

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 48
FRANKLIN COUNTY
Commissioners' Proceeding for October 3, 2007

The Honorable Board of Franklin County Commissioners met on the above date. Present for the meeting were Bob Koch, Chairman; Neva J. Corkrum, Chair Pro Tem; and Rick Miller, Member; Fred Bowen, County Administrator; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board.

OFFICE BUSINESS

Secretary Patricia Shults met with the Board. Present in audience: Carrie Huie-Pascua.

Consent Agenda

Motion - Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move we accept the consent agenda for October 3, 2007, as listed:

1. Approval of **joint Resolution 2007-532** in the matter of re-appointing Lois Powers and Jacqueline Van Wormer to the Benton-Franklin Counties' Substance Abuse Administrative Board for a three-year term each, expiring December 31, 2010. (Exhibit 1: Information sheet.)
2. Approval of **joint Resolution 2007-533** in the matter of re-appointing Ed Frost, Rod Bluechel and Shawna Boolen to the Benton-Franklin Counties' Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board for a three-year term each, expiring December 31, 2010. (Exhibit 2: Information sheet.)
3. Authorizing publication of Notice that the Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area will accept proposals from firms specializing in hydrogeological assessments with emphasis on identifying and mapping stratigraphy units for identified wells in the study area. (Exhibit 3)

Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor.

Law Library

Mrs. Corkrum attended a meeting of the Law Library Board yesterday. Since the move back to the Courthouse, some of the Law Library volumes are missing. The area that is used for the Law Library volumes in the Courthouse is being used by some people for other uses, which is causing some problems.

Regular Agenda: Superior Court budget transfer requests

1. Discuss approval of a Resolution for intra budget transfers totaling \$55,760 from the Non-Departmental Budget, Number 001-000-700, line item 519.90.10.0001

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(Contingency Reserve), to the Superior Court – C.E. Budget, Number 001-000-165 as follows:

- \$5,760 to line item 512.21.49.0001 (Court Costs-Attys & Int)
- \$50,000 to line item 512.21.41.0000 (Professional Services).

The Board decided these are nondebtable expenses.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move we approve inter budget transfers in the amount of \$55,760 from the Non-Departmental Budget #001-000-700, Contingency Reserve line item, to the Superior Court Budget #001-000-165. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-534. (Exhibit 4: Information sheets.)

Vouchers/Warrants

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move approval of vouchers for 10/3/2007 as listed for a total of \$234,868.21: Current Expense warrants 59277 through 59307 for \$207,514.12; Treasurer O&M warrants 181 through 182 for \$999.83; Jail Commissary warrants 2379 through 2385 for \$17,843.38; DOC Building warrants 45 through 46 for \$100.43; and Law Library warrants 1042 through 1047 for \$8,410.45. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 5)

HUMAN SERVICES (HS)

HS Director Carrie Huie-Pascua met with the Board for a department update. She gave the Board the September 2007 Report (Exhibit 6).

Developmental Disabilities Services

The **Parent Coalition** needs to function independently because it is a support group and advocacy for parents of children with developmental disabilities. It has been very active since it made this autonomous move. A parent is running the Parent Coalition so we were able to do a contract with her as an individual. She has really done an excellent job in conducting the support groups, getting the word out and building this Parent Coalition, and she has made some excellent connections to the state educating the legislators about developmental disabilities. We're very pleased with the direction the Parent Coalition has gone. There is a very small amount of funding for expenses for the

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person to run the support services. The HS facilities have been used for some of the meetings and trainings.

Benefits Coordinator: A staff person, one of our contractors in developmental disabilities, went through an intensive training regarding Social Security benefits. A lot of clients in all HS areas (mental health, substance abuse and developmental disabilities) are disabled and have a medical coupon, plus they get a small stipend amount from Social Security disability. People are very concerned about losing their benefits if they go above the amount allotted for work time and pay. The benefits coordinator will work with them about how they can be gainfully employed but not lose the benefits. It is important for the people to be able to work because it ties in with self-esteem, how they perceive themselves, etc. We're hoping to add this service to the mental health area also. The benefits coordinator would be available for all the services. This service will maximize the dollars we have, not just draw down on Federal and state dollars.

Housing Services

Affordable Housing Funds (2060): Robin Callow is the Housing Program Specialist. Benton County has decided not to use the Benton-Franklin Community Action Committee (CAC) to handle the Affordable Housing funds but do it in-house through the Human Services Department instead. Franklin County has a contract with the CAC to handle the program.

Homeless Grant Assistance Program (HGAP): The CAC wrote and was awarded the HGAP grant. The project will provide for housing of people leaving both Benton and Franklin County jails. The counties have a contract with the CAC to do the work. The Department of Human Services is monitoring the contract.

Housing: Housing funds are available which are now being used instead of very precious service dollars for housing needs. Ms. Huie-Pascua explained that housing funds are not to be used to diminish or compete with other programs. There is also a need to ensure equitable distribution of the funds to the various cities and the counties.

