

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for October 15, 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 on personal business.

**OFFICE BUSINESS**

Secretary Patricia Shults met with the Board. Present in audience: Tri-City Herald Reporter Joe Chapman.

Consent Agenda

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

1. Approval of **Resolution 2008-435** in the matter of authorizing the Chairman to sign the Minolta Copier Maintenance Contract between Abadan and the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, model number BIZHUB750, serial number 57AE31777, for a period of twelve months commencing September 19, 2008, for a monthly fee of \$68 for 10,000 copies, plus applicable copy overages at a cost of \$.068, to be paid from the Current Expense Prosecuting Attorney Budget, Number 001-000-480, line item 515.20.48.0000 (Repairs & Maintenance).
2. Approval of **Resolution 2008-436** in the matter of authorizing the Chairman to sign the Minolta Copier Maintenance Contract between Abadan and Franklin County Prosecutor's Office for the copier located in the Child Support Office, model number BIZHUB501, serial number A0R5011002143, for a period of twelve months commencing September 19, 2008, for a monthly fee of \$42.50 for 5,000 copies, plus applicable copy overages at a cost of \$.0085, to be paid from the Current Expense Child Support Enforcement Budget, Number 001-000-500, line item 515.80.48.0000 (Repairs & Maintenance).

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

Vouchers

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of vouchers for October 15 as listed in the amount of \$181,210.56: TRAC Operations Fund warrants 6188 through 6258 for \$110,116.97; Current Expense warrants 6333 through 6365 for \$51,736.54; Crime Victims Witness warrants 6366 through 6371 for \$3172.91; FC Enhanced warrants 6390 and 6391 for \$3518.63; DOC Building Inspection warrant 6392 for \$15.20; and Auditor O&M warrant 6393 for \$12,650.31. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 1)

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Minutes

**Motion** - Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Commissioners Proceedings on October 13, 2008. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

Public Works Department: Notice of Intent to Sell

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for Notice of Intent to Sell, declaring miscellaneous vehicles surplus. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 2)

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for Notice of Public Auction to be held at Booker Auction Company at 9 am November 1 at the southwest corner of State Route 395 and Eltopia West Road in Eltopia, Washington, for the said property. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 3)

Museum Grants

The Board has previously authorized grants of \$5000 for two museums. Mrs. Corkrum said if there's enough money, she would grant the railroad museum funding at a lesser amount. Mr. Koch said he asked that the museums provide a plan for use of the money.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I would move that we allow \$5000 to Connell Heritage Museum and \$5000 for Franklin County Museum and \$2500 for the Franklin County Railroad Museum. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

The interlocal agreements will be prepared.

Vouchers/Warrants

**Motion** - Mrs. Corkrum: I move for payroll for County Road for \$70, 693.38. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for Motor Vehicle Equipment Rental Payroll for \$10,379.62. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board. Present in audience: Joe Chapman.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement for Clark Addition

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**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of the resolution regarding Community Development Block Grant between Franklin County and Clark Addition Water Association for the Washington State Department of Community Trade and Economic Development (CTED) in the amount of \$670,000. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-437.

Mr. Bowen said a new well is being dug because the existing wells are too high in nitrates. The system covers the entire Clark Addition area.

**Information Services (IS): Change of Status**

Mr. Bowen said IS Director Kevin Scott met with the Board during a budget workshop session and requested approval for a new position, which the Board agreed to approve. Mrs. Corkrum asked if Information Services has ever had an assistant director position. Mr. Bowen said yes, there was an assistant director when he was the IS director. It has not been filled for several years. He thinks it is needed because of the amount of work. Mrs. Corkrum is concerned about approving for fear of setting a precedent. Mr. Bowen answered Mrs. Corkrum's questions about the procedure that was followed.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of moving Liz Cupples from Grade 17 Step 6 to Grade 18 Step 6.

Mr. Bowen answered Mrs. Corkrum's questions about the grade and step placement.

Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 4)

**PROSECUTOR**

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp met with the Board. Present in audience: Joe Chapman.

**Agreement to sell Road 48 soccer field**

Mr. Verhulp is reviewing the closing documents and expects to have completed his review by the end of today. He asked for approval of a resolution authorizing the chair of the board to sign the closing documents and schedule an appointment with Attorney Dan Hultgrenn's office to conclude the transaction. The school district has already paid the money, which is being held in trust. It will have to be held for 11

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business days. The county should have the money no later than October 31. Mr. Verhulp asked if the Board has any objection or concerns. The Board did not.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of Resolution 2008-438 authorizing the chairman to sign closing documents related to the agreement to purchase and sell real estate by and between Franklin County and Pasco School District #1, Road 48 soccer field. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor.

