

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 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; Fred Bowen, County Administrator; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board.

**OFFICE BUSINESS**

Secretary Bridgette Scott met with the Board.

Consent Agenda

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move for approval of the consent agenda for June 9, 2008, as listed:

1. Approval of **Resolution 2008-231** for Professional Services Contract between Franklin County and Accent Business Services, Inc., for financial software selection, contract negotiation and implementation support services in an amount not to exceed \$63,790.

Second by Mrs. Corkrum. Mrs. Corkrum commented she did not realize it was going to cost quite so much. 3:0 vote in favor.

Redistricting

Mrs. Corkrum heard State Auditor Sam Reed comment that he supported what Franklin County did as far as not redistricting at this time. She said Mr. Reed said most counties don't redistrict other than at the time of the census but because the population is out of balance, it should be done well ahead of filing and optimally on a non-election year.

Mrs. Corkrum said she thinks Benton-Franklin Council of Governments (BFCoG) could look at redistricting and bring several options to us. They did Benton County's redistricting. Mr. Miller thinks a committee could do the work. Mrs. Corkrum is not in favor of a committee. Mr. Koch said he could understand the BFCoG doing the work but not a committee.

Commissioner Vehicle

Mr. Miller said he is still not sold on purchasing an SUV or gas-guzzler as a commissioner vehicle because of price of gas and expense and because the

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 2008

commissioners do not travel together to meetings often, perhaps only two times since he has been a commissioner. Mrs. Corkrum said it makes no difference to her but it will cost more to travel separately anyway.

Mr. Miller thinks it would be feasible to use a Public Works Department vehicle if the Board members travel together.

There was discussion about the anticipated number of miles driven a year and about the cost of gas and the mileage rates of several vehicles. Mr. Koch said his research indicates a Trail Blazer six-cylinder vehicle is supposed to get 21 miles per gallon highway. Mrs. Corkrum does not have any problem with having a larger vehicle. Mr. Miller said the gas price will go higher yet and he is concerned about the cost.

Vouchers

**Motion** - Mr. Miller: I move for approval of vouchers as listed: Current Expense warrants 63600 through 63670 for \$59,360.09; Current Expense warrants 63671 through 63708 for \$38,248.89; DOC Building Inspection warrant 74 for \$81.45; CE Cumulative Reserve warrants 139 through 140 for \$82,958.94; FC RV Facility warrants 462 through 467 for \$6,382.86; Crime Victims / Witness warrant 397 for \$41.00; Crime Victims / Witness warrants 398 through 399 for \$2,702.78; Clerk LFO Collection Fund warrant 36 for \$583.23; Grand Old 4<sup>th</sup> warrants 179 through 180 for \$1,433.26; FC Capital Projects Fund warrants 409 through 416 for \$3,527.45; and FC Public Facilities Construction Fund warrants 857 through 860 for \$1,356.04; for a total of \$196,675.99. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 1)

Legislative Reception

Mr. Koch asked if the Board is willing to open the rotunda for the evening portion of the Washington State Invasive Species Council meeting that will involve the legislature in October. The majority of the meeting will be held at TRAC. Mrs. Corkrum thinks it would be nice because it keeps showcasing our building and Franklin County and visitors can see TRAC. Mr. Miller agreed. Mr. Koch said he would want to start at about 5:30 pm. He will ask for more formal approval later. The Board had **consensus agreement** to move forward.

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 2008

## **CORRECTIONS**

Jail Captain Rick Long met with the Board.

### Cowlitz County Jail Tour Report

Mr. Long and Mr. Bowen reported on the Cowlitz County Jail tour they took last week.

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board.

### Contact Commercial Realtor for Property

Mr. Bowen asked the Board if they would like him to contact a commercial real estate agent to help locate properties that are available. The Board asked Mr. Bowen to talk to the county's commercial real estate appraiser first. The Board also gave **consensus agreement** to contact a real estate agent.

### Union Contracts

Mr. Bowen said there is a problem with the salary matrix. People that are working eight hours are making the same amount as people who are working 7.5 hours. One way to fix the problem would be to change all non-bargaining 8.0 hour employees into 7.5 hour employees. Another way would be to create a new matrix for non-bargaining employees that would get them at the same hourly salary as the union employees who work 7.5 hours.

Mrs. Corkrum said all of the employees could be made eight-hour employees. Mr. Bowen said that would have to be negotiated. Mrs. Corkrum said at the time the union was formed, the employees worked 7.5 hours. She said now, however, the common work week is 40 hours. She said people should be at their desk ready to work at 8:30, not just getting ready to work. She doesn't think the 7.5 hours will ever be changed to 8.0 hours.

Engineer Tim Fife joined the meeting.

Mr. Bowen said he can prepare a matrix based on an hourly rate for 8-hour people and leave the matrix for 7.5 hour people alone. He said it needs to be corrected.

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 2008

Mr. Bowen asked what about retro? Mr. Fife said he would not do retro. Mr. Bowen disagrees. Mr. Miller said he doesn't know about the retro either. He said it is fair but it should have been brought up earlier.

Mrs. Corkrum said actually I think that would be the fair thing to do. Mr. Koch agreed with Mrs. Corkrum. Mrs. Corkrum said they're putting in 2-1/2 hours a week more which would add up to about two weeks a year more hours.

Mr. Bowen will prepare the figures and bring it back to the Board.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Engineer Tim Fife met with the Board.

#### Commissioner Vehicle

Mr. Fife said his department wants to buy more hybrids and more fuel-efficient vehicles. He said the time has passed to use state contracts for buying vehicles. He asked when the Commissioners want to purchase a vehicle. He said we'd like to go to hybrids but that doesn't work in every situation. Several different types and brands of vehicles were discussed.

