 – AH asks about small animals at the county fair. CB suggest a person to contact.

9:49 - CB opens with discussion of County Fair budget. Says that it is due today. He has both the Fairgrounds budget and the Fair budget to look at and compare. Security budget is still a little uncertain as to which account will pay for it. *(Note – there is a distinction between the Fairgrounds, which is the property owned by the County, and the Fair, which is the event that takes place at the Fairgrounds. They are two distinct entities with separate budgets, which results in endless discussion about how to manage the relationship between the two.)*

AH – it's not up to the Fairgrounds to provide security. It's the Fair that should do that.

CB- The Secretary (FAC) is researching options for security. She is contacting professional security companies, and also the FAC is considering the options of having volunteers who wear tshirts that say "security" and walk around.

AH – references the R & B festival that uses volunteers.

Discussion about the different security for the concert vs the entire fair event.

14:40- Public comment: KH asks BOCC to work towards getting all boards and committees listed under the tab. Gives example of someone who was looking for info on the SWAC, and not able to find anything. AH says they agree and will work towards that goal.

19:15 AH – back to the fair discussion, regarding waivers for vendors.

LJ – explains that the new fee schedule that was adopted included rescinding of previous resolutions. Discussion about how to adopt a new resolution that would include all the desired items.

CB – suggests that they re-visit in future session, as it was not intentional to omit.

AH – discusses budget issues around the complicated relationship between the “fairgrounds” and the “fair”. They are two separate entities in term of how funds are accounted for.

More discussion about specific buildings and the maintenance that is needed.

Short discussion about whether the Fair generates income for the county. It is agreed that it does not – it is basically a service that the county provides and hopefully it breaks even.

Staff reports

33:10 PP – Planning director. File retention – all boxes are sent out. (*Note – this refers to an effort that the Planning Dept has embarked on to scan all of their documents so they can be catalogued and archived*). 404 boxes have been received by contractor for scanning. They have used up the funds so far. (Approx \$53K.) Project went from 385 boxes to 404 boxes (due to large format items that were not anticipated). The cost difference is approximately \$21K that would be needed if we want to scan the remaining boxes. Choice is to continue and approve extra \$\$, or stop here and shelve the remaining boxes.

AH- says he wants to get all boxes done.

PP – says she will look at her budget to see if she has the funds.

PP – says she has an email from Omak Mayor about a meeting on Aug 18th regarding crime and public safety in Omak. BOCC is invited, PP wants to know if the BOCC is going to attend, or if they would like her to attend. The Sheriff is also invited.

CB – regrets that he can't attend. Asks PP to attend in his place.

38:45 PP – asks for approval to pay invoice for noxious weed control in the Lake Osoyoos Lake Mgmt Dist. Approx \$56K. Motion to approve made and seconded, approved by vote.

41:00 PP – researched Aspect Eng contract for tech support. Went live with program Feb 2021, DOE received it in June 2021. Aspect has been continuing tech support, even though the 1 year period for hosting and tech support has expired. The contract allowed one year to use and work out bugs, then BOCC would make a decision whether to transfer to county for hosting. Do we want to continue to pay Aspect to manage it, or do we want to move it to the county server and start maintaining it ourselves.

AH- asks if we host it, do we still get tech support? Can you find out what it would cost for them to continue to host and support?

PP – will find out and get back to BOCC.

44:10 PP – I've been getting questions about expansion at Gamble Sands and why the community is not hearing about it. In Nov 2021 the Tribes issued them a permit to expand another 18 holes, overnight accommodations, retail store, amphitheater/event center, etc. This was not signed off on in interlocal agreement. I have the full permit packet here if you want to look at it. The tribe did not send us the info, but they are starting to do so now, although it's kind of hit and miss.

CB- asks if the BOCC should send a letter to the Tribes reminding them about the agreement and what it says. (*If a project is proposed on tribal lands, there is an option for the applicant to go through either the Tribe, OR the county. The chosen government must share the info with the other government so that everyone knows what's going on*).

Discussion about how overlapping jurisdictions work, and the history of protocol and agreements for such cases.

AH – says they need to be thoughtful about how they approach this.

CB – suggests that they keep an eye on the situation and act accordingly.

52:40 CB – talks about sub area planning groups that have existed prior to the recent update to the Comp plan. He was contacted by the Barnhart Loop community about their advisory group that was established quite a while ago. Stan Carter was involved in that group from way back. They are not mentioned in code or the Comp plan, but had members appointed by BOCC.

PP – has been contacted by Mr Carter and is researching if there are any historical appointments from BOCC, etc.

CB – suggests including details about advisory group appointments in the comp plan. There is mention of these groups in the planning code, but the language is vague.

56:16 Joe (Maintenance dept)- reports on tree trimming bids. We will need flaggers, PW doesn't have any available. We will have to get signs and do our own flagging. Will have to do a road closure requests with the city of Okanogan.

CB – do the tree service companies provide that service?

Joe – no, they are not big enough.

CB – asks what the bids are.

Joe – one is \$6454, two more at \$2604 and \$2403. All require partial road closure and include disposal of tree trimmings.

We have AC unit that went out in the admin building (4th floor prosecutors offices). We had a contract to have AC unit replaced, and they missed one. It wasn't even included in the original bid package. We have them working on a quote to replace this last one.

AH – asks for copy of the original quote and contract.

Discussion about whose fault it is that the one unit was overlooked.

AH – appointment letters for BOH.

1:03:00 JD – asks about a notice from USFS about exploratory drilling in Chesaw area. CB has it and will forward to JD.

1:03:45 CB – asks if anyone is going to training on the 31st. (no mention about what the training is about.) It is in Spokane. CB has signed up.

Discussion about BOH appointments: Lionel J Orr, Jr.; JA Wright, Mary Anne Williams, Patrica Stanton.

CB asks about Mr. Orr and confirms that this will be his first appointment to the BOH. The others are re- appointments for people who are currently on the BOH. They have been vetted and have shown interest.

Motion made and seconded to appoint all four applicants to the BOH. Voted to approve (unanimous).

1:10:00 AH – asks if the BOCC has anything else to discuss.

CB – Asks if there is any problem due to the Fair budget being late.

AH – suggests that they simply submit last year's budget and it will be revised as necessary in this year's budget discussions.

CB – says that FAC did not vote to send the budget to the BOCC.

AH – says that they should talk to the Auditor to confirm the procedure for Fair budget and who is responsible for submitting.

CB – thinks that the deadline is today.

Discussion about how to handle it.

CB – mentions that he is scheduled for a hip replacement in the future and hopes that he won't be out of commission for more than a week. Will let BOCC know more as he firms up his plans.

1:16:00 – BOCC adjourns until 9 am Tuesday morning.