

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49
FRANKLIN COUNTY
Commissioners' Proceeding for May 14, 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 Neva J. Corkrum, Member; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board. Fred Bowen, County Administrator, was absent attending a labor relations seminar in Yakima, Washington.

COYOTE RIDGE PRISON IMPACTS

Mr. Koch reported on a meeting he attended in Connell regarding the impacts to the county from the Coyote Ridge prison. Another bill for \$31,000 will be forthcoming from the consultant company. The county's share is 40%. That should wrap it up to the end of the year. Judge Robert Swisher has been tireless in his efforts for the county and the City of Connell.

OFFICE BUSINESS

Secretary Patricia Shults met with the Board.

Consent Agenda

Motion - Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of the consent agenda for May 14, 2008, as follows:

1. Approval of **joint Resolution 2008-192** in the matter of the request for signature from the Board of Benton County and Franklin County Commissioners on the Interagency Agreement (IAA08369) between Benton County, Franklin County, and the State of Washington Administrative Office of the Courts, for a term commencing April 1, 2008 and terminating on June 30, 2008, to provide funding for reduced or waived fee guardian ad litem (GAL) services. (Exhibit 1: Information sheet.)
2. Approval of **joint Resolution 2008-193** in the matter of appointing John Evans to the Mental Health Advisory Board, position 3, to represent Benton and Franklin Counties, for a term expiring December 31, 2009. (Exhibit 2: Information sheet.)
3. Approval of **Resolution 2008-194** in the matter of the request for signature from the Board of Franklin County Commissioners on the Interagency Agreement IAA08257 between Franklin County, Franklin County District Court, and the State of Washington Administrative Office of the Courts, effective January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2008, for reimbursing individual courts for costs related to court interpreter services for Limited English Proficient (LEP), deaf and hard of hearing persons.

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Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Erwen Trust Boat Launch

The Board attended the dedication of the Erwen Trust Boat Launch yesterday. County Engineer Tim Fife received a plaque for his work on the project. Valerie Moffatt also received recognition for her work as a volunteer for the county.

Vouchers/Warrants

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move for approval of payment of vouchers as listed: Current Expense warrants 63278 through 63321 for \$759.16; Current Expense warrants 63322 through 63377 for \$38,563.18; Current Expense warrants 63378 through 63385 for \$2,228.61; Auditor O&M warrant 497 for \$223.60; Courthouse Facilitator warrant 101 for \$600.00; Sheriff's Narcotic Trust warrant 257 for \$64.87; and Veteran's Assistance warrants 1414 through 1416 for \$3,060.00; for a total of \$45,499.42. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 3)

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of payroll for May 14, 2008, in the amount of \$536,852.11: Salary Clearing payroll warrants 45687 through 45782 for \$173,291.91; warrants 45783 through 45789 for \$70,642.11; and Direct Deposit for \$292,918.09. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

The cover sheet also includes the following amounts:

Emergency Management payroll warrants 9461 through 9467 for \$3305.34; warrants 9468 through 9471 for \$1564.96; and Direct Deposit for \$7817.66; for a total amount of \$12,687.96; and

Irrigation payroll warrants 13466 through 13481 for \$8608.04; and warrants 13482 through 13485 for \$1441.83; for a total amount of \$10,049.87. (Exhibit 4)

Out-of-State Travel Request

Jail Captain Rick Long and Jailer Arnold Boothe have requested approval of out-of-state travel to Salt Lake City, Utah, for prisoner transport.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 5)

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Interlocal Agreement between Lewis County and Franklin County

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move approval of the Interlocal Agreement between Lewis County and Franklin County for cooperative governmental purchasing. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-195.

Vouchers

Motion - Mrs. Corkrum: I move for County Road Fund payroll in the amount of \$69,240.68 and for Motor Vehicle Fund payroll in the amount of \$11,167.55. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Minutes

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Commissioner proceedings for April 23, 2008, and May 5, 2008. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineer Tim Fife and HDR Engineer Phil Merrell met with the Board.

