

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for August 13, 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 Patricia Shults met with the Board.

Consent Agenda

**Motion** - Mr. Miller: I move we accept the consent agenda for August 13, 2008, as listed:

1. Approval of **Resolution 2008-330** for the Lease Agreement #HFS258584T-001 between De Lage Landen Financial Services, Inc., and Franklin County Auditor's Office, Recording Department, to lease a Konica Minolta copier; creation of line item 514.75.45.0001 (Rentals & Leases) in the 2008 Miscellaneous Auditor O&M, Number 102-000-001; intra budget transfer of \$600 from line item 594.00.64.0000 (Auditor/Recording System Hardware/Soft) to line item 514.75.45.0001 (Rentals & Leases); and authorizing the Chairman to sign said agreement on behalf of the Board.
2. Approval of **joint Resolution 2008-331** in the matter of the request for signature from the Boards of Benton and Franklin County Commissioners on the County Program Contract amendment between the Juvenile Justice Center and the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services, Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, Agreement Number 0663-98393-02, to provide for Selective Aggressive Probation (SAP) through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG), for a term commencing September 1, 2008, and terminating August 31, 2009. (Exhibit 1: Information sheet.)

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

Vouchers/Warrants

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of payment of the following vouchers/warrants: Veteran's Assistance warrants 2971 through 2974 for \$3,615.92; and Current Expense warrants 2975 through 2983 for \$7,408.43; for a total of \$11,024.35. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 2)

Minutes

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**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of the Commissioners Proceedings for August 6. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of correcting Commissioners Proceedings to change an amount from \$39,000 to \$49,000 in the July 30 and August 11, 2008, minutes. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson met with the Board.

**Building Update**

The July Building Report was reviewed. Mr. MacPherson said the number of building permits has decreased.

**Planning Update**

Mr. MacPherson said the Planning Commission will be holding hearings on September 2 on applications for a feedlot operation and a preschool and will also consider adoption of the Critical Areas Ordinance. The Department of Ecology has submitted some comments requesting minor changes to the Critical Areas Ordinance. No one else has commented throughout the process.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board.

**Information Services (IS)**

IS Director Kevin Scott met with the Board.

**Sheriff's Office – Verizon Network Aircards and Data Services:** Mr. Scott told the Board the costs for the services. He said the IS budget has been hit hard this year with unbudgeted items and listed some of them. The IS budget does not have funds available for the wireless service. A resolution has been prepared to transfer the funds from various budgets.

Mrs. Corkrum asked can the Sheriff or Dispatch pay for this? Mr. Bowen thinks Dispatch cannot pay for this because it was not part of their responsibility. Mr. Scott does not think the Sheriff has funds to pay for it. He said the computers in the cars are not a Sheriff's Office function. Mr. Bowen said it will cost \$4795 until the end of the

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year. Next year, it could be included in the Sheriff's Budget. Mr. Scott said we will include the amounts in next year's budget.

The annual cost is \$11,508.84 for a full 12 months of service. Mr. Bowen asked if there are other equipment costs. Mr. Scott said no, this takes care of equipment costs.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I will move that we authorize the purchase of Verizon Wireless Aircards, antennas and associated data services, in the amount of \$4795 for the remainder of 2008 for the Sheriff's cars. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-332.

Mr. Scott thanked the Board for the approval and then left the meeting.

Annex Building at 412 West Clark Street

The Board looked at the different colors that are available for the trim on the Annex Building. Mr. Koch said after looking at the building, he feels the polished aluminum/stainless steel color will be fine. Mr. Bowen said it is the same product that is on the windows. The Board members each stated they are in favor of doing the project for \$10,000. Mr. Bowen will have a public works contract prepared.

City of Pasco: Dispatch Contract

The Board reviewed a letter from the City of Pasco asking that a commissioner meet with the city regarding the Dispatch contract and finances. Commissioner Rick Miller was designated.

**FRANKLIN CONSERVATION DISTRICT (FCD)**

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

Public Hearing: Franklin Conservation District Assessment

Public Hearing convened at 9:46 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers.

Present from FCD: Director Mark Nielson and Heather Wendt; and FCD Board Members George Poulson, Chris Herron and Steve DeRuyter.

Mr. Nielson and Ms. Wendt gave a presentation regarding the FCD and the process that has been followed to ask for an increased assessment.

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The projects the FCD is involved in include: Columbia Basin Groundwater Management Area (GWMA), Columbia River Management Program, Water Conservancy Board, Environmental Quality Incentive Program – Local Working Group, and Irrigation Water Management.

The research projects include a Perennial Wheat project with Washington State University (WSU), livestock program, conservation education, wildlife habitat enhancement projects, and agricultural burn program.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if an individual has to actually come into the office to fill out the form for an agricultural burn permit. Ms. Wendt said we do need their signature on the application and they need to show us on the map where the burn will be. Almost the entire staff is trained to issue burn permits so the wait is rarely longer than 10 minutes.

