

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49
FRANKLIN COUNTY
Commissioners' Proceeding for June 11, 2008

The Honorable Board of Franklin County Commissioners met on the above date. Present for the meeting were Bob Koch, Chairman; and Neva J. Corkrum, Member; Fred Bowen, County Administrator; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board. Rick Miller, Chair Pro Tem, was absent attending Certified Public Official training in Bothell, Washington.

OFFICE BUSINESS

Secretary Patricia Shults met with the Board.

Consent Agenda

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

1. Approval of **Resolution 2008-235** in the matter of re-appointing Bruce Hawkins to the Benton-Franklin Workforce Development Council to fill Position B-4 representing Education K-12, with said term expiring June 30, 2011.
2. Approval of **Resolution 2008-236** for destruction of a burgundy desk chair assigned to Elections, serial number 813130, as identified on the *Franklin County Storage – Salvage* form received from the Auditor, in conjunction with RCW 36.32.210 (inventory).

Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

Juvenile Justice Center (JJC)

The water supply to the JJC was contaminated following a water line break in Kennewick yesterday.

Vouchers

Motion - Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of vouchers as listed: Current Expense warrants 63709 through 63886 for \$15,176.04; Veteran's Assistance warrants 1421 through 1425 for \$3,307.77; DOC Building Inspection warrants 75 through 77 for \$122.06; Courthouse Facilitator warrant 102 for \$652.50; and Auditor O&M warrant 501 for \$20.87; for a total of \$19,279.24. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 1)

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of payment of Salary Clearing Payroll as follows: Warrants 45907 through 46013 for \$181,638.42; warrants 46014 through 46018 for \$71,983.52; and Direct Deposit for \$297,108.97; for a total amount of \$550,730.91.

Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

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The cover sheet also includes the following amounts:

Emergency Management payroll warrants 9529 through 9535 for \$3302.07; warrants 9536 through 9539 for \$1559.02; and Direct Deposit for \$7820.93; for a total amount of \$12,682.02; and

Irrigation payroll warrants 13546 through 13561 for \$8085.76; and warrants 13562 through 13565 for \$1346.45; for a total amount of \$9432.21. (Exhibit 2)

PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson met with the Board. Present in audience: Prosecutor Steve Lowe.

Building Update

The May 2008 Building Report was reviewed. As of today, the revenue collected for 2008 has been \$295,000. The projected revenue for the entire year of 2008 was \$275,500. The number of inquiries regarding subdivisions has gone down.

Mr. Koch asked Mr. MacPherson to prepare some figures regarding what would have happened to revenue if a law regarding agricultural buildings had passed in the Washington state legislature this year.

Planning Update

Mr. MacPherson told the Board about some current applications. The Planning Department has received an application for land application of bio-solids septics. This would involve pumping material from residential septic tanks onto a field with approval of the Department of Ecology (DOE). The Planning Department staff has asked representatives from DOE to attend the Planning Commission hearing so they can explain what is involved. This is the first application of this type in Franklin County.

The hearing on the application by Mr. Torres for a riding academy was continued as requested by the applicant's attorney and agreed upon by the county. There is a question about nonconforming use. A meeting will be held of the parties involved to try to resolve the question.

PROSECUTOR

Prosecutor Steve Lowe met with the Board. Present in audience: Guy Walters.

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Staffing Levels

Mr. Lowe said for the summer he plans to use some money that is in his budget to hire a high school CEO student full-time to work as a receptionist and a second-year law school intern to work on civil and criminal cases and on public records requests. They will be temporary summer employees, not full-time employees. He told the Board about the increased workload in his office. He plans to start the hiring process now. He will come back to the Board with cost figures. He may need to request additional county funds but does not think it will cost a lot. The union is okay with using CEO students. It will be the second year he has used them.

Budget

Mr. Bowen asked Mr. Lowe to review his budget and give him any budget change requests for the mid-year budget review.

Mr. Lowe said the state legislature authorized that his salary will be increased on July 1. The state will pay for the increase. There will be a difference in the revenue and expenditure amounts in his budget.