R-170 Route Recommendation

Present in audience: Kim English and Bruce Wyatt.

Mr. Merrell gave the Board a Memorandum of Recommendation for the R170/Klamath Intersection route (Exhibit 6). He asked if the Board has any questions about the R170 design. Mr. Fife said there is no new information since the last presentation made to the Board.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if traffic coming from the south and getting into the left-turn lane will have to stop. Mr. Merrell said yes, if there is traffic. If there is not, they won't have to stop. Mrs. Corkrum asked about the right-of-way for traffic going up the hill. Mr. Merrell said one concern we had was truck traffic heading north and turning left has poor visibility to the right but trucks heading west and going up the hill have a full view. If they see someone turning there, they should be able to time their speed a little better so they can fit in. He said we don't anticipate it occurring very often. Mr. Koch said on most roads, most traffic merges from the right.

Mr. Merrell referred to the second page of his recommendation, the third bullet from the bottom, "The property impacts are acceptable to the landowner most affected."

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He attempted to talk with Scott English ahead of this meeting but was unable to do so. Just before meeting with the Board, he spoke with Kim English. Mr. Merrell said probably a more accurate version for the bullet point would be that Mr. English said, "I would not oppose it."

Kim English said her husband Scott English is not opposing the design. She said all he wanted to do is clarify that prior to this particular design when there was a design with a big swooping curve that started at the post and had a 50 mile-per-hour curve when we asked why can't you shorten it up, move it, or make it smaller, it was very hard at that time for them to visualize how it would work. Now it's a much more complicated corner in less space. She said her husband was concerned how all of a sudden it could fit in such a small space when prior to this it couldn't. Mrs. English said he wanted to make sure it did fit before we said yes, everything's fine, and all of a sudden we figure out it goes straight across the corner of our circle. We're not opposing anything other than it's concerning to him that it didn't fit, couldn't fit, wouldn't fit, and now there's more to the design than it was before.

Mr. Koch said some of those questions were brought up on the spur of the moment and, like so many of us, we say we can't do it, but after some research we realize we can. Mrs. English said she noticed how another area of the project fit after working on it. She said that was the only thing that he wanted to say before he gave his blessing on any of this was let's be realistic about it. Mrs. Corkrum said in addition, maybe it was a result of meeting with the landowners and trying to make it fit and not impact you any more than it had to. That was our goal. Mrs. English said I don't want you to say that Scott and I are saying absolutely no way. All we want is just reassurance that where the line is, the line is. We felt the original drawings were fairly rough.

Mrs. English said her husband also was wondering should this design be okay, and we say yes, what is the plan with our pump station? That pump station runs all of the circles on our farm. There has to be a little bit more to a plan. There is some major irrigation equipment that has to be moved. There are a few other things that we would like to clear up.

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Mr. Miller said he questioned where the pump station would be and how it would affect the circle. He asked Mr. Merrell to address the question.

Mr. Merrell and Mr. Fife told Mrs. English about the process that will occur after a basic design is adopted. Mr. Merrell said the normal process is to sit down with the landowner and irrigation district and ask where do you want it? He said we'll put it where you want it. Mrs. English said her husband Scott is not going to redesign the irrigation system. We want the irrigation system to function as it is now. If it needs to be moved, you can design it and pay for the move and do all of it and then it will function.

Mr. Fife said during right-of-way acquisition processes, we usually hire an irrigation company. He said the landowner can choose whichever company they want to do it. Mrs. English asked whose responsibility is it to make sure our irrigation runs? Mr. Fife said we prefer it be you rather than the county being an in-between. Mrs. English asked so you allow so much money based on a bid by the irrigation company? Mr. Fife said we typically hire an irrigation firm to come in and meet with you and find out what you have and what it will take to continue to function the way you've been doing it. You get to review it. That's part of the negotiation process.

