

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday September 3, 2024, AM

Present:

Jon Neal (JN) – BOCC Chair, District 3

Andy Hover (AH) – BOCC Vice Chair, District 2

Chris Branch (CB) – BOCC, District 1

Lanie Johns (LJ) – Clerk of the Board

These notes were taken by an Okanogan County Watch volunteer via Zoom. Every attempt is made to be accurate. Notes are verbatim when possible, and otherwise summarized or paraphrased. Note taker comments or clarifications are in italics. These notes are published at <https://countywatch.org> and are not the official county record of the meeting. For officially approved minutes, which are normally published at a later time, see:

[.https://okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners_proceedings.php](https://okanogancounty.org/offices/commissioners/commissioners_proceedings.php)

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

Summary of Significant Discussions or Actions:

- No Public Comments
- BOCC discusses resolving the water well situation at the Fairgrounds, reviews & signs fair contracts for the upcoming fair.
- Budget Supplementals for horse barn repairs and Public Defense funding
- HR/Risk Manager reports on upcoming energy audit program, 8 buildings will need to be included in the audit, not expecting them to be fully funded.
- HR also asks for permission to hire an additional Registered Nurse for the jail, and also to give incentive pay to jail staff who get certified as a pharmacy tech
- Public Works: Lost River wash out, upcoming Foster Bridge project, Public Works buildings, applying for funding for Whistler Canyon bathroom, contract signed to survey for the Loomis kiosk.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:14, until 1:30 pm

9:02

Pledge of Allegiance

AH discusses how in years past, things happen (at the County Fair) that sometimes needs a Commissioner. AH won't attend the fair and is ok with any decisions that are made by JN. CB also agrees with this.

JN and CB talk about CB attending a Mental Health Roundtable. It is on a Tuesday, so will need to determine whether BOCC will have a quorum. JN might be interested in attending this also.

9:12

LJ reports that the Board has asked DNR and Senator Short to come and discuss ATV's on DNR land.

LJ in the process of getting this scheduled.

JN brings up waiting till the dust settles (after the fair?) to make a decision on the Fair Advisory Committee (FAC) JN would rather application be sent to the fairgrounds, rather than directly to the BOCC.

9:15

No Public Comment

(Considerable discussion about the wells at the fairgrounds, water witching, and the history of the current wells. A map was put up on the board, apparently, because it wasn't visible to the Zoom. BOCC checks parcel numbers and pick LJ's knowledge about the current wells. It appears they are considering digging a new well)

9:45

The Board reviews and signs the contracts for the upcoming fair that have been presented by the Clerk of the Board, and her staff. Some of the contracts are for payment, others are not.

9:52

BOCC votes to approve the contracts; 5 are for entertainment and the others are for support services. The Board also approves the vouchers for \$105, 642 for fair contracts.

10:02

*****Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) for threatened litigation, with Albert Lin, Prosecuting Attorney, Shelley Keitzman, HR/Risk Manager, Derek Byran and Chuck Boyd. *****

10:30

Public Hearing Budget Supplemental Appropriation Fund 134 -Fairgrounds Horse barn repairs for \$140,000 + another \$20,000. No Public Comment. Resolution 110-115-2024 approved.

10:37

Public Hearing Budget Supplemental Appropriation – CE Non-Departmental Public Defense. This \$50,000 is from the PUD Privilege Tax, through Dept of Revenue. No Public Comment. BOCC approves Resolution # 116-2024. This is to cover other things that are ordered by a judge, besides the defense of a client.

BOCC approves vouchers for \$1,923,644.00

10:45

Shelley Keitzman (SK), HR/Risk Manager in to discuss County Facility energy audit grant and funding. SK explains the upcoming requirement of Energy Audit Grant program. \$4,000,000 has been allocated to the Counties statewide. SK – We have 8 buildings that will need to have this audit and there will not be enough money to fully fund this. We have to pay up front and get reimbursed. SK – I will check more on the funding and get back with you.

SK – Also, I want to bring a request for an additional Registered Nurse (RN) for the jail. This will ½ funded. SK – It's really critical that we have these 2 RNs in the jail. SK – I'm hoping you approve this resolution.

AH shares the Budget on Zoom

10:55

BOCC approves Resolution 117-2024 to have another RN in the jail.

SK -I also have a memo of agreement between the County and the Non-Commissioned staff to give incentive pay for Pharmacy Tech certification for 3 employees.

AH – I am in favor of this due to the added risk. SK – I will send it to the Union and bring this back to the BOCC.

SK – Will figure out the money for the Energy Audit and will be back. Looking into a reimbursable grant, but not clear how much yet.

AH suggests that maybe we need to update our Capital Projects Budget and asks if this has been done before.

LJ – We've had assessments but no actual energy audit (to comply with the energy code)

AH – I will work on updating the capital projects – will review.

CB acknowledges how SK is able to see things that are coming and appreciates bringing them to the BOCC.

11:00

Josh Thomson (JT), County Engineer reports on Public Works projects Lost River wash out, getting ready to work on Foster Bridge, and the projects on the Public Works building. JT – I think we're making progress on the heat project for the shops.

JT – I also wanted to hear what SK said about the Energy Audits and wondered what they will be looking for. AH suggests that JT do some research of his own. We will need to have a plan in place.

LJ notes that there are Tier 1 and Tier II buildings. It's in the WAC and RCW's – they are different guidelines.

JT – Amie is working on an LTAC application for the Whistler Canyon bathroom.

JT – Also, we have 60 feet right of way on the Lost River Road.

AH would like to include JT to talk with the folks in Mazama.

JT also reports that Erlandsen & Associates have signed a contract for surveying for the Loomis kiosk.

JN reports that he has a noon meeting with the Sheriff and Prosecuting Attorney

11:17

Meeting adjourned until 1:30 PM