

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 48  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for October 15, 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.

Consent Agenda

**Motion** - Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move that we accept the consent agenda as listed for October 15, 2007:

1. Approval of **Resolution 2007-556** authorizing the Chairman to sign the Minolta Copier Maintenance Contract renewal between Abadan and Franklin County Corrections for the copier located in Administration, for model number D13510F, serial number 31700595, for a period of twelve months commencing November 21, 2007, for a monthly fee of \$28.71 for 2,000 copies, plus applicable copy overages at a cost of \$.0144, to be paid from the Current Expense Sheriff's – Detention/Correction Budget, Number 001-000-540, line item 523.20.31.0000 (Office & Operating Supplies).
2. Approval of **Resolution 2007-557** authorizing the Chairman to sign the Minolta Copier Maintenance Contract renewal between Abadan and Franklin County Corrections for the copier located in the Booking area, for model number D13010F, serial number 31701365, for a period of twelve months commencing November 21, 2007, for a monthly fee of \$28.07 for 2,000 copies, plus applicable copy overages at a cost of \$.01408, to be paid from the Current Expense Sheriff's – Detention/Correction Budget, Number 001-000-540, line item 523.20.31.0000 (Office & Operating Supplies).
3. Approval of **Resolution 2007-558** authorizing salvage and destruction of chairs as identified on the *Franklin County Storage – Salvage* forms received from the Prosecutor's Office, in conjunction with RCW 36.32.210 (inventory):
  - Destroy four chairs located in the file room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.
  - Salvage 1 blue office chair.
4. Approval of **Resolution 2007-559** amending Franklin County Resolution 2007-300, moving the 2008 Franklin County budget workshop beginning date to October 26, 2007.

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5. Approval of **joint Resolution 2007-560** in the matter of the request for signature from the Boards of Benton and Franklin County Commissioners on the Professional Services Agreement for legal representation of indigent individuals in Benton and Franklin Counties Superior Court, Juvenile Division, between the Juvenile Justice Center and Mia Mendoza, effective through December 31, 2009. (Exhibit 1: Information sheet.)
6. Approval of **Resolution 2007-561** for the Software License Agreement and Software Maintenance Agreement between Aptitude Solutions, Inc., and Franklin County and authorizing the Chairman to sign the Special Terms and Conditions and initial the Software Supplement and AiINDEX Software Supplement on behalf of the Board.
7. Approval of **joint Resolution 2007-562** in the matter of the request for signature from the Boards of Benton and Franklin County Commissioners on the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Columbia Basin College and Benton/Franklin Regional Law Library Memorandum of Understanding.

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

#### **HUMAN SERVICES (HS)**

HS Director Carrie Huie-Pascua and Robin Callow, Housing Program Specialist, met with the Board.

#### Housing Program

Ms. Callow gave the Board members a copy of a book she helped prepare for Pierce County called "Strategies for Housing Affordability in Pierce County, Washington." Ms. Huie-Pascua said it is an example of Ms. Callow's good work.

Ms. Huie-Pascua and Ms. Callow gave the Board an overview and update of what the Human Services Department is doing regarding housing.

Ms. Callow gave the Board a printed overview of the housing program (Exhibit 2) which lays out some of the reasons why a housing program at the county level is important and some of the obligations that the counties fulfill in having a housing program. She said Human Services keeps an eye open towards helping special needs populations. The housing work encompasses everything up to and including the first-time home buyer.

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Ms. Callow gave the Board a Housing Program Update sheet dated October 10, 2007, which shows the work that has been done since the inception of the housing program on July 25, 2007 (Exhibit 3). Much of the housing work helps those who are mentally ill. Ms. Callow spends a lot of time listening to members of the community and their concerns.

Ms. Huie-Pascua said the reason we brought in a housing program specialist was because there was a big gap in housing options that were being served out of Human Services, which includes people with mental illness, substance abuse and/or developmental disabilities. There were very few housing options for those individuals. We recognize it as an issue. Developing the capacity to have safe, affordable housing for our clientele was something we really wanted to be able to focus on. The whole concept of affordable housing applies to every citizen in the county.