Mr. Koch asked Mr. Fife to find out what is available at this time including asking if the county can piggyback with bids from any other governmental entities.

Mr. Koch said I'm concerned about how much problem we'll have with constituents regarding driving an import. Mr. Fife said we've done it before. Mr. Koch said he does not have a problem driving an import.

Mrs. Corkrum asked Mr. Fife to find out what's available and get as large a vehicle as you can.

#### Paving of Gravel Roads

Hank Tessitore called Public Works to thank them for the paving work that was done on Fir Road.

#### Fuel Surcharge

Mr. Fife said he will be presenting a request for a fuel surcharge.

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 2008

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Public Hearing: To take testimony for and against increasing the revenue and expenditure bottom lines of the 2008 Miscellaneous Courthouse Renovation Fund #310-000-001 by \$110,000 from \$576,000 to \$586,000 due to unexpected 2007 cash carryover.

At 10:09 am, Mr. Koch said the public hearing was advertised incorrectly. It will be continued to June 23, 2008.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move we continue the public hearing to June 23 due to a clerical error in the amount regarding Miscellaneous Courthouse Renovation Fund 310 by \$110,000 and it was advertised as \$10,000 so I move that we continue the hearing. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Public Hearing: To take testimony for and against increasing the revenue and expenditure bottom lines of the 2008 Current Expense Budget, Number 001-000-001, by \$536,000, from \$23,118,205 to \$23,654,205 due to unexpected 2007 cash carryover.

Public Hearing convened at 10:09 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. No one was present in the audience.

Mr. Bowen said the increase is due to unexpected cash carryover.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I make the motion that we increase the revenue and expenditure bottom lines of the 2008 Current Expense Budget by \$536,000 due to the extra revenue from 2007. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-231.

Mr. Bowen said we're going to be transferring \$500,000 of the amount and putting it into Capital Projects to resolve some confusion between the Auditor's Office and Commissioners office.

**FRANKLIN CONSERVATION DISTRICT (FCD)**

FCD Director Mark Nielson and Heather Wendt met with the Board.

Assessment

Mr. Nielson said conservation districts don't receive any funding from the county per se. Most of our funds come from grants. In Franklin County, approximately \$62,000

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 2008

per year comes from assessment and our budget has been running between \$1 million to \$1.5 million per year. The current county assessment comes from landowners. We do not currently assess any of the cities. Pasco is currently not within the boundaries of the FCD. The \$62,000 is not a huge part of our budget but is a critical part because it is a stable source of funds. One of the prime purposes of the assessment originally was to match the groundwater management area (GWMA) grant funding costs.

Ms. Wendt told the Board about the public hearing process. The FCD will hold a public hearing near the end of July. By August 1, the FCD will have the System of Assessment to the Commissioners. The FCD will advertise as required by law for a Board of Commissioners public hearing in August. The FCD will present an overview at the public hearing. RCW 89.08.400 is the law that applies.

Mr. Nielson told the Board about the current assessment rates. He does not anticipate they will change but the FCD Board has not yet decided.

Mr. Koch asked are you asking us to basically just renew the assessment at this point? Mr. Nielson said yes. Mrs. Corkrum said she thinks the feeling with the farm community is you do so much good that there wouldn't be any opposition. Mr. Nielson said he cannot remember a single phone call or complaint.

Mr. Nielson said we'll be thinking about whether to assess the City of Connell and other incorporated cities in the future. We do provide a lot of service to the cities, especially through education programs. City of Pasco de-annexed from us about five years ago when we were forced to go on the general ballot for elections. He hopes eventually the City of Pasco will be re-annexed in. It is where most of the education programs occur. Mrs. Corkrum asked how would you go about bringing the cities in? Mr. Nielson said Connell and Mesa are in the boundaries but Kahlotus is not. Discussions would have to be held with the City of Pasco.

Mrs. Corkrum asked what kind of service is provided for a city resident? Mr. Nielson said it is a lot of education programs, often done at the schools. In the past we've had some urban type irrigation programs. There is a need to educate about lawn irrigation, which we're starting to do that in Benton County.

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 2008

**HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)**

HR Director Rosie H. Rumsey met with the Board.

New Hire Change of Status

Ms. Rumsey asked for approval of change of status forms for two new hires for which the department heads had requested starting higher than Step 1. They have been through the classification review process. The Board reviewed the requests.

Appraiser Position

**Motion** - Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of the recommendation of the Salary Review Classification Committee that unanimously approved it and start Robert Greeno at Grade 16 Step 5. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 2)

District Court Position

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we change the status of Kimberly Yates' employment from Step 1 to Step 2, Grade 11. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 3)

**MINUTES**

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Commissioner Proceedings for May 29, 2008. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Prison Impact Meetings

Mr. Koch gave a report on the Coyote Ridge prison impact meetings.

Planning and Building Department

Mr. Bowen asked the Board about an idea of to have building inspectors work four 10-hour days. The cost savings would be realized for mileage in coming back to the office. Mr. Bowen said the building inspection work would be kept open five days a week but each inspector would work four days. Mrs. Corkrum thinks the Planning Director can make the decision. Mr. Koch said he would approve if the Planning Director can make it work out and show us at the end of the summer that it works.

**Recessed** at 11:03 am.

**Reconvened** at 1:30 pm in Bi-County Meeting with Benton County Commissioners.

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 9, 2008

There being further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was recessed until 1:30 pm in a bi-county meeting with Benton County Commissioners.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

---

Chairman

---

Chairman Pro Tem

---

Member

Attest:

---

Clerk to the Board

Approved and signed June 16, 2008.