Mr. Nielson reviewed the process required by RCW 89.08.400 to ask for a new assessment or reauthorization. The Conservation District held a hearing on July 29. No comments were received. No one attended the hearing. The proposed rates of assessment were shown on the screen. The original assessment was put in place 10 years ago. Mr. Nielson said the county legislative authority has the authority to accept the assessment or modify the assessment. He showed the proposed 2009 budget on the screen.

Mr. Miller asked is there only one GWMA? Mr. Nielson said there are multiple GWMA's across the state. The largest one geographically by far and probably the most active is the Columbia Basin GWMA. The other GWMA's that Mr. Nielson is aware of are on the west side of the state.

Mr. Koch asked the three FCD board members if they have any comment.

Chris Herron asked is the assessment request in danger of not passing? If it is, I'll be happy to testify. Mr. Miller said if the FCD Board actually approved this, he would be in favor. Mr. Herron said I'm in favor.

No one else was present to comment.

Ms. Wendt said we have letters of report to enter into the record (Exhibit 3).

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Mr. Koch said the Commissioners Office received an email from Kathy McEachen in favor (Exhibit 4).

Mrs. Corkrum thanked the FCD for the job well done.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I'll move for approval of Franklin Conservation District Special Assessment Reauthorization dated August 13, 2008, Resolution Number 2008-333. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

**Recessed** at 10:08 am.

**Reconvened** at 10:14 am.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR (continuing)**

Courthouse Parking Lot – Trees

The Board reviewed the types of trees that the City of Pasco will allow in the county's courthouse parking lot.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I'll make a motion to do the Japanese lilac and Kwanzan cherry. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Clerk's Office Surplus Furniture

Mr. Bowen said his understanding is no one in the courthouse is interested in the surplus furniture from the Clerk's Office. He asked if the Board is interested in surplus it to Garfield County. The Board said yes.

TRIDEC Donor Wall

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp has sent notice that the cost for the plaque on the TRIDEC Donor Wall is a gifting of public funds. Mr. Koch and Mrs. Corkrum said they feel that's the end of that. Mr. Miller said there may be other ways around it. He said cities are contributing. Mr. Bowen said the cities are under different laws. The Board asked that TRIDEC be sent a copy of Mr. Verhulp's letter. Mr. Miller asked that the information also be sent to the Tri-City Chambers of Commerce.

Salaries

Mrs. Corkrum said when the Board is asked to approve anything like merit pay increases, she would like to take the request under advisement and delay any decision

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until full review of the figures and the request can be completed. Mr. Koch, Mr. Miller and Mr. Bowen agreed.

**VOUCHERS/WARRANTS**

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of payroll as follows: Salary Clearing payroll warrants 46369 through 46460 for \$182,800.06; warrants 46461 through 46467 for \$79,935.43; and Direct Deposit for \$294,928.92; for a total amount of \$557,664.41. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

The cover sheet also includes the following amounts:

Emergency Management payroll warrants 3003 through 3009 for \$3496.24; warrants 3010 through 3013 for \$1822.75; and Direct Deposit for \$7804.76; for a total amount of \$13,123.75; and

Irrigation payroll warrants 2984 through 2998 for \$8108.64; and warrants 2999 through 3002 for \$1541.75; for a total amount of \$9650.39. (Exhibit 5)

**PROSECUTOR**

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp and TRAC Manager Troy Woody met with the Board.

**Executive Session** at 10:31 am to discuss a pending claim expected to last up to 15 minutes based on RCW 42.30.110(i).

**Open Session** at 10:40 am.

Mr. Verhulp asked for approval of a resolution approving the Walter Gobel claim for damages for \$1700.47 payable as a result of damage to his RV from a June 30 storm.

**Motion** – Mr. Chairman, I move that we accept the claim for damages for a recreational vehicle owned by Walter Goebel for damages received during a windstorm at TRAC on June 30, 2008, in the amount of \$1700.47. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-334.

**Incident**

Mr. Verhulp told the Board about an incident that occurred last week resulting in a damage estimate of \$165. He asked for approval to proceed to get the matter settled. The Board gave approval.

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There was discussion about having the applicable department pay the cost of claims in the future. Mrs. Corkrum said we would have to make sure we're consistent. Mr. Verhulp said the Board could set a threshold amount.

**TRAC**

TRAC Manager Troy Woody met with the Board. Present in audience: Ryan Verhulp and Laurie Atchenson.

Auto Dealers' request regarding TRAC bookings

Mr. Woody has received some letters from a couple of local auto dealers requesting that TRAC not book out-of-town auto dealers to sell at TRAC. Mr. Woody will be meeting with the City of Pasco about the request.

Records Retention

Mr. Woody said we don't have the data storage for emails. He has been instructed multiple times to delete the emails so we have room on the system to continue to get emails. However, Prosecutor Steve Lowe has told him he needs to save the emails. He said if I need to have a different process so that I can't be held legally liable for following a different department head's instructions, I think we need to get that on the table.