Mrs. English asked about timing of the work. Mr. Fife said we can't do this project until there is a time in which it can be done. That's also part of the right-of-way process. Mr. Merrell said one option would be to see if we could accomplish this design work ahead of time so when the project gets funding, it can proceed. Mrs. English said there has to be irrigation when there's water available for the fields. Mr. Fife said it would have to be done after harvest or when you don't need the irrigation water running. Mr. Koch said I would expect some of the preliminary work could be done ahead of time.

Mrs. English said we don't have time to spend redesigning irrigation systems. Mr. Fife said we hire an irrigation firm and you can choose which one, whoever you're comfortable with.

Mrs. English talked about how the time factor affects her and her husband. She wants to make sure it impacts them the least amount possible. She said there is still a time factor involved. Mrs. Corkrum said we try to not impact the landowner any more

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than we have to and, of course, we know the crops are very important. Mrs. English said she understands but wants the Board to realize there has been considerable time and effort on the English's part, too, since the original plan was proposed.

Mr. Fife explained the right-of-way process.

Mrs. English asked where is the circle stop and how much of the circle down to the pivot would be out of the picture? Mr. Merrell said this design should affect it a little bit less than a previous design. He said it will be less than the effects of where the stakes were that were put in place earlier. Mr. Merrell is not sure where the particular circle stop will be that Mrs. English is concerned about. He said we worked the geometrics out but didn't want to do a lot more work until the design was approved. Mr. Fife said it will depend on some factors, such as areas you want to farm. Mrs. English said it depends on where the circle stop is located.

There was discussion about the need for additional right-of-way. Mr. Merrell said the road width is increasing from 60 to 80 feet so we probably will need a little more right-of-way. He said the impacts on the road will still be about the same. Right now you're farming inside the right-of-way. Mr. Fife said if you lose farmable ground, you will be compensated for it as part of the appraisal process. Mr. Merrell showed the existing right-of-way and existing pavement on the screen.

Mrs. English said that answers her questions.

Mr. Fife said if the Board selects the design, then Mr. Merrell will meet with the property owners to work our details.

Mr. Merrell said this type of process is always difficult for landowners. He acknowledged the time that the English family has put into this process. Mr. Merrell said trying to balance public and private interests is not a fair situation but it's the best way it can be done.

Mr. Merrell asked if Mr. Wyatt wanted to comment. Mr. Miller asked about his trees. Mr. Wyatt did not want to comment.

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Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move that Franklin County proceed with the design and right-of-way acquisition needed for Alternative 13 of Road 170-Klamath Road intersection. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Mr. Miller said what this means is if there are still some problems that we're going to work this out and we may even come back and take another look at it if it's not working out with the other people; is that correct?

Mrs. Corkrum said it's a done deal but for the acquisition, if there are ongoing negotiations, then we authorize the engineer to offer more money or whatever is needed.

Mr. Fife said what will happen now is the engineers will concentrate on this particular English property to answer the questions that were raised today and figure out how it is going to impact the circle, then move to other property owners. For instance, we can minimize the impact of a slope to them or flatten the slope so they can farm right up to what they're doing now.

Mr. Miller said good, because since we don't know exactly where that pivot is, they may lose some ground from the angle, and the value of losing ground to a farmer means a lot in the future.

Mr. Fife said until the Board approved the design, the engineers didn't want to do the detail for each of the 13 drawings that have been prepared because of the cost.

Mrs. Corkrum said we have to have the design in place before we can apply for funding.

Mr. Koch thanked everyone involved for their time.

Resolution: Standard Consultant Agreement, Supplement #2, between Franklin County and HDR Engineering, Inc., Resolution #2006-503

Mr. Fife asked for approval of a supplement to the agreement with HDR Engineering. It includes:

\$20,000 because of additional work to prepare the 13 designs, which was more than anticipated

\$50,000 to finalize the design as it currently is prepared

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\$31,000 for right-of-way sign work because the surveyors will need to redo right-of-way drawings as well as some other work.

