

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for April 30, 2008

The Honorable Board of Franklin County Commissioners met on the above date. Present for the meeting were Bob Koch, Chairman; Rick Miller, Chair Pro Tem; and Fred Bowen, County Administrator; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board. Neva J. Corkrum, Member, was absent attending the Washington Counties Risk Pool Management / Supervisor training at the TRAC Facility in Pasco.

**OFFICE BUSINESS**

Secretary Patricia Shults met with the Board.

Vouchers

**Motion** - Mr. Miller: I move for approval of the vouchers as listed for April 30, 2008: Current Expense warrants 63055 through 63060 for \$1,764.89; Growth Management warrant 212 for \$27.44; DOC Building Inspection warrant 70 for \$2.88; Sheriff's Narcotic Trust warrant 256 for \$36.85; Jail Commissary warrant 2457 for \$135.37; Dare Fund Sheriff warrant 13 for \$54.80; Current Expense warrants 63061 through 63120 for \$267,904.80; Current Expense warrants 63121 through 63148 for \$13,177.81; Jail Commissary warrants 2458 through 2464 for \$8,604.78; and Law Library warrants 1073 through 1074 for \$878.88; for a total of \$292,588.50. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 1)

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move for approval of vouchers and warrants: Public Works Department payroll for pay period ending 5/1/08 in the amount of \$67,313.95 and the Motor Vehicle Fund payroll for pay period ending 5/1/08 in the amount of \$11,013.42. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move for approval of Salary Clearing payroll vouchers as listed: Salary Clearing Payroll warrants 45560 through 45674 for \$197,076.25; warrants 45675 through 45686 for \$231,493.75; and Direct Deposit for \$298,785.65; for a total amount of \$727,355.65. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

The cover sheet also lists the following amounts:

Emergency Management Payroll warrants 9429 through 9439 for \$3651.93; warrants 9440 through 9449 for \$5018.33; and Direct Deposit for \$7471.07; for a total amount of \$16,141.33; and

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Irrigation Payroll warrants 13444 through 13457 for \$9263.12; and warrants 13458 through 13465 for \$4803.27; for a total amount of \$14,066.39. (Exhibit 2)

Traffic Coalition

Mr. Koch said he has been asked if the Traffic Coalition can use the courthouse steps and the front area of the courthouse when they receive a federal grant on May 20 at 4 pm. It is expected to be a large press event with many law enforcement people involved. Mr. Miller said he thinks it's a good use for the building. Mr. Koch said he feels the same way, that it can showcase the courthouse. Mr. Bowen will work with Security Director Rick Rochleau to handle the logistics.

**EXTENSION OFFICE**

Extension Director Kay Hendrickson met with the Board.

Food \$ense Program

Ms. Hendrickson said a recent audit showed that Franklin County needs to have signed documentation showing Franklin County's participation. A resolution has been prepared that authorizes Ms. Hendrickson to sign time cards and other related payroll items for the program, backdated to October 1, 2007, for this fiscal year. Mr. Koch asked if the backdating is a problem. Ms. Hendrickson said no, she asked that question specifically and was told the backdating is appropriate.

Ms. Hendrickson said during the next fiscal year beginning July 1, Pasco School District will also be involved. Currently the program is in every third grade classroom in north Franklin County. We will hire either one or two additional staff. No additional office space is needed.

A verification report also needs to be submitted quarterly.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I'll make the motion that we accept the formal authorization for the Director of Franklin County Washington State University (WSU) Extension Office to sign quarterly verification forms for the WSU Food \$ense Program effective October 1, 2007. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-182.

Vehicle to transport harvester

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Because of Extension Agent Phil Petersen's reassignment from Benton-Franklin County to Grant County, the immediate need for a pickup is taken care of. Ms. Hendrickson will be asking for a pickup in the next budget year. Mr. Koch said he expects a surplus vehicle will be available sometime before then. Ms. Hendrickson hopes to have the position filled by the beginning of September, although a vehicle probably won't be needed until about March 2009.

Mr. Koch asked Ms. Hendrickson to talk to Public Works Shop Superintendent Darrel Farnsworth so he is aware of the need for a vehicle.

**PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson and Planner Jeremy Underwood met with the Board.

Public Hearing: Short Plat SP 2008-05 for applicant Joyce Paine to short plat approximately 152.06 acres into two lots. As proposed, Lot #1 is approximately 2.40 acres in size and Lot #2 is approximately 146.66 acres in size. The property is located in the Agriculture Production 20 (AP-20) Zoning District.

Public Hearing convened at 9:30 am. Present: Commissioners Koch and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson; Planner Jeremy Underwood; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. Present in audience: Shawn Sant and Joyce Paine.

Mr. Underwood reviewed the information on the Action Summary (Exhibit 3). The staff recommends approval with seven findings of fact and six conditions of approval.

Mr. MacPherson showed a copy of the aerial photograph with parcel overlay on the screen. Since the initial application, there has been a small modification in the boundary of Lot #1 making it 2.55 acres and making Lot #2 a bit smaller. This change is referenced in one of the conditions of approval. We received that change early enough to notify agencies and get comments from them. Lot #1 has an existing house and another building. He reviewed the conditions of approval.

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Mr. Koch asked three times if anyone in the audience would like to speak for the short plat. There was no response.

