

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Tuesday September 10th, 2024, 3:26 p.m.

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Present:

John Neil (JN), County Commissioner District 2
Chris Branch (CB), County Commissioner District 1
Laney Johns (LJ), Clerk of the Board
Stacy McClellan (SM), Deputy Clerk

Time stamps refer to Tuesday's AV Capture video. *An AV Capture archive of the meeting on this date is available at:*
https://okanogancounty.org/departments/boards/live_streaming_of_meetings.php

Summary of Important Discussions:

- ♣ *Sheriff's office to hire additional grant-funded core outreach specialist*
- ♣ *Photocopier contract with Xerox not only more expensive than originally thought but company refuses to address malfunction issues*
- ♣ *Community Wildfire Protection Plan draft finished, awaits feedback from Board, public comment and public hearing*
- ♣ *Meeting adjourned at 4 :06*

3: 26 - JN: (to CB) I here's a job opening for a custodian. You could probably start working in January. (*Laughter.*)

CB: I could be a greeter at Walmart, too. (*More laughter.*)

LJ: I was talking with Commissioner Hover on a couple of resolutions. The sheriff had mentioned an additional "core outreach specialist" that the grant would pay for because now the grant is to be extended to June 2025. So we wanted to make sure that position was authorized, and then a second amendment (*to amend the one that created the first position so it will be extended as well*). Another item: an employment agreement between the county and Katrina "Cate". This is the core outreach specialist. Then we have request from the sheriff's office for the remaining ARPA (*American Rescue Plan*) funds for their firearm safety allocation. This will spend out the allocated \$22,000.

3:30 - CB moves to approve the September 2nd minutes. Motion carried. EMS Vouchers approved. Resolution 46-2024 for sheriff's equipment (\$5,831).

3:44 - *The employment agreement for Katrina "Cate" is approved as are Resolution 63-2024 providing grant funding for the first core outreach specialist and Resolution 120-2024 for the additional one. (3:44) CB moves to approve the letter to the city of Tonasket regarding the police services contract. Motion carried. September 3rd minutes approved. LJ comes back from struggling with the copy machine that "won't scan, won't print".*

LJ: We've talked to Esther (Milner, chief civil deputy) about what we needed to do to terminate that contract and she seems to think that it's probably not (*inaudible*) even though we haven't gotten the result for all of our issues. We've tried working with Xerox a number of times and they say it's our problem on our end. When I talked to Central Services they said, "No, they're just saying that." It's probably not our problem. *CB asked if they had a contact, LJ says yes.* LJ: It would probably be just us paying for the whole contract period. We just approved it this year. They didn't give us a chance to say how long it would be for so they just said the maximum, 72 months. The other thing that happened was that there's a base contract cost and in addition we pay a per print cost. Our "Weka" contract was under \$300 a month for all the copies we made, between our office, HR and maintenance. The Xerox contract is over \$600 a month! We're not making any more copies. And it was supposed to be the cheapest vendor when we did the three comparisons.

CB: We probably should have a phone call with them.

JN: Revisit the original contract.

LJ: We've looked at the contract and we don't get the count to see on the machine how many pages we print. It used to be that you set your count each month, send it in and they'd bill you for it. Now it's all automated. It logs into our account and bills it for that. But there are many things with the printer that Xerox cannot figure out why or how to resolve them: printing excel print sheets, you sit there and wait. It (comes out blank). We're paying for it and I'm filling up the recycling box. Based on talking to Esther it didn't sound there would be anything that she could do. I wanted her to write a letter. And I need to pull all the emails I sent to Xerox, and all... that Teagan sent when we were in the process of choosing a vendor, and send those to Esther. But with the state audit, I can't do that right now. *CB says it's always the last person you talk to that gets you what you need; for now they should probably just write the letter.* One of the things in the contract is if you do not have it in your fiscal budget to pay for a (*inaudible*) year, and we've tried to get another agency to take on the contract, then we might be able to terminate the contract. The commissioners had the money to pay for a copier, but maybe they won't fund this contract. *She is frustrated by this situation, and with all the additional cost.*

JN: It's always good to pay more for less. *LJ leaves to try to copy something. She comes back with resolutions to sign.*

4:03 - LJ: There's one more thing. I'd forwarded information from the Conservation District regarding the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The draft is ready. I'd provided a timeline and what the next steps were. They were asking for feedback on the draft, and also at some point we'll have a public hearing. Go through a public process first and then incorporate any additional things into it that the board will

look at. Does that timeline look okay to you? ...From September 16th to the 30th they'd have a public comment period. After that the finalized input and we'd be holding a final–

CB: No commitments other than that?

LJ: Other than provide partner review comments.

4:06 - *Meeting adjourned.*