Mr. Fife said the total increase is \$103,290, leaving about \$275,000 for the actual purchase of right-of-way. There will be a lot of cost to cure for portions of the project.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Resolution 2008-196 regarding Standard Consultant Agreement, Supplement 2, between Franklin County and HDR Engineering, Inc. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Mr. Merrell said we ended up increasing the number of parcels involved significantly for the right-of-way portion for the canal work part of the project.

Paint Striper

Mr. Fife told the Board a used paint striper is available for \$25,000. It uses solvent-based paint rather than water-based paint which Mr. Fife thinks is better. The sprayer we have currently continues to break down on a regular basis.

Recessed at 10:04 am.

Reconvened at 10:11 am.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC DEFENSE

Bi-County Indigent Defense Coordinator Ray Gonzales and Judy Paxton met with the Board.

Additional funding needed for Professional Services

The year-to-date budget figures for Professional Services were reviewed, showing tracking for each case. Mr. Gonzales asked for a budget supplement of \$50,000. He named some of the charges that have been or he expects will be incurred.

Mr. Gonzales said Attorney Lynch has sent us a letter asking that his contract with Integrity Assurance be modified so that he receives the same amount of money for travel time since he is now traveling from Yakima to Walla Walla rather than Pasco to work with a defendant. The total difference is about \$70 per trip. Mr. Gonzales is willing to make the concession given the additional inconvenience to Mr. Lynch. It takes a substantial amount of time, about five hours, for every trip Mr. Lynch makes to see his client.

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Mr. Gonzales told the Board about the expected timing of several cases.

Mr. Gonzales also asked if the Board wants his office to continue to disburse separately for each case or combine the funds in the Professional Services budget. Mrs. Corkrum thinks the payments should come out of Professional Services line item but also continue to track individual case expenses. Mr. Koch agreed, asking Mr. Gonzales and Ms. Paxton to let the Board know the individual case expenses on a quarterly basis.

Mr. Koch said the Board will ask County Administrator Fred Bowen to locate a source of the \$50,000. There will not be another regular Board meeting until May 28 but because it is a bottom line budget, the costs can be paid. The Board said Franklin County's procedure is to receive budget requests at least a week prior to approval.

Department Update

Mr. Gonzales gave an update about the work of the department.

He is talking with the City of Pasco about bringing a social worker into the office. The social worker could assist people with court matters. Any time someone is not forced to go to court, it saves us money.

HUMAN SERVICES (HS)

HS Director Carrie Huie-Pascua met with the Board.

Department Update

Mrs. Corkrum asked if the monthly report preparation is cumbersome. Ms. Huie-Pascua said at times it is. Sometimes it is repetitive, particularly when things are going smoothly.

Affordable Housing

Ms. Huie-Pascua said Franklin County's affordable housing work is going okay. It is administered through the Community Action Committee (CAC). The Notice of Funding Applications (NOFA) were sent out, followed by awards being made.

We are having a bit of difficulty with getting information from CAC in the form of quarterly reports. She gave an example regarding the Homeless Grant Assistance

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Program (HGAP) contract that HS handles. HS staff is working closely with CAC to solve the problem.

Housing Institute

The Mental Health Division is funding the Benton-Franklin team so our project will focus on mental health clients.

Mental Health

Human Services Deputy Director Ed Thornbrugh is acting as the interim manager of Crisis Response. We are seeing gradual, positive change. All the policies and procedures are being updated. People are receiving required training and supervision. We are considering instituting an online training program that will save a lot of money and is of a caliber that employees will receive the necessary credits per year. It is more accessible than having people schedule time off, travel, and make hotel arrangements. It takes less time. It will benefit employees in the Substance Abuse Assessment Center (SAAC) as well as the administrative office to keep their certifications current.