Ms. Huie-Pascua told the Board about the history of the ownership of the Jadwin House. The counties have no ownership of the Jadwin House. Cullum House is owned

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by the City of Richland and administered through the Richland Housing Authority. There should be no interruption whatsoever in service at the Cullum House due to the change in contractors. The ownership of the trailers in Pasco is by vehicle registration documents because they are considered mobile homes. The Human Services Department took possession of the vehicle registration documents on Friday from Sunderland. The trailers were purchased out of the Human Services budget so the registrations are appropriately back with Human Services now.

Mental Health Services

Ms. Huie-Pascua told the board briefly about the mental health services as shown on her report.

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineer Tim Fife and J-U-B engineers Rick Door and Spencer Montgomery met with the Board.

Resolution: Setting a date for Public Hearing establishing a new route for Commercial Avenue between Pasco-Kahlotus Road and Tank Farm Road

Mr. Door and Mr. Montgomery gave the Board a draft report and a one-page summary. They gave a report on the findings they have made from the study that has been completed. Mr. Fife asked for approval to set a public hearing date.

Motion – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I made a motion that we set a date to have a public hearing establishing a new route for Commercial Avenue between the Pasco-Kahlotus Road and Tank Farm Road. The date would be November 5, 2007, at 9:30 am. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 207-535.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Final Approval Subdivision 2006-06, Sullivan-Rowell Homes

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for final approval for Subdivision 2006-06 to subdivide approximately 10 acres into 17 single-family residential lots. The property is zoned Residential Suburban 20,000 and is located within the City of Pasco urban growth boundary. The applicant is Sullivan-Rowell Homes. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-536.

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Recessed at 10:17 am.

Reconvened at 10:28 am.

FRANKLIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sherel Webb and Anne Hayden from the Franklin County Historical Society met with the Board. Present in audience: Mike Killian, Connie Curiel, Linda Lafferty and Ryan Verhulp.

Request

Ms. Webb said we're officially asking about funds that may be available from House Bill 1386 which was passed in 2005. She learned about it at the Washington Museum Conference. Her understanding is the intent was to create a funding source for historical museums and other such things. She gave the Board a copy of a Historical Promotions Grant that is used in Clark County. Ms. Webb believes the cost of the roof repair work that was done recently at the museum could be said to be part of those funds.

The Clerk to the Board estimates a need for \$3000 for commissioner records per year. The Board reviewed some figures from the budget.

Ms. Hayden said part of our purpose is to ask how the money would be accessed and if it is available. Mr. Koch said Franklin County does not receive enough to justify a grant process. He would expect that we would work on a case-by-case basis. If you have a need, come talk to us. We would also work with the Clerk to the Board.

Ms. Hayden said you've been very generous and very kind to us and we appreciate it. Mrs. Corkrum said your request would have to be related to historical preservation. Ms. Webb told about one part of the museum she would like to see upgraded.

Mrs. Corkrum said she thinks we need to research it a little more. The RCW is broad in its scope. She said you bring up a good point, that it was deemed for historical societies, too. Until now, she had assumed this fund was strictly for preservation of county commissioner records. Ms. Webb said we have no urgent need at this time.

Mrs. Corkrum said we might have to write a policy.

Mrs. Corkrum thanked the Historical Society for their work on the Courthouse rededication.

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Longevity of lease

Ms. Webb said we thought we had an opportunity to purchase some property adjacent to the museum. However, it fell through. We wanted to be assured that we could continue our relationship into the future so if we were to purchase the property, we would be neighbors. The addendum to the current lease expires May 31, 2018. Not having to pay a monthly rent on the building is an asset to us that we can present in grant proposals. The question about the legality of a long-term lease was brought up several months ago. She asked if the county would give the Historical Society and museum a letter of intent that describes our relationship in the past and that we've enjoyed a good, supportive relationship in the past. She believes that may satisfy grant reviewers. We do not have a current need but the needs sometimes come up quickly.

Mr. Koch asked Mr. Verhulp for guidance. Mr. Verhulp said his conclusion is the longest the county would have authority to lease that property would be 35 years. If you want to extend the current lease in place to a 35-year term, he thinks you would have to go through the same procedures for normally letting a lease so the lease would have to be reopened with an application, published notice, and a hearing that you have the intent to extend the lease or re-lease it. He said 35 years seems to be the maximum for counties to lease property except for airports, which can be a longer lease.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if the property could be sold to them for \$1. Mr. Verhulp said no, if you chose to sell this property it would revert back to the City of Pasco per the deed. It is a restricted deed. Mr. Verhulp said the deed includes a clause that you would have the right to convey the property via a lease but if you were to pursue a sale, it would automatically revert back to the original owner, the City of Pasco.

Mr. Koch asked the museum representatives if you would be interested in owning the property. Ms. Hayden said we would have to discuss that with our board. Ms. Webb said the county is a wonderful landlord.

