

Okanogan County of Government

July 13, 2020

Location: 303 2nd Ave S, Suite A, Okanogan, WA 98840 (TranGO Office)

Present: Soo Ing-Moody, Town of Twisp, Mayor – OCOG Chairperson
Carlene Anders, City of Pateros, Mayor – OCOG Vice-Chairperson
Josh Thomson, Okanogan County Engineer – OCOG Treasurer
Kelly Scalf, TranGO CEO/General Manager - OCOG Secretary
Jackie Gleason, TranGO, Clerk of the Board
Chris Branch, Okanogan County Commissioner
Sally Ranzau, Town of Winthrop, Mayor
Jon Culp, City of Okanogan, Mayor
Barry Freel, City of Omak, Council Member
Teagan Levine, City of Tonasket, Council Member
Marylou Kriner, City of Tonasket, Mayor
Laurie Jones, Okanogan County Public Health Department, Community Health Director
Maurice Goodall, Okanogan County Department of Emergency Management Director
George Mazur, WSDOT, Senior Planner
Maxwell Nelson, WSDOT, Transportation Planning Specialist

Guests: Peter Morgan, County Health Issues Advisory Group
Elana Mainer, County Health Issues Advisory Group

Call to Order

Chairman Ing-Moody called the meeting to order at 4:39 pm.

Welcome/Role Call

Chairman Ing-Moody welcomed everyone to the meeting; role call was taken.

Approval of the Agenda

Additions: None

Deletions: None

Minutes

Motion:

Council Member Branch moved to approve the June 8, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ranzau and passed unanimously.

Okanogan County of Government

July 13, 2020

Location: 303 2nd Ave S, Suite A, Okanogan, WA 98840 (TranGO Office)

Update: Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Thomson reported that approximately \$4,600 of the \$20,000 Administrative budget and \$8,129 of the \$50,000 Project budget had been expended to date. WSDOT Senior Planner Mazur stated that they will be paying close attention to budgets to make sure that all funds allocated are on track to be spent by the end of the biennium.

Update: Secretary Report

Secretary Scalf reported that she has been in contact with Tina Rae from WSDOT regarding the OCOG Certifications and Assurances reports. Scalf stated that she had received conflicting information regarding whether or not OCOG had to file this paperwork. It was finally determined that OCOG was required to report; Chairman Ing-Moody suggested it be discussed at the next Executive Board Meeting.

Update: Okanogan County Report

Council Member Branch reported the Commissioners intend to apply CARES Act funds to the Health Department, the Courts, and Economic Development. He stated he was concerned about the deadline being in October to spend the funds and hopes they can get an extension.

Council Member Branch reported that as of July 3, 2020 the Commissioners implemented a county-wide burn ban.

Update: Washington State Department of Transportation

WSDOT Planner Maxwell reported on the following status of road work in Okanogan County:

- The chip seal on sections of SR20 and Highway 153 should be done very soon
- There is some work being done near Winthrop
- Striping on the highways will be happening over the next few weeks of July and should be complete in August.

Senior Planner Mazur reported on upcoming grants that are available and the application deadlines.

- Pedestrian and Bicycle Program grant applications are due on 7/13/20
- Safe Routes to School grant applications are due on 7/20/20

Update/Discussion: SCJ Alliance – Backroads Study – Maptionnaire Participation

Treasurer Thomson discussed the need for every OCOG member to take the time to log on to Maptionnaire to identify local roads in their areas. He reminded everyone that this is a time sensitive request so as not to compromise funding or the Backroads Study project. Senior Planner Mazur suggested that a short webinar through GoToMeeting be set up so members can get help learning how to use the website; Treasurer Thomson will contact SCJ Alliance about help with a webinar.

