

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for September 22, 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 for approval of the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval of **joint Resolution 2008-383** in the matter of the request for signature from the Chairman of the Boards of Benton and Franklin County Commissioners on the Fee for Service Contract between the Benton-Franklin Juvenile Justice Center and Finley School District, for a term commencing September 1, 2008, and terminating July 31, 2009. (Exhibit 1: Information sheet.)
2. Approval of **joint Resolution 2008-384** in the matter of the request for signature from the Chairman of the Boards of Benton and Franklin County Commissioners on the Fee for Service Contract between the Benton-Franklin Juvenile Justice Center and Prosser School District, for a term commencing September 1, 2008, and terminating July 31, 2009. (Exhibit 2: Information sheet.)
3. Approval of **joint Resolution 2008-385** in the matter of amending Benton County Resolution 07-367 and Franklin County Resolution 2007-272 establishing a salary grade for the Bi-County Indigent Defense Coordinator.
4. Approval of **Resolution 2008-386** for the Collection Service Agreement Renewal between Franklin County Planning and Building Code Enforcement and Washington Collectors Tri-Cities, Inc., effective January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009.
5. Approval of **Resolution 2008-387** to appoint Lynn Hall as an alternate to the Franklin County Water Conservancy Board, to serve a six-year term, with said term expiring September 22, 2014.
6. Approval of **Resolution 2008-388** for the Collection Service Agreement Renewal between Franklin County District Court and Washington Collectors Tri-Cities, Inc., effective January 1, 2009, through December 31, 2009.
7. Approval of **Resolution 2008-389** for the following:
  - Creation of line item 594.18.64.2001 (Courthouse Appliances) in the 2008 Current Expense Capital Outlay Budget, Number 001-000-710.

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- Inter budget transfer in the amount of \$450 from the 2008 Current Expense Non-Departmental Budget, Number 001-000-700, from line item 519.90.46.0001 (Insurance Deductible) to the Capital Outlay Budget, Number 001-000-710, line item 594.18.64.2001 (Courthouse Appliances).
  - Authorization to purchase a General Electric range for the Courthouse basement Break Room in an amount not to exceed \$450.
8. Approval of **Resolution 2008-390** rescinding Franklin County Resolution 2008-363 and authorizing Information Services to purchase a Dell OptiPlex 755 computer and associated Windows Business Software for the Clerk's Office as identified on E-Quote, number 1000384983812, in the amount of \$1,023.44, and authorizing the purchase to be paid from the Miscellaneous County Clerk LFO Collections Fund, Number 117-000-001, line item 594.12.64.0001 (Capital Outlay).

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

Tim Waters joined the audience.

Surplus Furniture

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of transferring the surplus furniture from the Superior Court Clerk's Office to Garfield County and also three pieces of furniture from the Public Works Office. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-391.

Vouchers/Warrants

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval of vouchers in the total amount of \$126,667.02: Clerk LFO Collection Fund warrant 5150 for \$81.00; Current Expense warrants 5151 through 5220 for \$60,767.46; Crime Victims Witness warrant 5221 for \$80.00; Current Expense Cumulative Reserve warrants 5222 through 5223 for \$42,739.54; DOC Building Inspection warrants 5224 through 5225 for \$166.31; and Current Expense warrants 5226 through 5269 for \$22,833.71; for a total of \$126,667.02. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 3)

Letter to Auditor

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**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we approve the voucher/warrant and payroll release authorization for September 30, 2008. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor.  
(Exhibit 4)

**EXTENSION OFFICE**

Extension Agent Tim Waters met with the Board.

Research Trial Updates: Onion Field Day

Mr. Waters gave the Board a copy of the 2008 WSU Onion Cultivar Demonstration and Field Day information which was used as part of the onion variety test at a Field Day on August 28, 2008. There are about 20,000 acres of onions in the state and probably 60% are grown in Benton and Franklin Counties. It is a very high value crop. It probably costs \$4000 to \$6000 an acre to grow onions, maybe more now. The seed companies send seed samples and Mr. Waters plants test plots on a commercial farm. At the end of the growing season, a field day is held to show the onions to growers, seed companies and various other people. The objective is to put all of these onions in one farm under the same growing conditions for evaluation. Researchers do short write-ups about onion research and speak for five minutes. He explained how the program helps to provide feedback to all parties. Over 100 people attended the field day.

The onions are now in storage. Some of the onions will be displayed at the meeting of the Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association in November. The onions will be evaluated in February for how well they stored. Research reports will be prepared regarding yield and quality.

Potato Conference

The Potato Commission has decided to hold their conference at the Three Rivers Convention Center in Kennewick for the next two years.

Syngenta Seed Plant

Syngenta is bringing in a seed plant. Mr. Waters expects that WSU will be asked to help prepare information regarding the cost of production. The seed companies and processors have indicated they are willing to help fund that work.

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Mr. Koch asked how much it costs to raise onions compared with potatoes.  
Mr. Waters said onions cost quite a bit more than potatoes. He thinks the cost for raising onions is second only to cherries.

**PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

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

Public Hearing: Short Plat SP 2008-14 To consider an application by Dan Voss to short plat approximately 46.83 acres (gross) into three lots. As proposed, Lot #1 and Lot #2 are each approximately 3.41 acres in size, and Lot #3 is approximately 40.01 acres in size. The property is located in the Agricultural Production 20 (AP-20) Zoning District.

Public Hearing convened at 9:30 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson; Planner Jeremy Underwood; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. No one was present in the audience.

Mr. Underwood reviewed the information on the Action Summary (Exhibit 5).

Mr. MacPherson showed a copy of 2007 aerial photographs with parcel overlay on the screen. Mrs. Corkrum asked why are they doing this? Is it something to do with the East Foster Wells Road and the federal government requiring it? Mr. MacPherson said the public hearing that is scheduled to follow this one was a requirement by the Bureau of Reclamation. This application is being done for children and another relative who want to come back to the farm.

Mr. MacPherson reviewed the conditions of approval. It is watered through water rights so the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District and Bureau of Reclamation do not have any interest in it but do have signature blocks on the plat. The City of Pasco is requesting a statement be placed on the plat stating it is adjacent to the City of Pasco's reuse spray fields so nearby property owners will be aware.

No one was present in the audience to comment.

Mr. Koch said it shows a requirement for a fire apparatus "lane." He said a lane is for one piece of property. A road is for more than one piece of property. A lane is 12 feet

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wide. A road is 20 feet wide. Mr. MacPherson said we can make the change and insert the corrected page.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move we grant preliminary approval of Short Plat 2008-14 subject to the seven findings of fact and seven conditions with the correction on the separations standards on the plat and show the word “road” for a fire apparatus road instead of “lane” and have that inserted in the plat. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-392.

Mr. Koch said the difference is one residence can connect with a lane. If there are two or more residences, it is a road. A lane is twelve feet wide with four foot ditches and a road is twenty feet wide with four foot ditches.

Mr. Underwood left the meeting to make the change in wording on the paperwork.  
Public Hearing: Short Plat SP 2008-15, to consider an application by Dan Voss to short plat approximately 76.53 acres (gross) into four lots. As proposed, Lot #1 is approximately 2.06 acres in size, Lot #2 is approximately 9.68 acres in size, Lot #3 is approximately 3.41 acres in size, and Lot #4 is approximately 61.38 acres in size. The property is located in the Agricultural Production 20 (AP-20) Zoning District.

Public Hearing convened at 9:39 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson; Planner Jeremy Underwood; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. No one was present in the audience.

Mr. MacPherson reviewed the information on the Action Summary (Exhibit 6). His understanding is the Bureau of Reclamation is requiring the short plat as a type of set-aside for an impact of the extension of East Foster Wells Road.

Mr. MacPherson showed an aerial photograph of the application on the screen with a plat overlay.

The farm has water rights through groundwater so there are no irrigation district or Bureau of Reclamation facilities on the property. However, signature blocks are required for the irrigation district and the Bureau of Reclamation. Mr. MacPherson

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reviewed the other conditions of approval. The City of Pasco wants the same comment as in the previous short plat hearing. Requirement 7C should read "road" instead of "lane."

No one was present to comment in the audience.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we grant preliminary approval of Short Plat 2008-15 subject to the seven findings of fact and seven conditions of approval. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-393.

### **MINUTES**

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Commissioners Proceedings for September 15, 2008. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

### **CONNELL PROPERTY**

Mr. Koch explained a proposal to exchange some county-owned property in Connell to the other Board members. The Board members all agreed to proceed to prepare for the change.

### **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board.

#### **Franklin County Courthouse Renovation Project: Addendum #7**

Mr. Bowen asked for approval of Addendum #7 to the contract with CKJT Architects. He hopes this addendum will complete all of the work on the courthouse reconstruction. Addendum #7 is to complete the parking lots. Other addendums covered such things as fixing the handrail on the stairs and courthouse security.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we accept Addendum #7 to the agreement between owner, which is the Board of Commissioners of Franklin County, Washington, and CKJT Architects for the restoration of the 1913 Franklin County Courthouse. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-394.

#### **Historic Courthouse Restoration Committee**

Mr. Koch asked Mr. Bowen if he would be willing to sit on the state committee. Mr. Bowen is willing to apply for the appointment.

#### **Sheriff's Office – Furniture**

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Mr. Bowen received a request from Sheriff's Detective Jason Nunez for new or replacement furniture. After review of the existing office and furniture, Mr. Bowen recommends purchasing the furniture. The Board reviewed the proposal. There is no money in the Sheriff's budget to purchase the furniture. Some budget figures were reviewed. The Board discussed the request and decided to approve it.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. **Executive Session** at 10:01 am regarding union negotiations based on RCW 42.30.140(4) expected to last 10 minutes.

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

**Recessed** at 10:11 am.

**Reconvened** at 10:15 am.

**TRAC**

TRAC Manager Troy Woody met with the Board.