Housing Needs

Mr. Lowe answered questions about the needs for the location of Child Support office and civil attorneys' offices.

PUBLIC WORKS

Assistant Engineer Guy Walters met with the Board.

Public Hearing: Clark Addition Water Association Franchise

Public Hearing convened at 9:41 am. Present: Commissioners Koch and Corkrum; County Administrator Fred Bowen; Assistant Engineer Guy Walters; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers.

Mr. Walters said Public Works has not received the finalized franchise agreement and resolution from the Prosecutor's office. He asked if the Board would like to go ahead and adopt the franchise subject to the resolution coming from the Prosecutor's Office.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if the county can charge anything for franchises. Mr. Walters said we charge an initial fee of about \$400 which is used mainly to cover the

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advertising for public hearings and some other costs. Mrs. Corkrum said the cities get ongoing utilities fees for gas lines and other things allowed by franchises but counties have not had that privilege. She would like to have that researched and answered one way or another.

No one was present in the audience to comment.

Chief Civil Attorney Ryan Verhulp joined the audience.

Mr. Koch asked Mr. Verhulp if the Board can adopt the franchise prior to seeing the resolution or should we continue the hearing. Mr. Verhulp recommended continuing the hearing. He expects it will be a few weeks before the review is completed.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval that we continue our public hearing on Clark Addition Water Association Franchise to June 25 at 9:30 am in the Commissioners meeting room. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

Resolution: Notice of Hearing: Amended Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mr. Walters asked for approval of a Notice of Hearing regarding an amendment due to a change in funding for the East Foster Wells Road project.

Motion- - Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval of Notice of Public Hearing for amended Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program for July 7 at 10:15 am in the commissioners Meeting Room in the Courthouse. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-237.

Commissioner Vehicle

The Board reviewed some cost figures for various vehicles that could be used as a Commissioner vehicle. The information is based on quoted or stated gas mileage.

Mrs. Corkrum said the difference in cost is not enough for her to worry about.

Mr. Walters said Engineer Tim Fife is not recommending any particular vehicle.

Mr. Koch said Mr. Fife had given him information about two different Colorado pickups earlier this week that would cost about \$18,000 or \$19,000 each. Mr. Koch said the Prius would be fine. It would have to be bid.

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Mrs. Corkrum is agreeable to whatever works for Mr. Koch. Mr. Koch will talk to Shop Superintendent Darrel Farnsworth about the vehicles.

PROSECUTOR

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp met with the Board.

Executive Session at 10:02 am regarding potential litigation or legal risks of proposed action based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) expected to last 10 minutes.

Open Session at 10:10 am.

Recessed at 10:13 am.

Reconvened at 10:16 am.

TRAC

TRAC Manager Troy Woody met with the Board.

Gas Bill Followup

The gas companies have checked TRAC's equipment and say they find no problem. Apollo has also checked the gas lines and so far has found nothing. Mr. Woody prepared an analysis of therm usage for 2005 through 2008. He was told that February 2008 was one of the coldest months in several years. Apollo will check the actual units this week for gas leaks or other malfunctions.

Rentals

Mr. Woody would prefer not to rent equipment such as stages to the public. He asked for Board direction. The Board agreed to not rent equipment to the public. Mr. Woody said we do some loans of equipment and trades but not on a fee basis.

PUD Sign

Mr. Woody gave the Board an update on the negotiations regarding the purchase of the sign from Franklin PUD.

Coyote Ridge Prison

Mr. Woody met with Coyote Ridge prison staff regarding the prisoner work crew at TRAC.

Mr. Koch thinks it would be wise to have an analysis done of what it's costing for law enforcement to handle problems because of the tobacco restriction for prisoners.

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OTHER BUSINESS

Hanford Communities

The cost for dues to join Hanford Communities starting July 1 would be \$2250 (a half-year amount). Mrs. Corkrum would like to be the representative from Franklin County on the committee with Dispatch Superintendent Ed Bush the representative on the technical committee. The Board decided to wait until Mr. Miller returns to make the appointments to the committees.

