

Board of Okanogan County Commissioners
Monday July 15th, 2024, 1:30 p.m.

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Present:

John Neil (JN), BOCC District 3
Laney Johns (LJ), Clerk of the Board
Andy Hover (AH), County Commissioner District 3
Pete Palmer (PP), Planning Director
Dan Higbee (DH), Building Director
Pam Johnson (PJ), Treasurer
Rocky Robbins, Planning department
Sissy, Planning department

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:

- *Planning's permit-tracking software not fulfilling expectations; programs created "in house" already provide interactive maps, should soon show issuance of permits in real time*
- *Cannabis operation to receive disapproval letter*
- *Waterproofing for courthouse approved. Price tag: \$181,573*
- *Motion passed for funding of sheriff's field deputy position*
- *Abatement services change order passed to allow additional asbestos removal on Railroad Ave. property*
- *Discussions concerning -courthouse plans (more room for courts, exterior staircase for access from jail), -move of "for fee" services to Forest Service building and Dispatch to Grainger building; -is new juvenile facility needed or not?*

(First minutes of meeting not recorded)

3:30 - PP: What was supposed to be an 8-month contract for our permit-tracking software, we're going into our third year of trying to get it up and running properly. Rocky and Missy can speak more to issues they've been having. We're either

having to fight to get the program to do what it's supposed to do, or they say it wasn't included and they try to add additional fees... Integrated maps disappear, some search functions aren't working properly, they fix them online but when they go to the public-facing portal they don't work properly. What had happened was, Camden, from our GIS department, has been going on a training program. The last training he did gave him the knowledge to write a program that will do everything that we needed the permit tracking software to do. He's well on track with that. We've already got the interactive zoning map up on our website, people are already using that. What he's working on now is with the billing department and with our department to get the program to be able to show permits as they're issued in almost real time... The main reason for the software was to satisfy the stipulation order with the Yakima nation so the program that Camden has so far written for us will basically satisfy that also.

AH: Is there is a clause in our contract with whoever it is now?

PP: There is a termination clause. I don't think that we're looking at recuperating any funds from it. We'd basically give them notice and terminate the contract.

AH: ...I think we should just cut our losses at this point.

DH: What we have right now is user-friendly, functional and it's efficient. It doesn't really look like— (*The other software*) complicated on our end, more complicated than it needs to be.

AH: Just the fact that they didn't deliver a product that they said they were going to deliver— ...I would move to have Esther (*Milner, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor*) look at the contract and write a letter of termination. *Motion is approved.*

3:36 - AH moves to approve the consent agenda. LJ recommends striking item three because a previous motion was made to authorize the chair to sign that. JN also wants to check item one, a cannabis operation disapproval letter, asks if Esther has totally approved it.

PJ: The one from July is from Amy Maxwell and it has Esther's final revisions on it. So I'm trying to figure out are we okay with that, or where we're at.

AH: What was the last discussion point about this?

PJ: Something to do with the terms and conditions, how much you could get back if there was a fault. ...She had emailed her and said we need those changes and Amy made those changes and re-submitted it. Amy signed it on July 11th. *JN notes that they've misspelled his name again. Motion to approve the consent agenda is passed.*

Previous meeting minutes - The Prosecutor's office wasn't sure of the total cost of something, AH says they should discuss this Monday or Tuesday, an expenditure of about \$80,200 plus storage costs. AH doesn't know where to take the money from.

AH brings up the following motions for approval:

- The professional services agreement with Pioneer Waterproofing for work on the final phase two of the courthouse renovation project for \$181,573
- Class A and B designate weed control agreement between Okanogan Co. and Noxious Weed Control Board for herbicide treatment (LJ says it doesn't say which parcel; she suggests putting setting funds aside in next year's budget for weed treatment)
- Resolution 98-2024 amending the hiring and retention (replacing?) Resolution 33-2024 for commissioned personnel, and authorizing the use of funds for funding a field deputy position. (Salary and wages will be covered by a later resolution)
- Resolution 90-2024 authorizing an amendment within sheriff's budget to the amount of \$32,743 for a potential lateral deputy position, (referred to in previous resolution)
- ARPA (American Rescue Plan) request number six of the City of Okanogan in the amount of \$288.70, authorizing chairman to sign
- Performance abatement services change order (\$3,220) with the Railroad Ave. property for additional ACM (asbestos-containing material) work to remove and dispose of about 15 sq. feet of insulation
- Commissioners' Minutes from July 1st, 2nd, 8th and 15th

All motions approved. CB has just joined the other two commissioners. He asks about the tracking program, AH fills him in on PP's report and their decision.

CB: Having one foot in and one foot out might be a good course of action. The new program is going to do exactly what we need to do to satisfy our needs. I suggest a second session to discuss that when she comes back with (the letter of termination of contract).

LJ has forwarded to the commissioners the most recent drawings by MJ Neal architects for the courthouse, made after a meeting with the judges and the clerk.

AH: They look pretty good. The clerk was okay with her space?

LJ: They spent all day on it.

AH: Everything now is floor by floor. There's a lot of room. Fourth floor is utilized for storage and staff space.

LJ: There is also access from the jail with the addition of small stairs from the outside of the building on the southwest corner.

AH: Like Commissioner Branch says, if everyone who uses it is buying off on it, that's not going to be that hard of a deal. The next thing we need to look at is their renderings for Public Health. LJ would like to send the drawings to the stakeholders, reminds BOCC the architects will meet with them the following Tuesday. She will include the tech director and the corrections sergeant in the recipients, and asks if they should be present at the next meeting. Yes, that would be good.

LJ: Part of my application to the Department of Historical Preservation includes some of the accessibility issues we've had with the jury room and with the courtroom on the

third floor. A portion of the third floor could be covered by the grant if we're awarded. *AH thanks LJ for getting the architects to look at that.* LJ: They're really excited about the potential of having the courthouse just be the courts.

AH: If that works like that, do we want to move all of our "for fee" services (Public Health, Building, Planning) into (the 2nd Ave. building)?

JN: Good idea. One-stop shopping.

AH: We have to go through different iterations of different things. Does it make sense to have sheriff and emergency management with us—

LJ: What about communication coming up here? (Dispatch) He doesn't have space. Just a bug in your ear.

AH: We might have to do some remodeling. We might need to blow out a couple of walls.

LJ: But Planning and Building would be gone. *AH says they've worked out the hard part now, what's left is parking, ease of locating services.*

AH: ...Are we going to re-do a juvenile facility? Does it make sense to put them (in the 2nd Ave. building)? It depends on the state. *CB mentions meeting certain standards, wonders how many are in the current facility.*

4:07 - Meeting adjourned