

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 49  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
Commissioners' Proceeding for January 2, 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** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval of ***Voluntary Transfer of Annual Leave Request*** as per Resolution 2001-246 for Amy Schroeder (Treasurer's Office) for a total of 149 hours as follows:
  - Frank W. Jenny (Prosecutor's Office) to transfer 40 hours.
  - Susan E. Boothe (Auditor's Office) to transfer 7.5 hours.
  - B. Yesenia Torres (Auditor's Office) to transfer 7.5 hours.
  - Diana Garza Killian (Auditor's Office) to transfer 7.5 hours.
  - Richard Long (Corrections) to transfer 8 hours.
  - Michael A. Monk (Corrections) to transfer 24 hours.
  - Rosa Fernandez (Elections) to transfer 4 hours.
  - Sandra Schroeder (Corrections) to transfer 16 hours.
  - Liz Cupples (Information Services) to transfer 4 hours.
  - Julie Michel (Assessor's Office) to transfer 15 hours.
  - Ann Snyder (Clerk's Office) to transfer 8 hours.
  - Linda Lafferty (Auditor's Office) to transfer 7.5 hours. (Exhibit 1)
2. Approval of **joint Resolution 2008-001** rescinding Benton County Resolution 06 561 and Franklin County Resolution 2006-515 and approving the reappointment of Dorothy Evans to the Mid-Columbia Library Board of Trustees, with said term expiring December 31, 2013.
3. Approval of **Resolution 2008-002** for the 2008-2009 Agreement between Franklin County and the City of Kahlotus, for the Franklin County Sheriff to provide police protection and law enforcement within the corporate limits of the City, with said agreement expiring on December 31, 2009.
4. Approval of **Resolution 2008-003** for the Memorandum of Agreement between Washington State University Extension and Franklin County, Appendix A, for the period January 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008, to provide an extension program with funds in the amount of \$72,875, and authorizing the Chairman to sign said Agreement on behalf of the Board.

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5. Approval of **Resolution 2008-004** for an inter budget transfer in the amount of \$2,000 from the **2007** Current Expense Aids to Other Government Agencies Budget, Number 001-000-720, line item 512.21.50.0001 (Court Reimbursement/ Benton County) to the Capital Outlay Budget, Number 001-000-710, line item 594.12.1651 (Superior Court Law Books). (Exhibit 2)
6. Approval of **Resolution 2008-005** for various inter-departmental transfers to alleviate negative **2007** salary and benefit expenditure lines within Current Expense departments, totaling \$208,025.04.

Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Ms. Shults answered Mrs. Corkrum's question about item 5, saying the money is being used for books for the Superior Court, not the Law Library which is located at CBC.

Vouchers/Warrants

**Motion** - Mr. Miller: I move for approval of payment of vouchers for January 2, 2008, Current Expense warrants 60817 through 60820 for \$2327.30. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 3)

**HUMAN SERVICES (HS)**

HS Director Carrie Huie-Pascua met with the Board.

Department Update

Sandra Knighton started working as the new Assessment Center supervisor today. Esther Shube also started working for HS last week.

Kim Kaiser finished her contract work on the transition plan of Sunderland clients so her personal services agreement ended December 31. We really liked her work and because we had an opening for Office Assistant III at Crisis Response/Assessment Center, she has been hired there.

Ms. Huie-Pascua said we are working with the three advisory boards to develop annual work plans so they have a good sense of how advisory boards can support the role of HS.

**Executive Session** at 9:25 am regarding personnel to review performance of public employee based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) expected to last up to 20 minutes.

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**Executive Session** continued at 9:47 am, expected to last five more minutes. No one was waiting outside the room.

**Open Session** at 9:54 am.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Engineer Tim Fife met with the Board. Present in audience: Sheriff Richard Lathim and Rick Rochleau.

Permit Issues

Rock Walls: Mr. Fife showed the Board a picture of a rock wall that has been built on Fanning Road near Selph Landing Road by a property owner. It's within three feet of the shoulder and placed where it causes a hazard and is not safe that close to the road. Mr. Fife said the county has 52 to 54 feet of dedicated right-of-way at this spot. The wall was built without a permit. Mr. Fife has met with the property owners. They tried to find out if there were any other things they could do. Mr. Fife wanted the Board to be aware of the situation. If they had sought a landscape permit, we would have told them the wall was not allowed.