Minutes

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of minutes for June 9, 2008, bi-county meeting and authorize Mr. Miller's signature also. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

Vouchers/Warrants

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of payment of County Road Fund payroll for \$76,575.71; and Motor Vehicle Fund payroll for \$10,995.44. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

AUDITOR

Auditor Zona Lenhart met with the Board.

Elections Remodeling Project

Ms. Lenhart gave the Board a copy of the Franklin County Annex Elections Center construction plan (Exhibit 3) and budget (Exhibit 4). She explained how elections functions will be handled in various parts of the building. She said ultimately we'd like to put in cameras or better security. Eventually we will also add a monitor in the public section for easier viewing of the area where ballots are programmed. Ms. Lenhart answered Mrs. Corkrum's question about how the cost will be covered.

Ms. Lenhart said a contractor's estimate was for \$100,000 but the cost was too high so some items have been changed. For instance, sheet rocking has been removed from the work that will be done. Ms. Lenhart expects to request that sheet rocking be done next year as part of the 2009 budget request.

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The construction budget totals \$124,798. The funds available are \$11,798 less than is needed, which is mostly the sales tax. Ms. Lenhart is not asking for a Board decision right now about the additional funds but is asking to get started on the project.

Mr. Bowen asked Ms. Lenhart how much she thinks the new furniture will cost that she plans to ask for in 2009. Ms. Lenhart said the original cost was about \$20,000 but she will get a new estimate because the original one was done in 2006. This year we will use folding tables. Chairs are needed now which she hopes to buy using funds from the Election Revolving fund.

Mr. Bowen said one portion of the budget includes work to be done by Information Services (IS) for about \$8000. He will find out if IS can do the work on an in-kind basis, which would save funds from Current Expense.

Mr. Koch said the budget includes about \$12,000 for heating and air. He asked isn't heating and air in the building now? Ms. Lenhart said it is in part of the building but not in some parts. Mr. Koch said why? They would have had to have at least heating. Ms. Lenhart said one area that was a fire truck bay originally had some type of oil heat that only got up to 60 degrees. They have abandoned that because it was good enough for fire trucks but not for humans to be working there.

Mr. Bowen said he assumes the Board is approving the work. Mrs. Corkrum said we have received the majority of the money from the HAVA grant. If we don't do this, then we'll lose it. It would be foolish not to approve it.

There was discussion about the need to separate the heating and air conditioning systems between the Elections Department and the Health District at this time. Ms. Lenhart would like to have a separate meter so we'd know exactly what the elections costs are because they are billable costs.

Ms. Lenhart was asked why natural gas is being used. Ms. Lenhart said it is more efficient and gives better heat.

Mr. Bowen will talk to Facilities Director Chris Giles about the need for separate meters for gas and electricity.

Ms. Lenhart will return on Monday with more information.

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COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board.

Out-of-County Travel: WSAC Joint District meeting June 16-20, 2008

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.
(Exhibit 5)

Microwave for District Court

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Resolution 2008-238 for replacement of a microwave in District Court in the amount of \$270. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

Hanford Communities

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval that we join the Hanford Communities membership at the price of \$2250 for the second half of 2008. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-239.

Petty Cash Fund in Sheriff's Office

Mr. Bowen asked for approval of a resolution authorizing the petty cash fund of \$250 in the Sheriff's Office as established in 1963.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Resolution 2008-240 regarding authorizing petty cash fund in the Franklin County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$250 as established in 1963. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

Grant \$5000 to Franklin County Historical Museum

Mr. Bowen reminded the Board about past discussions regarding the request from the Franklin County Historical Museum for a grant. He asked for approval to send letters to notify the two museums in the county to offer them the opportunity to each apply for \$5000 grants using funds from Supplemental Preservation Fund Budget 103-000-001.

Adjourned at 11:25 am.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chairman

Chairman Pro Tem

Member

Attest:

Clerk to the Board

Approved and signed June 16, 2008.