Mr. Koch asked if anyone would like to speak against the short plat. There was no response.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we grant preliminary approval of Short Plat 2008-05 subject to the seven findings of fact and six conditions of approval. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-183.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board. Present in audience: Shawn Sant.

General Discussion: Property Purchase / Proposed Jail Expansion / Property Sale

Mr. Bowen told the Board that a property owner has asked if the county would be interested in purchasing property at 202 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, across the street from the Franklin County Annex. The building is about 4800 square feet and is in good shape. The Assessor's Office has appraised the property at about \$192,000. It has a 25-car parking lot. Mr. Bowen said the reason he looked at the property is because the county is considering remodeling the Annex basement to accommodate the classes at WSU Extension at a rough cost estimate of \$100,000. He said Extension Agent Kay Hendrickson told him the building would accommodate her needs for office space, using the existing Annex area for classrooms. Ms. Hendrickson told him she anticipates the number of class members to drop from 60 to about 25 in the next four years.

Another building that is connected to the same property is also for sale, consisting of about 7800 square feet. It has been vacant for some time. Mr. Bowen said Child Support also needs additional space.

For the two buildings, there is public parking on one side and private parking on the other side.

Mr. Bowen asked if the Board wants him to look into it further.

Mr. Koch said we have a definite need. Mr. Miller said it may be a good idea. He asked if we expand the jail without a tax, would we have enough money? Mr. Bowen

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said he doesn't know how the jail expansion can be done without the tax. Mr. Koch agreed. Mr. Bowen said there are funds available in the budget to buy the building today.

Mr. Bowen said we talked about saving the old Health Department building for temporary office space and temporary placement of prisoners while a new jail area is built. He is obtaining information about whether it can be done and what upgrades would be necessary. Another option is to move the Work Release people back into the jail while a new building is built. He questions why would we want to wait another year to put in parking if we can move the Work Release people into the existing jail instead.

Mr. Miller said he thinks the best thing to do would be to get the parking done. Mr. Miller, Mr. Koch and Mr. Bowen all agree the jail expansion is needed.

Mr. Bowen said if we can put people back in the jail, then why hang onto the Health District building? Mr. Koch and Mr. Miller agreed. Mr. Bowen said we still have space needs for the Prosecutor's Office and WSU extension. He thinks it makes more sense to purchase a building than to renovate the basement of the Annex.

The Board **gave approval** for Mr. Bowen to move forward with negotiations to purchase the buildings and to remove the old Health District building and put in a parking lot.

Mr. Bowen expects to receive paperwork in the next few days from the Pasco School District regarding selling the county's Road 48 soccer field. If the property is sold, the county would have more money available for the projects.

Mr. Koch said as long as we have Work Release figured out, he is willing to have the work move forward on removal of the old Health District building and to put in a parking lot in its place.

Mr. Koch asked if the asbestos abatement is started. Mr. Bowen said yes, the asbestos abatement work is being done.

Mr. Koch asked if there is any salvage value. Mr. Bowen said no.

The Board **gave consensus approval** to build a parking lot. Mr. Koch and Mr. Miller asked Mr. Bowen to look at both sides of the building that is for sale.

Mr. Koch asked Mr. Bowen to also look at another building on the same lot.

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Drop Boxes

Mr. Koch wants to have something figured out for drop boxes, whether for only Licensing or the Treasurer's office or both.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

County resident Shawn Sant met with the Board.

Commissioners Redistricting

Mr. Sant has requested copies of minutes from prior commissioners proceedings dating back to as early as January 2006. He has received copies of minutes through April 14, 2008. He reviewed some details from the minutes regarding commissioner district alignment. He said we continue to see a trend of explosive growth that needs to be accommodated, both in the Pasco area and due to the building of the prison in Connell.

Mr. Sant asked the Board to adopt a motion setting this matter for a public hearing. Mr. Koch asked, "A public hearing on what map?" Mr. Sant said, "All the maps. Let's discuss all the maps that have been proposed." He said we could show the proposals on a slide show and let everybody give their input. He understands there have been four drafts. There was discussion.

Mr. Koch said he was ready to agree in July 2007 to that map but it was not agreed upon by my fellow commissioner. That was followed by the other three drafts. There was further discussion.

Mr. Koch said I'm not going to do anything until we have a full board.

Mr. Sant asked could we set a public hearing date and discussion two weeks out? Mr. Koch said we'll still have time by doing it on May 12, advertised on May 15, and hearing on May 28.

In response to Mr. Sant's request to set the public hearing for May 12, Mr. Koch said he will not set a public hearing without a full board is present.

Mr. Sant said he has not been able to find any statute that shows a requirement of setting the districts 30 days before a filing period. The Board members told him the auditor would have preferred 30 days but they also have not been able to find a statute showing a 30-day requirement.

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Mr. Sant again said he would like to put out for public notice that it will be discussed on May 12, making a motion today to set it for public hearing. He thinks the full board needs to be at the public hearing. Mr. Koch said I'm not interested in setting it now, not until we have a full board. He feels it is a full board decision.

Mr. Sant asked can we put this on the agenda to discuss on May 12? Mr. Koch and Mr. Miller both said yes.

**Adjourned** at 10:26 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until May 5, 2008.

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 May 12, 2008.