Claim: Albert Thurman

Mr. Verhulp said over three years has passed since the occurrence of the event without a lawsuit being filed which means the statute of limitations has expired for the claim. The claim will be closed.

Ben Franklin Transit Transfer Station

Mr. Bowen said Ben Franklin Transit would like to have wording using the word “lease” instead of “license.” Mr. Koch, Mrs. Corkrum and Mr. Bowen remember that when Transit was initially allowed to park at TRAC, the county approved the parking with the stipulation that on weekends and when there were big events at TRAC, the parking lot would not be available for Transit. Mr. Bowen will meet with the attorney for Ben Franklin Transit. Mr. Verhulp thinks it is a license, not a lease. We’re permitting them license to be on the property at certain times at our discretion.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Engineer Tim Fife met with the Board. Present in audience: Joe Chapman.

CRP 591 Countywide Safety Corridor Program LA Supplement #3

Mr. Fife asked for approval of a supplemental agreement involving a number of Bureau of Reclamation pipe crossings along the corridors that were identified as high accident corridors such as Glade North Road, Taylor Flats Road, Sagehill Road, and a few others. The agreement involves construction funding. The balance of the funds up to \$500,000 are being put into day labor to start doing some of the slope flattening along Glade North Road so we don’t have steep drop-offs. There is not a lot of money.

The county already has received the \$500,000. The agreement just obligates the funds to those things. There are contracts in place. As soon as we get the money

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authorized, we can go to bid on the pipe crossings. For the slope flattening work, we have to get permits and meet with property owners before we do any of that work.

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of CRP 591 Countywide Safety Corridor Program, Phase III and IV, with the Washington State Department of Transportation and Franklin County. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-439.

**Draft Cattle Guard Policy**

Mr. Fife explained the need for the policy. It was prepared based on Lincoln County's policy. Mr. Fife said we're not changing the Open Range area but dealing with current cattle guards that are in place and any future ones that need to be put in.

The reason for the wording in the portion that states "or as close to the Open Range as practical based on fence lines" is that it would not make sense to force a property owner to move the cattle guard back to the fence line in some instances, just based on common sense. He gave an example of topography affecting the placement.

We will install one cattle guard by request as it enters and leaves a designated area of the Open Range if the property owner asks us to.

The proposed paragraph three differentiates installed and maintained at benefitting property owners' expense with the exception of those that are on the border. All of the cattle guards will be owned by the county but the property owner will be required to install and maintain them in areas other than the border of the Open Range.

Mr. Fife pointed out the existing cattle guards that the county is responsible for on the map.

No public hearing is necessary. It is an internal policy. Mr. Fife suggested that the county contact the owners of the property where cattle guards are currently in place before the policy is adopted. He explained the process that would occur if the property owner wants the county to do the maintenance on the cattle guard.

**Other Business**

Mr. Fife said some of the selection criteria and some administrative issues have been determined regarding a proposed pilot program for spraying weeds and paying a property owner to do it. There are several potential problematic problems. One, whoever

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is interested in doing this would have to have a vested interest in the properties because if they don't own the property or are leasing it for ag purposes, technically they can't spray on public right of way without an applicator's license, but if they're spraying for agricultural purposes to keep weeds from going into their field, maybe there is a link that allows them to do that under their license. They either own the property or are leasing it and need to be able to do the whole road or an identifiable segment that actually saves us money by not having to send our crew out there. If they don't own the property, that could be a problem. Secondly, some may not want to make sure they have \$1 million of insurance.

Mrs. Corkrum asked Mr. Fife to find out if any other counties have done this type of program. Mr. Fife said we're only interested in keeping six to eight feet clear along the side of the road. He thinks the owners are interested in doing more and expect it is the county's responsibility to spray weeds. The only required weed control for the county is through the Noxious Weed Board. The property owner is ultimately responsible. He told the Board about the ownership requirements.

Mr. Fife said we do some work because we believe it is the right thing to do. He gave an example of puncture vine which is not on the list of noxious weeds. He said we don't have the money to do everything. We have different missions than what the farmer has and thinks we have. We may want to address that at some point in time. We need to keep the weeds clear so we can pull the shoulders from time to time.

Weed Spray Contract

Mr. Koch asked if a request for proposal is needed for the current spray contract. Mr. Fife said we need to do it again for next year. The award of the contract is based on more than just a price; it also involves equipment and experience. There is a lot of potential for problems. We want to make sure they have the equipment we are looking for and have a history of spraying.