Mr. Koch asked if there are revenues available to acquire more housing. Ms. Callow said the locally generated revenue sources are from legislative bills numbered 1359, 2163 and 2060. She said the successful housing formula is the creation and preservation of affordable housing. She described work that occurs on these projects including working with partners to maintain current housing.

On the state level, there are numerous housing opportunities through CTED that are geared more and more towards county participation. Non-profit providers, cities, counties and the state participate.

Ms. Huie-Pascua said the Shelter-Plus Care program is essentially like a rental assistance for persons with mental health needs. The grant was just renewed.

Mrs. Corkrum asked have you taken into consideration an inventory of what we have now and what we need? Ms. Callow said yes. The Planning Departments were required by CTED to come up with the number of units.

In response to a question by Mr. Koch, Ms. Callow said bills 2163 and 1359 provide the ability to give operations and maintenance grants. In any situation where the counties own the property, they can apply to the committee that is going to be in charge of the funds and get an operations and maintenance grant. The funds also allow for grants

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and loans to shelters and to youth housing. Some of the youth housing affects youth coming out of foster care.

The counties can keep 90% of the funds collected under bill 1359, which is a significant increase. The counties keep only 60% of the funds under bills 2163 and 2060.

Bill 2060 is the affordable housing fund. Bills 2163 and 1359 are homeless housing funds.

Ms. Huie-Pascua said the HGAP which funds housing for inmates that are being released from the county jail is administered by the Community Action Committee (CAC) on a three-year pilot program that will serve only 60 people. The Human Services Department is monitoring that program. She told the Board about some issues that were discussed at an Offender Reentry Symposium she attended last week.

### **TRAC**

TRAC Manager Troy Woody met with the Board.

#### Pavilion Project

The Pavilion is currently used as an ice rink seven months of the year. The local youth hockey association has been asking for years to convert the rink to year-round use as an ice rink. Now that all the horse stalls are moved outside, there are only two or three groups per year that use the Pavilion other than for ice and they are not income-producing. Mr. Woody told the Board about the work that would be needed to make the ice rink permanent. He said after review of the basic figures, preliminarily it is worth considering. Some final budget numbers need to be determined. In addition to the initial work, other work will be needed. The backer boards will need to be replaced soon at a cost of about \$100,000. Parking lot improvements would have to be made including installation of parking lot lights and separating the parking lot to allow for some permanent parking spaces for the Pavilion. The lights would be changed to be more energy-efficient. A full-time person would be added to take care of the rink. Half the year we do that anyway. Three full-time people with benefits would need to be added rather than using part-time staff. Mr. Woody estimates there would be a net income of \$150,000 in year two.

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The Cimco company said there is a heat exchanger underneath the ice. Right now there are two 25-horsepower motors that currently run 24/7 but with the installation of some software, the motors can run less than half that time. The building will have to be insulated because of summer use, which would help with utility bills in the wintertime.

Small Claims Lawsuit

Mr. Woody told the Board about a small claims lawsuit against TRAC that will be heard in District Court.

Surplus Property

Mr. Woody is preparing to send some items to Booker Auction. He will prepare a resolution to surplus the property. The lights from the Expo Hall and a rock picker will go to auction. The lights from the arena will go to a metal scrap yard where they are worth about \$6.50 each.

**Recessed** at 10:12 a.m.

**Reconvened** at 10:16 a.m.

**HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)**

HR Director Rosie H. Rumsey met with the Board.

Chief Deputy Treasurer Position

Mrs. Corkrum told Mr. Koch that she feels she should abstain from a vote because of being listed as a reference on the job application, although she was not aware she was listed. She was not even aware the applicant had applied for the position.

Mr. Miller expressed his concerns about the applicant's experience equaling the schooling that is required by the job description. He asked questions about how the Classification Review Committee functions and the Commissioners' responsibilities. Mr. Bowen and Ms. Rumsey explained that an elected official has the ability to hire whoever they want to for a position but do not have the authority to place the person they hire at a higher step than the beginning Step 1. The Commissioners have the authority to decide at which step an employee will be placed, following review and a recommendation by the Classification Review Committee.

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Mr. Miller asked if there is a county policy on nepotism. Ms. Rumsey said there is. Mrs. Corkrum said you can't directly supervise a relative.

Tim Fife, Jeanie Nelson, Jim and Sally Reed, Richard Davis and Jim Rabideau joined the audience.

