

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 50  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for September 28, 2009

The Honorable Board of Franklin County Commissioners met on the above date. Present for the meeting were Rick Miller, Chairman; Bob Koch, Chair Pro Tem; and Brad Peck, Member; Fred Bowen, County Administrator; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board. Meeting convened at 9:01 am.

**OFFICE BUSINESS**

Secretary Patricia Shults met with the Board. Present in audience: Lisa Schumacher, Connie Curiel and Kelly Martin.

Consent Agenda

**Motion** - Mr. Peck: I move approval of consent agenda for Monday, September 28, 2009, with a request that we look at item 2 as a separate issue outside the consent agenda and a question on item 3:

1. Approval of **Resolution 2009-401** for Washington State Military Department Contract Number E10-046 for State Enhanced 911 funds effective July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010, authorizing the Chairman to sign said agreement on behalf of the Board and authorizing the Chairman and Chair Pro Tem to sign the Signature Authorization Form.

(Clerk's Note: Item 2 was removed from the consent agenda.)

2. Approval of 2010 WCIF / WCIP insurance renewal options, utilizing Human Resources recommendations, as identified on the attached Memorandum.

(Clerk's Note: Item 3 was removed from the consent agenda.)

3. Approval of **Resolution 2009-\_\_** authorizing the Chairman to sign, on behalf of the Board, the License for Right-of-way Use - Road 68 between Rodeo Drive and Burden Boulevard - TRAC Sign.

Second by Mr. Koch.

Mr. Peck said in previous discussions about the Road 68 sign, the drawings he reviewed were in black and white. On the drawing presented today, he has noticed several smaller signs as part of the full sign, some of which are for private for-profit businesses. He wonders what the county's agreement is or by what authority we are spending money to advertise for private businesses. TRAC Manager Troy Woody will be

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contacted for more information. Consent Agenda item number 3 was pulled from the consent agenda until Wednesday.

Mr. Peck asked if Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp has reviewed the Washington State Military Department contract listed in item 1. Ms. Shults said Mr. Verhulp has signed the contract as "not reviewed." The state is unwilling to change the language in the contract. For the county to receive state 911 funding, we have to have the contract. The contract is produced by the state. Mr. Verhulp has stated that he briefly looked at the contract. He sees minor changes that are for the good. The dollar amount has changed and the contract number has changed.

**Motion on consent agenda for Number 1: 3:0 vote in favor.**

Tom Westerman and Tiffany Coffland joined the audience.

Vouchers/Warrants

**Motion** – Mr. Koch: Mr. Chairman, I move for approval of 2009 vouchers for September 28, 2009, in the total amount of \$60,169.96: Boating Safety warrant 22819 for \$125.00; Current Expense warrants 22820 through 22821 for \$10,415.18; Current Expense warrants 22822 through 22852 for \$17,905.02; Law Library warrants 22853 through 22855 for \$8,069.60; Franklin County Enhanced 911 warrants 22856 through 22874 for \$13,302.79; Franklin County RV Facility warrants 22875 through 22878 for \$10,226.73; and Veteran's Assistance warrants 22985 through 22986. Second by Mr. Peck.

Mr. Peck asked that Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp be contacted to find out if it is appropriate for a Commissioner to sign a sheet of vouchers prior to Board approval.

**3:0 vote in favor.** (Exhibit 1)

Minutes

**Motion** – Mr. Koch: I move for approval of Commissioners Proceedings for September 14, 16, 21 and 23. Second by Mr. Peck. 3:0 vote in favor.

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Consent Agenda Item #2

Mr. Peck said he does not need a separate discussion. He just wants a separate vote because he intends to vote against it.

**Motion** – Mr. Koch: Mr. Chairman, I move for approval of 2010 Washington Counties Insurance Fund and Pool insurance renewal recommendations, utilizing Human Resources' recommendations, as identified and attached. Second by Mr. Miller.

Mr. Peck said we have been told we have additional time to work on this. He said he raised a concern about the significant premium increase for the majority of our employees covered under these plans, which are the employees who choose to take it as employee only, and has asked if there are other options to mitigate that. Not having heard anything back, I don't think the discussion is complete. The motion has been made and seconded. If you want to call for a question, I'll simply vote no.