**TREASURER**

Treasurer Tiffany Coffland and Daniele Carlson met with the Board. Present in audience: Joe Chapman.

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Sale of Property

Ms. Coffland and Ms. Carlson told the Board about a piece of landlocked property that the county owns which the Board has discussed previously. A person wants to buy the property. Columbia Park Trail was not willing to purchase it from the county. The Corps of Engineers is willing to work with the person regarding access.

Ms. Coffland said there would be costs associated with publishing notice and putting the auction on. It would be a public auction at which anyone could purchase the property. We would like to wait until March because we have two other properties to sell. Mr. Koch said it would have to be sold as is/where is. Ms. Coffland said Prosecutor Steve Lowe recommended having people sign a statement stating that they realize there is no legal access at this point. The Corps of Engineers has told her they would not grant access only to the one person but would require public access as well.

Ms. Coffland asked if the Board is willing to sell the property. Mrs. Corkrum said yes, to sell it as is/where is with no known access. Mr. Koch agreed.

Ms. Coffland said we'll send a resolution to the Board, probably in January.

Foreclosure Update

The Foreclosure sale will occur on November 21. There are currently 12 properties that are not redeemed. One is land. The others are businesses or houses. There may be a circumstance that we have to take a few parcels off the list prior to the sale.

Destraint

There were originally 77 destraint properties. The number is now down to 28. We're cleaning up the rolls, realizing some mobiles are not where they were thought to be located.

Tax Collections

As of yesterday, the county has collected \$332,000 including payments from two out of six mortgage companies.

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The cash flow figure is about \$56,000 in the red, which is normal for this time of year. It is actually a little better than previous years. The rainy day funds and investments cover that.

Automated Redeemed Warrant Process

The automated redeemed warrant process is now in place. It used to take from one to two hours to process the redeemed warrants and now takes about 20 to 30 minutes. It was very time-consuming for the Accounting Department to do it. We redeem not only county payroll warrants but also payroll warrants for the school districts and the Mid-Columbia library.

Still receipting in both tax systems

We're still the only county on the TerraScan system because we're still working out bugs. Because we're still receipting in both tax systems, there is a lot of extra work for people in her office. Both systems have to match on a daily basis.

**TRAC**

TRAC Manager Troy Woody and Tom Hewitt met with the Board. Present in audience: Joe Chapman.

Salvage: Tractor

Mr. Woody said TRAC needs to surplus a Ford 6010 tractor. We really need a skid steer instead. The value is over \$2500 so a public hearing process will be used. The tractor will be posted publicly, then put on E-Bay or Craig's List because it will be too late for the Booker Auction on November 1. Mr. Koch said to make sure to have protection so the minimum bid is high enough to reflect the value.

Bid Opening: TRAC Banquet Chairs

Bid Opening convened at 11:00 am. Present: Commissioners Koch and Corkrum; County Administrator Fred Bowen; TRAC Manager Troy Woody; TRAC Food and Beverage Manager Tom Hewitt; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. Present in audience: Joe Chapman.

Two bids were received:



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Bargreen Ellingson                      Total \$58,169.93 including tax and freight. The price per chair is \$81.50, uncrated.

Food Service of America              Total \$56,610.58 including tax. The bid does not seem to include freight. Mr. Woody said we may need to clarify that. The price per chair is \$85.52.

Mr. Bowen asked if the specifications included freight. Mr. Woody will check the language.

The bid award is scheduled for Monday, October 20, at 9:15 am.

Mr. Hewitt said the chairs are black and will be used to add to the existing inventory.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR (continuing)**

Present in audience: Joe Chapman.

Regional Jail Concept

Mr. Bowen has talked to officials from Adams County and Douglas County regarding a regional jail concept. The other counties will send some information and invite Franklin County to participate in the meetings. What they're trying to do is talk it through and see if they can get some funding from legislation to do a study on regional jails. They were wondering if the state would have any property available for the jail, perhaps in Connell. The original idea is for a 2000-bed facility. Mrs. Corkrum said she thinks it would make sense for Franklin County to be included. Adams, Grant, Garfield, Columbia and Lincoln Counties are the ones that were mentioned.

**Executive Session** at 11:09 am regarding property acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)g) and regarding contract negotiations (union) per RCW 42.30.140(4) expected to last 15 minutes. Joe Chapman left the meeting.

**Open Session** at 11:24 am.

**Adjourned** at 11:24 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until October 20, 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 20, 2008.