After discussion, Mr. Miller said he will not support placement at Step 4. Mrs. Corkrum said she will reconsider her position on whether to remove herself from a decision. She said we have the recommendation of the Classification Committee with two members of it being elected officials.

At Mr. Miller's request, Mr. Bowen explained what happens when the Classification Review Committee meets.

Ms. Rumsey said the commissioners have approved this position already. Two full-time equivalent positions will be replaced due to two retirements but the job descriptions have been redone.

Mr. Koch said he would have to agree with the committee's recommendation.  
**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval of the Salary Reclassification Review Committee as listed, chief deputy treasurer Grade 54 Step 4. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 4: Classification Review Committee's recommendation.)

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Engineer Tim Fife met with the Board. Present in audience: Jeanie Nelson, Jim and Sally Reed, Richard Davis and Jim Rabideau.

#### Vouchers

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion to approve the vouchers as listed: County Road Fund for \$33,945.34; MV & PW Equipment Fund for \$34,589.80; Solid Waste Fund for \$17,005.11; and Solid Waste Fund – Litter for \$442.43. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 5)

#### Tour of R170 and Juniper Dunes areas

There was discussion about preparing for the tour of the R170 and Juniper Dunes areas on November 15, either by helicopter or airplane.

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**Executive Session** at 10:47 am for 10 minutes based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), real estate acquisition or site selection. The people in the audience left the room.

**Open Session** at 10:54 am.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board.

Public Hearing: To take testimony for and against increasing the revenue and expenditure bottom lines of the 2007 Miscellaneous Budget, TRAC Operations Fund Budget #405-000-001, by \$200,000, increasing the revenue and expenditure bottom lines from \$2,433,762 to \$2,633,762, due to supplements needed for the operation and maintenance of TRAC.

Public Hearing convened at 10:56 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. Present in audience: Jeanie Nelson, Jim and Sally Reed, Richard Davis, Jim Rabideau, Steve Prince and John Scheer.

Mr. Bowen said TRAC is having a shortfall so we have to increase the budget. We anticipate the shortfall to be about \$160,000, with \$80,000 for the city and \$80,000 for the county, but due to past experience that we've had we didn't want to go into December and then have to have another public hearing. We're keeping very close track of it. Hopefully TRAC won't exceed the \$200,000.

Mr. Koch asked three times if anyone in the audience is opposed to this resolution to increase the TRAC bottom line. There was no response.

Mr. Koch asked three times if anyone is in favor. There was no response.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve Franklin County Resolution #2007-563 to increase the revenue and expenditure bottom lines of the 2007 Miscellaneous TRAC Operations Fund #405 by \$200,000. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Mr. Bowen said the funds will be received from the car rental tax fund. Last month alone the county received more than \$30,000 in that fund.

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Public Hearing: To take testimony for and against increasing the revenue and expenditure bottom lines of the 2007 Miscellaneous Budget, Veteran's Assistance Fund #187-000-001 by \$10,000, increasing the revenue and expenditure bottom lines from \$41,000 to \$51,000, due to additional funding needed.

Public Hearing convened at 11:00 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. Present in audience: Jeanie Nelson, Jim and Sally Reed, Richard Davis, Jim Rabideau, Steve Prince and John Scheer.

Mr. Koch asked three times if anyone in the audience would like to oppose the revenue increase. There was no response.

Mr. Koch asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak in favor.

Jim Reed with American Legion Post 34, service officer and administrator of Franklin County's program, spoke in favor. He said the increase that we are asking for will help ensure funding will be available for returning veterans and the veterans we currently assist. I would also like to thank the Franklin County Commissioners for their compassion and the awareness of needs of returning veterans. Thank you.

Mr. Koch asked if anyone else would like to speak in favor.

Jeanie Nelson is a veteran of Franklin County. She gave the Board some graphs from 2004 from the County Veterans Coalition website. It shows that in 2004 nearly \$3 million was brought into Franklin County in compensation and pension dollars sent by the VA and also nearly \$3 million in medical. This was 2004 so this amount has increased considerably since then. I just wanted to give you an idea of how much disabled veterans and the veterans population brings in to Franklin County.

Mr. Koch asked if anyone else would like to speak in favor.