Okanogan County of Government

July 13, 2020

Location: 303 2nd Ave S, Suite A, Okanogan, WA 98840 (TranGO Office)

Coronavirus/COVID 19 Updates/Discussion:

Laurie Jones, Okanogan County Public Health Department, Community Health Director reported on the following:

- She stated that the NCW Hospital in Wenatchee is overloaded with Covid-19 cases
- There are currently 211 cases of COVID in Okanogan County
- Cases in Eastern Washington have doubled in the last 3 weeks
- Tests results are currently coming back in 2 – 7 days depending on the lab
- 26 cases are from staff and long-term care patients
- Patients are being diverted to NCW Hospital

Chairman Ing-Moody invited Ms. Jones to the Twisp Town Council meeting on 07/14/20 to participate in a conversation regarding opening the Wagner Memorial Swimming Pool.

Maurice Goodall, Okanogan County Department of Emergency Management Director reported on the following:

- The State has been great about getting supplies out to them for distribution to healthcare facilities, dentists, Economic Alliance, and some cities
- Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are configuring fire camps differently due to COVID
- There have been several small fires in Okanogan County; the firefighters are doing great getting them knocked down
- He hopes in the future the County and individual towns and cities can coordinate their burn bans to help alleviate public confusion
- He confirmed that Forest Service, DNR, and State Parks areas are not in the county's control.

Discussion: Okanogan County Public Health COVID Communications Strategy

Peter Morgan and Elana Mainer were present to explain a communications strategy which the Coalition for Health Improvement (CHI) has put together, whose Advisory Committee consists of Members Marlene Barker, Roni Holder-Diefenbach, Andy Hover, Grace Larsen, Lisa Lugo, Miguel Mejia, Stacey Okland, Kane Schimpf, Jennifer Schumacher, and Crisha Warnstaff.

Ms. Mainer explained that she obtained a \$20,000 grant for the Okanogan County Health Department for the project.

- The Advisory Group was tasked with answering several questions:
- Importance of the project, project goals, the role of the group, project activities and a timeline
- Containing the spread of COVID, understanding the disease, comply with public health guidelines, success requires accurate, reliable, accessible and current information
- Why is communication important

Okanogan County of Government

July 13, 2020

Location: 303 2nd Ave S, Suite A, Okanogan, WA 98840 (TranGO Office)

- Confidence and trust in public authorities, single source information, restore commerce while keeping people safe
- Support Okanogan Public Health, connect with communities
- How to best get the word out – webpage, social media, radio, newspaper advertising, message dissemination, farmworker outreach, stakeholder engagement

The timeline developed so far shows the launch of the website and the development and launch of a social media platform in July.

OCOG members were provided a tour of the website that will go live 07/15/20.

Several suggestions were offered by OCOG members:

- Council Member Levine suggested using school resources to share information
- Chairman Ing-Moody suggested giving presentation at Council and Chamber meetings.
- Council Member Branch suggested posting testimonials regarding the effects on family, patients, etc.
- It was reported that Family Health plans to start a Spanish language radio station; this may be an outlet

Discussion/Action: Support Letter for the Colville Tribe Public Safety Safe Routes to School Grant

Nicole Ahlem, Traffic Safety Coordinator for Colville Tribal Public Safety asked if OCOG would consider providing her a letter of support for a Safe Routes to School project grant application. It was discussed that the project would be in East Omak, the City of Omak is a partner in the project. Council member Barry Freel of Omak stated the city's support of the project which would run from the Community Center to the Elementary School on Highway 155; there are no other Okanogan County municipalities competing with this project.

Motion:

Council Member Branch moved to approve a letter of support be written for the Colville Tribe for their Safe Routes to School Project. request. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Anders and passed unanimously. Secretary Scalf will write the support letter.

Roundtable Updates

Each agency represented is given a few moments, if they wish, to report to the group on important issues going on in their jurisdictions.

Okanogan County of Government

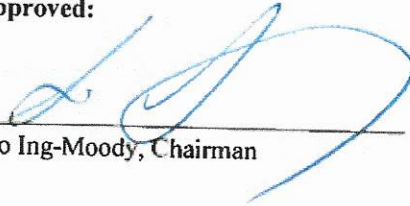
July 13, 2020

Location: 303 2nd Ave S, Suite A, Okanogan, WA 98840 (TranGO Office)

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Council, Chairman Ing-Moody adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Approved:



Soo Ing-Moody, Chairman

Attested:



Jackie Gleason, TranGO Clerk of the Board