Cell Phone

Mr. Woody asked for approval of a resolution authorizing payment of up to \$30 of the monthly charge for cell phone for Dwayne McDonald who replaced Dave Maiden on TRAC's staff.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we authorize the county to pay up to \$30 of the monthly charge for cellular phone charges for Dwayne McDonald. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-395.

Year-to-date Occupancy Statistics

Mr. Woody gave the Board a copy of the year-to-date occupancy statistics for TRAC along with a comparison with 2007 figures.

TRAC Overflow Parking Lot

Mr. Bowen gave an update on the TRAC parking lot project. The preconstruction meeting was held last week.

RFP Update (Arena and Pavilion)

Mr. Woody said he does not think any company is interested in responding to the RFP for naming at the Arena and Pavilion at this time. People have interest but are not

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considering it at this time. The timing is terrible. He said the RFP can be re-issued next year.

Retreat Summary

Mr. Woody has given the Board a draft of the summary of the TRAC staff retreat.

Rocktoberfest Update

Mr. Woody said there have not been a lot of presales of tickets for Rocktoberfest but the phone has been ringing off the hook. He is very hopeful that we'll have a very successful event. It is very heavily advertised.

**Recessed** at 10:31 am.

**Reconvened** at 10:43 am.

**PROSECUTOR**

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp and Rule 9 Legal Intern Ben Zelen met with the Board.

Cable Franchise Power Point Presentation

Mr. Verhulp told the Board that Mr. Zelen has done research on franchises. The cable franchise law does allow for some compensation to be brought to the county. The Charter Cable franchise expired awhile ago and needs to be renewed.

Mr. Zelen gave a Power Point presentation regarding the process for cable franchise renewals and gave the Board some examples. The county is allowed to request up to 5% of gross revenue for the area as a franchise fee.

Mr. Verhulp said his office will need direction from the Board on whether it is best to pursue the formal or informal process, whether the Board wants to charge a fee, whether there is a need for educational channels, and whether customer service needs to be improved. Mrs. Corkrum said her first opinion is she is not sure it would generate enough money to pursue it because we don't have a lot of people in the county area that have cable.

Mr. Koch asked whether there is a franchise agreement with the cable company that serves Connell and some outlying areas near Connell. Mr. Verhulp does not know.

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Mr. Zelen will request information from Charter Cable about the number of users. Then Mr. Zelen and Mr. Verhulp will meet with the Board again. The Board can give further direction at that time.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if fees can be charged for other types of franchises. Mr. Zelen said no, cable is the only one for which a franchise fee can be charged. The county cannot charge a franchise fee for telephone or utilities.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** (continuing)

Building Demolition and New Parking Lot

Mr. Bowen asked for approval to award the bid for building demolition and new parking lot construction to J.N. Jacobsen and Sons Construction for \$342,700 including sales tax. The architect's estimate was \$280,000 to \$340,000.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we award the bid to J.N. Jacobsen & Sons Construction of Kennewick for \$342,700 including sales tax for the demolition of the building and the construction of a parking lot. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 7)

**Recessed** at 11:25 am.

**Reconvened** at 11:27 am.

**SHERIFF**

Sheriff Richard Lathim met with the Board.

Public Hearing: To take testimony for and against creating the Sex Offender Address Verification Grant Fund #131-000-001 and increasing the revenue and expenditure bottom lines of the fund by \$47,054 due to a grant received from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC)

Public Hearing convened at 11:30 am. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; Sheriff Richard Lathim; County Administrator's Secretary Bridgette Scott, and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. No one was present in the audience.

Sheriff Lathim said the legislature approved the funds last session and explained how the funds are to be used by the Sheriff's Office and City of Pasco Police Department.

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It is a one-year grant. By placing the funds in the Miscellaneous Budget, they can be expended into 2009 as well. The City of Pasco will pay for overtime work involved and then they will bill the county. Sheriff Lathim has already had a meeting with the City of Pasco to determine how the work will be done.

No one was present in the audience to comment.

Sheriff Lathim said he would like to borrow money from the Boating Safety fund until the first reimbursement funds are received.

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we approve the resolution of the creation of Miscellaneous Fund #131-000-001 entitled Sex Offender Address Verification Grant and creation of associated revenue and expenditure line items. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-396.

**Loan from Boating Safety Budget**

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval to borrow up to \$7000 for cash flow until the grant money comes in from the state from the Boat Safety budget. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-397.

**Coyote Ridge Prison**

There was discussion about some of the impacts of the prison to the county. Sheriff Lathim said it is hard to determine if the radio tower at the prison will be useful to the county. Funding of \$100,000 is available for a K9 unit to either the City of Connell or the county which covers the cost of the dog, training and a car (equipment), but not ongoing overtime costs for the monthly training involved, vet bills and food, so Sheriff Lathim is unsure if it would benefit the county or not.

**Adjourned** at 11:43 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until October 1, 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 October 1, 2008.