Steve Prince spoke in favor. He is a veteran service director with Vietnam Veterans of America. He is the president of the local Vietnam Veterans of America and also president of the Benton-Franklin County Veterans Coalition which encompasses nine different organizations. I want to reiterate what Jeanie said. I file anywhere from 120 to 180 claims a month in this area. For the month of May, which is the latest records we

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have, I got my veterans over \$1,800,000 that are benefits to veterans in this area. The normal population of veterans in the U.S. decreases but in Washington state it increases due to the number of military bases in the state. We have more veterans coming into the area returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. More veterans are coming back who are disabled. More need public assistance. Please take this into consideration next time you figure out the budget. We have a lot of good people, not only the vets but their families.

Mr. Koch asked if the Board has any more questions.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move that we pass the increase in the expenditure bottom line of 2007 Miscellaneous Expense Veterans Assistance Fund #187-000-001 by \$10,000 from \$41,000 to \$51,000 and authorize a transfer (warrant) of \$10,000 from the Current Expense Non-Departmental Budget #001-000-700, line item 519.90.10.0100, to the 2007 Miscellaneous Veterans Assistance Fund #187-000-001. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-564.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (EM)**

EM Director John Scheer met with the Board.

**Insurance**

Mr. Scheer said EM has always mimicked and copied the county's insurance as well as the VEBA program. The county is changing insurance so EM is trying to follow. WCIF informed us last week that we were too small of an entity for them to renew us or accept us and told us we would need to fall underneath Franklin County if the Commissioners would authorize that. The county handles the EM payroll. Mrs. Corkrum asked if the EM board had any problems with the request. Mr. Scheer said we don't meet until Thursday but in the past everything has followed right along.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: Mr. Chairman, I move we approve Franklin County Resolution #2007-565 authorizing insurance benefits through Washington Counties Insurance Fund and Washington Counties Insurance Pool for Franklin County Emergency Management personnel. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR (continuing)**

**Courthouse Security Project**

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The security administrator position needs to be a nonunion position. Mr. Bowen has talked with Sheriff Lathim about the position. The sheriff is aware that it will be a collaborative position with all departments involved.

Mrs. Corkrum would like some kind of interlocal agreement between our office and the sheriff's office to put the agreement in writing. She doesn't know how we would do that. She wants to have some kind of assurance from the sheriff's office that not only does that person have to please the sheriff but also the commissioners. Mr. Koch said that would include having the commissioners be involved in hiring. Mr. Bowen said the Sheriff is agreeable to that. This person will work for the county, not just the sheriff's department. Mr. Bowen will draft an agreement, perhaps a memorandum of understanding.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if the commissioned officer could roam the courtrooms on court days. Mr. Bowen said yes. The person will be a working administrator.

Interlocal Agreement with Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF)

Human Services Director Rosie H. Rumsey joined the meeting.

The agreement was received Thursday with a request to have it returned on Friday. That was impossible. It has not been reviewed by the Prosecutor's Office. The Board held a conference call with insurance representatives. The insurance representatives said they only need the Disclosure Form today, which Ms. Rumsey will provide to them.

Ms. Rumsey left the meeting.

Handrails for Stairs

The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation has approved adding the handrail to the stairs.

Signage

Mrs. Corkrum told Mr. Bowen that the Law Library Committee has asked that a sign to be placed in the courthouse showing "Satellite Law Library."

Mr. Bowen asked the Board to choose the plaque design on which signs will be mounted outside the Courthouse. A directory will also be put in place outside the

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Courthouse and Public Safety Building. No signs will be placed on the Courthouse itself. The Board chose the eagle design unless the price difference is great. Mr. Bowen said the aluminum signs cost on average \$55 each while the bronze signs cost on average \$200 each.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Final Approval Short Plat SP 2007-19, Voss Farms Ltd., Partnership

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve the final approval for Short Plat 2007-19 for Voss Farms LTD. Partnership. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-566.

Minutes

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Commissioners Proceedings for October 8 and October 10. Second by Mr. Miller. 2:0 vote in favor.

**Adjourned** at 11:49 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until October 22, 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Chairman

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Chairman Pro Tem

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Member

Attest:

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Clerk to the Board

Approved and signed October 22, 2007.