Mrs. Corkrum said maybe just a letter would suffice. Ms. Hayden said a good faith letter. Ms. Webb said the letter could refer to the deed. Mr. Verhulp read a

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statement from the deed that imposes a restriction on the county. Ms. Webb said she thinks a letter that would be more than adequate.

Thank you

Ms. Webb expressed appreciation on behalf of herself and the Historical Society for all that has been done this summer by staff workers and for their pleasantness.

PROSECUTOR

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp met with the Board.

Litigation Costs

The county has begun incurring quite a few costs for the Lovejoy litigation. Prosecutor Steve Lowe wants to make sure they are properly paid for out of the correct budget. Mr. Lowe's recommendation is either to forward the bills to the Risk Pool and have the Risk Pool pay them and then take them directly out of the county's deductible or forward them to the Commissioners for approval. The Board asked that the bills be forwarded to the Risk Pool.

Claim for Damages

Mark Schwartz has submitted estimates resulting from his claim for damages. The lowest estimate is \$748.02. This was the result of a Franklin County Horticultural and Pest Board employee backing into Mr. Schwartz's vehicle in the Yoke's parking lot on Road 68. Mr. Verhulp said based on the facts, the county is negligent. He and the Risk Pool have reviewed the estimate. The estimate seems to be valid. He would recommend approval of the claim for \$748.02.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if the Pest Board is under our insurance. Mr. Verhulp said they are. She asked should they be? Mr. Verhulp said that is of issue. He has talked to the Risk Pool who told him most counties insure all their boards and their boards' employees unless the board has a separate Federal tax ID number. The Pest Board does not have their own insurance. Mrs. Corkrum said the county could pay it upfront and bill the Pest Board. Mr. Verhulp said the Mosquito Control Board has opted to purchase their own insurance.

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Motion – Mr. Miller: I move that we approve Claim for Damages for the vehicle owned by Mark Raymond Schwartz which was struck by a Franklin County vehicle being driven by James W. Lane of the Pest Board on August 14, 2007. The amount is \$748.02. We will bill the Pest Board for the expense. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-537.

Executive Session at 11:01 am regarding a claim for damages (potential litigation) expected to last five minutes based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

Open Session at 11:05 a.m.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move that we deny claim for damages from Denise Marlette Harker on August 28, 2007, alleging the county correctional staff pinched her wrist causing bleeding during the process of handcuffing her. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-538.

AUDITOR

Recording Supervisor Connie Curiel and Recording Deputy Linda Lafferty met with the Board. Also present: Mike Killian.

Microfilm

Ms. Curiel asked for approval to purchase a microfilm reader and scanner using funds from the Auditor's O&M budget. The Auditor's O&M Committee has reviewed and approved the request. There are funds in the account. In the past there have been two machines but Ms. Curiel feels only one will be needed now. The software is included.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval that we authorize the Auditor's Recording Department to purchase an MS6000 main unit digital reader and scanner to come out of the O&M Budget. It has been approved by the Auditor's O&M Committee for \$4815.32. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 7)

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board. Present in audience: County Clerk Mike Killian.

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Executive Session at 11:14 a.m. expected to last 10 minutes based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), review performance of public employee. Mr. Killian remained in the audience.

Open Session at 11:26 a.m. Chief Civil Deputy Ryan Verhulp joined the audience.

Executive Session at 11:26 a.m. regarding real estate acquisition or site selection expected to last 10 minutes based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(b).

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp met with the Board.

Denial of Claim

Motion – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that we deny the claim for damages for Melissa Spain claim filed by her attorney Robert J. Thompson. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-539.

COUNTY CLERK

County Clerk Mike Killian met with the Board.

Invoice for storage

Mr. Killian said he is not sure why an invoice for storage of records came to the commissioners. He has money in his budget to pay for it at this time. He will come back later to the Commissioners with a request to fund it from another budget.

Mr. Killian told the Board that he has located a storage facility in Pasco that charges \$50 per year for 300 boxes. The facility has bar coding and a halon fire protection system.

Mr. Killian has sent some other boxes for imaging. If his imaging system gets certified by the Secretary of State, he can destroy the boxes that are being stored. The certification process is a long one.

Law Library

Mrs. Corkrum told Mr. Killian about the missing books in the Law Library. Mr. Killian's understanding is the law books were taken to an area that is now occupied by Work Release for storage before the Courthouse restoration work was done.

Mrs. Corkrum asked Mr. Killian about the use of the area where the Law Library is located. Mr. Killian said the Court Administrator's office handles the area but since

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they are not physically located here, the Clerk's Office is often asked for help when the area is needed. He said the Court and Court Facilitator use it once a week if needed. Mrs. Corkrum asked if the Court Facilitator could use the desk outside the Clerk's office instead. Mr. Killian said that desk is being used by the public instead.

VOUCHERS/WARRANTS

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move for approval of Franklin County Road Fund payroll for \$69,465.00 and Motor Vehicle Fund payroll for \$10,621.72. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor.

Adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until October 5, 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chairman

Chairman Pro Tem

Member

Attest:

Clerk to the Board

Approved and signed October 8, 2007.