Mr. Miller asked is there time for the questions to be answered? Ms. Schumacher said we need to know at least by October 6 to prepare for the open enrollment period. WCIF has a deadline as well.

Mr. Peck said he doesn't mind calling for the question. He wanted to be on record as sticking up for the individual employees who are going to get hit with substantial premium increases.

**Vote: 2:1 vote in favor. Yeas: Koch and Miller. Nay: Peck.** (Exhibit 2)

**Recessed** at 9:19 am.

The Board met in budget workshop.

**Reconvened** at 10:35 am.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

2010 Budget

Mr. Peck said our discussion from our workshop if I understood it all correctly was that each of us had our own views on how best to come to a final budget, what process was best. Commissioner Koch favored an equal percentage across-the-board cut to achieve that outcome. Commissioner Miller, you and I each favored our own variations on going through department by department and prioritizing spending and

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assigning percentages to get to the same outcome. It sounded to me like we had consensus that we would take the budget shortfall, divide that by 3, apply a percentage against each department to achieve one-third of that shortfall, and that would represent Commissioner Koch's input to the deduction process. The additional cuts necessary to cover the remaining two-thirds of the shortfall we would achieve by going through department by department and assigning our recommended percentage, you listing your recommended percentages and me listing mine, and that we would then leave Commissioner Koch's cuts intact, we would average our percentages, calculate the result, and then make any final adjustments that might be necessary to get us to the actual full budget shortfall that we need to overcome.

One of the keys to the process appears to be that as we assign or recommend percentages by department that individually our total recommended reductions need to make up that other two-thirds. So we could take your percentage cuts by department and my percentage cuts by department and with each of us working towards overcoming one-third of the shortfall, we would then add your recommended cuts with mine and together that would overcome the two-thirds, if you follow that.

Mr. Bowen said he knows what you're trying to do. He's trying to figure out how we can do it on paper.

Mr. Peck said the idea is to take the full budget shortfall of approximately \$1.5 million and divide it into three equal portions of approximately \$486,000 each. We would accomplish one-third of those with Commission Koch's flat rate percentage across the departments that would give that \$486,000 deduction. That represents his one-third voice. He said he and Mr. Miller need to do the same process as Mr. Koch is doing; it's just that we may or may not choose to use the same percentage on each department. But we still need to each come up with one-third of the shortfall. Once we've accomplished that, the three pieces together give us the final number. Is that more clear? (Mr. Bowen nodded his head.)

Mr. Peck said it is essentially the same process we used in our drill last week with the exception that we are changing all of Commission Koch's inputs to be equal across

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the board per our agreement and his request, our agreement that this was not a final, this was a drill, and that it be equal across the board.

Mr. Koch suggested using a \$500,000 figure instead of \$485,000. Mr. Miller said that's a good idea.

**Motion** – Mr. Peck: In the interest of respecting the individual views and wishes of each of the commissioners and to get us through a process that yields a balanced budget number, I move that each commissioner review the list of departments excluding Departments 165, 180, 240, 270, 500, 550, 560, 590, 655, 690, 700 and 710, that each commissioner will assign percentage reductions by department for those unnamed departments with each commissioner's total proposed reductions coming to no less than \$500,000, whereupon we will combine the results of the three commissioner inputs to achieve an approximate balance, overcoming our present shortfall of approximately \$1.5 million. Second by Mr. Koch.

Mr. Miller said in this process, the average will come down to very close as 8.49% if you went across the board. Mr. Bowen said the 9.42% I'm working on is based off the numbers that Mr. Koch provided on this sheet. Some other percentages were given. Mr. Peck said I would be cautious to use percentages like that. Each one of us knows which departments and budgets need to be reviewed and each of us knows what total dollar amount we need to come up with.

Mr. Westerman answered Mr. Peck's question about which column the commissioners should use as they prepare their figures from a budget worksheet.

Mr. Peck said we can submit our figures to the county administrator, he can do the math, and we should very quickly have a proposal that all three commissioners have in effect agreed to, each having an equal voice, none of us agreeing 100% with the other.

**3:0 vote in favor.**

The Board members plan to have the figures prepared before the September 30, 2009, Board meeting.

**Adjourned** at 10:50 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until September 30, 2009.

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 12, 2009.