Consolidated Crisis Response Center (CCRC)

Mrs. Corkrum asked how the consolidation effort is proceeding. Ms. Huie-Pascua said Mr. Cadwell has made the offer to be essentially the fiscal agent to fund a building. We are looking first of all at the actual cost of it by doing a feasibility study approved by both counties. The Consolidated Crisis Response Committee will review the study. We need to determine what the actual cost will be and what the repayment of the cost of the building over time will be and determine if it is affordable by all the parties involved.

Crisis Intervention Team Training

The Crisis Intervention team training was very, very positive. It was a 40-hour training session. Law enforcement will be involved in the future in a shorter version of training (perhaps two-hour sessions over a longer period of time).

Transitional Trailers

HS is still managing the transitional trailers. The Pasco Housing Authority is considering handling the property management portion of the work.

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Regional Support Network (RSN)

The RSN Funding Committee met yesterday. Commissioner Max Benitz is now a member of the committee, replacing HS employee Diana Ransom. He is concerned about the current funding formula because he feels it shorts the Benton-Franklin Human Services office in comparison to the other smaller counties. He asked for a review of that with the new data that Troy Wilson from the RSN provided. The data showed that Benton and Franklin Counties received \$58 per unduplicated person below the average Greater Columbia RSN rate per person of \$256. All the other counties received far above the \$256 rate.

The Funding Committee asked Troy Wilson to prepare reports with all of the funding, including the withhold amounts for hospitalization bills.

Mr. Benitz also asked for a change to a funding formula that would be more positive for Benton and Franklin Counties. That was not accepted by the other members. They didn't want to change funding formulas in midstream of the biennium.

Ms. Huie-Pascua said the Medicaid funding levels are at 26% but the population is close to 32%.

Hospitalizations

Benton and Franklin Counties will be receiving \$350,000 back because we have been able to keep hospitalizations at a lower level which means the dollars that were withheld in anticipation of paying high hospital bills that we have had historically will come back to us in the form of outpatient service dollars.

Contract Monitoring

On-site contract monitoring is taking place to review subcontractors in terms of performance for all contracts except mental health. The contract monitoring for mental health contracts has traditionally been done in the fall and will continue to be done then, only because it has been done then in the past.

Employee Request

The Management Information Systems person has expressed concern about the disparity in his salary compared to the industry. Ms. Huie-Pascua is gathering

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information about comparable positions. This year's budget included an assistant position that has not been hired so there are some funds available.

PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson met with the Board. Present in audience: Christopher Giles.

Building Update

The April 2008 Building Report was reviewed.

Two vehicles in the Planning and Building Department may need to be replaced soon due to mileage and frequent repairs. There are some funds available in the Growth Management budget that could be used to purchase a vehicle.

Mr. MacPherson said he expects the Department of Corrections budget will have an unencumbered balance of over \$100,000 when the prison work at Connell is finished late in the year.

Planning Department

Mr. MacPherson told the Board about recent applications received in his office.

FACILITIES DEPARTMENT

Facilities Director Christopher Giles met with the Board to request approval of two contracts.

PBS Engineering

Motion – Mr. Miller: I make the motion to authorize Public Works Contract with PBS Environmental to decommission the heating oil tank located adjacent to the former Health Department Building for \$3249 including sales tax. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-197.

Contract: John Rada Excavation, Inc.

Mr. Giles said we think the tank has been filled with concrete slurry. If so, it will cost less to remove than if it has oil in it.

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move we authorize the Public Works contract with John Rada Excavating, Inc., to excavate, remove and dispose of the heating oil tank located adjacent

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to the former Health Department Building for not to exceed \$2978.25 including sales tax.

This is Resolution 2008-198.

Recessed at 11:36 am.

Reconvened at 11:38 am.

PROSECUTOR

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp met with the Board. He asked for approval to hold an executive session to give legal counsel regarding Commissioner redistricting.

Executive Session at 11:40 am regarding redistricting based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) expected to last up to 15 minutes.

Open Session at 11:54 am.

Adjourned at 11:54 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until May 16, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chairman

Chairman Pro Tem

Member

Attest:

Clerk to the Board

Approved and signed May 28, 2008.