Mr. Koch said he has understood that anything that is an email in a public facility is open to the public. He said the emails could be saved to CDs.

Mr. Verhulp said if an email affects the public, they need to be kept. He said they need to be retained in their original form, which is electronic. They can also be printed.

Mr. Bowen will talk with Information Services.

Mr. Verhulp said the Risk Pool does have a policy for itself and will be recommending it for the counties. He told the Board about some work being done in the Prosecutor's Office by an intern regarding public records requests. He said the Washington state retention schedules give some guidance. He said we need a county-wide policy but before we do so, we may need to make sure there is the capacity to store the records. Mr. Verhulp said the Prosecutor's intent is to get the county-wide policy formulated and bring it to the Board for review in some way, shape or form.

Facilities Director Christopher Giles and two other men joined the audience.

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Freeway Sign

TRAC now owns the sign on the freeway.

June Profit and Loss Information

Mr. Woody gave the Board the June profit and loss figures.

HIE: Power charges issue update

Mr. Woody said his office is continuing discussions regarding power charges. HIE is doing some additional analysis regarding the meters and parking lot lights. The lights in the hotel are on our meter. The construction was done prior to the hotel being built.

Mr. Koch asked have you come up with any solution on the gas charges or the utility charge when it spiked? Mr. Woody said it's not spiking anymore so it's not a leak as we suspected. The electrician said it was abnormally high in February. Since then it has stayed very consistent and is right in line.

Listener Appreciation Concert

There was a huge Listener Appreciation Concert last weekend with attendance of about 3200 people.

**FACILITIES**

Facilities Director Christopher Giles met with the Board. Three people were present in the audience, Laurie Atchenson and two men.

Bid Opening

Bid Opening convened at 11:05 am.

Two bids were received:

ABM from Kennewick                      \$130,816.18 for an annual contract

DeSol, Inc., from Pasco

After reviewing the bid from DeSol, Mr. Bowen said he cannot find the bottom line. We will have to see if they complied with the bid specs to begin with and look at their proposal and bring it back to you at a later date. Mr. Giles said we asked for a three-year contract and it looks like the DeSol base bid is \$141,702.12 as the first-year annual cost. That's all we need at this point.



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The bids will be reviewed. Mr. Giles will return to meet with the Board on Monday.

Mr. Giles said we did not ask for different options.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Engineer Tim Fife met with the Board.

Discussion of concept to pay landowners to spray roadsides

Mr. Fife said we have kind of a permitting system in place currently, primarily for people who have organic crops. We don't pay anything for that now. If we get into that program, all the people that benefit by applying for it because they can get a better price for their products, then we would be paying them in addition.

Mrs. Corkrum said she thinks any program would have to be economically beneficial to the county.

Mr. Fife said the spraying would have to be of large areas, such as the entire roadway.

Mr. Miller asked for budget information. Mr. Fife will have Road Maintenance Superintendent Ron Horn give a further explanation to the Board.

Bid Opening: CRP 592/2006 Gravel Road Paving Upgrades Group 4

Bid Opening convened at 11:17 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; Engineer Tim Fife; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. Present in audience: Doug Migas of Inland Asphalt, Scott Morgan of Granite Northwest, Inc., and Stacey Wagner of Copenhaver Construction.

Garfield, Juniper, Palmer and Millwood are the main roads in Group 4.

Mr. Fife said the base bid is doing grading and rock work. Alternate A is the actual BST work. We made Alternate A optional because of the current asphalt shortage and expense. It is possible the county could do the BST work.

Four bids were received:

Transtate Asphalt	Base bid	\$813,372.00
	Alternate A bid	\$632,073.00

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Inland Asphalt	Base bid	\$873,020.35
	Alternate A bid	\$543,815.00
DeAtley	Base bid	\$803,503.30

Mr. Fife said the combined Base Bid and Alternate A bid from DeAtley is \$1,391,695.20, making the Alternate A bid \$588,155.90. He said he will have to review the bids further to make sure they are complete.

Copenhaver	Base bid	\$806,175.70
	Alternate A bid	\$593,150.00

Mr. Fife said the bids will be reviewed and he expects to have an answer on Monday.

The engineer's estimate for the base bid is \$794,086.59. The engineer's estimate for Alternate A is \$337,199.90.

Mrs. Corkrum asked with the high cost of asphalt, will you see cities, counties and the state cutting back on projects? Mr. Fife said yes.

#### Roads

Mr. Koch thanked Mr. Fife for having crews put up a sign on Burr Canyon Road.

Mr. Fife told the Board about the use of mag chloride as a base stabilization product. A byproduct is that it takes care of some dust. It is not a permanent solution because it has to be added periodically. It is used on Fir Hill.

**Adjourned** at 11:41 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until August 18, 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 August 27, 2008.