Mr. Fife said Public Works employees have also located a wall on another property.

Concrete approach: One of the county's requirements is that approaches to county roads be asphalt, not concrete. Mr. Fife gave the Board a copy of a letter dated July 28, 2005, that was sent to a property owner regarding a concrete approach. He said several approaches were made using concrete rather than asphalt. Each property owner was sent a similar letter. The letters state at this time we are not going to do anything but notify the property owners they are in noncompliance and in the future when approach reviews are done, it will come up. He told the Board one of the property owners is planning to build a shed and may come to the Board to ask for a variance. Mrs. Corkrum asked if it would be acceptable if the concrete were grooved. Mr. Fife explained why the concrete has the potential to be a maintenance issue in the long run. He said we want the joint to be placed at the property line versus the shoulder of the road.

Mr. Fife would recommend that the Board not give a variance if it is requested.

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Mr. Bowen asked if the letter was also sent to the Planning Department. Mr. Fife said the Planning Department is aware of it.

**SHERIFF**

Sheriff Richard Lathim and Security Officer Rick Rochleau met with the Board.

Sheriff Lathim said Mr. Rochleau began working for the county this morning as the security officer. Mr. Bowen said Mr. Rochleau's office will be temporarily located in the Information Services office. Mr. Rochleau will need an office to interview people and issue badges, as well as other work. An office is not being built in the guard house because it would have then required a restroom and increased the costs.

Sheriff Lathim said a Security Committee meeting is being set up.

Mr. Bowen said the evacuation plan needs to be updated. He said the security system could be turned on today but there is work that needs to be done by the county to be prepared before it is turned on.

Sheriff Lathim said people will have to have personal responsibility to make sure doors and gates are completely closed before leaving.

Mr. Rochleau said some policies will need to be in place before turning on the screening station.

**Recessed** at 10:14 am.

**Reconvened** at 10:18 am.

**PROSECUTOR**

Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp met with the Board.

**Executive Session** at 10:18 am based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) expected to last 10 minutes.

**Open Session** at 10:30 am.

Veterans Fund

Jim Reed of the American Legion has asked if the Board would approve having a list of people who receive funding from the Veterans fund placed on the internet monthly to help avoid having recipients double-dip from other sources. The distribution of the

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funds is administered by the American Legion. Mr. Verhulp will review the memo from Mr. Reed.

**PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson; Assistant Director Greg Wendt; Building Inspector Jim Cherry and Franklin Conservation District Director Mark Nielson met with the Board.

Renewal of Delegation of Authority for 2003 Agricultural Burning Permits

Mr. Nielson said in order for Franklin County to issue burn permits locally, the county needs a Delegation of Authority through the Department of Ecology (DOE). The Conservation Districts could request it, but because of liability issues, we have asked the county to request it. The DOE has started issuing Delegation of Authority for two-year periods rather than one-year periods. We're on an off year now so they want to issue for one year and then next year move to the same schedule as others.

Mr. MacPherson said originally the discussion years ago on the delegated authority centered on turning the authority all back over to DOE but the county wanted the ability to have burn permits issued locally.

Mr. Nielson gave the Board a graph showing the numbers of acres permitted by year for ag burn permits from 1997 through 2007. Mr. Nielson said once the program was up and running through the Conservation Office, it has been very beneficial to the ag community. He said people appreciate coming to a one-stop shop. The program has done the Conservation District good as far as public relations with the ag community. Based on long-term trends, he anticipates burning about 10,000 acres per year in Franklin County. State law required permits to be issued starting in 1997. The permits were issued in the county through then-Code Enforcement Officer Jim Cherry from 1997 through 2002. From 2003 to the present, the Franklin Conservation District has issued the permits.

Mr. MacPherson asked for approval of a letter requesting renewal of Delegation of Authority. It will be followed by receipt of the Delegation of Authority and then a renewed contract with the Franklin Conservation District.

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**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move we request for renewal of Delegation of Authority to Franklin County Washington for 2008 Agricultural Burning Permits. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 4)

Final Approval Subdivision SUB 2006-04, Jon and Terra Jacobs

**Motion** – Mrs. Corkrum: I move we approve the final approval of Subdivision 2006-04 to subdivide approximately 4.82 acres into five single-family residential lots for Jon and Terra Jacobs and allow the Chairman to sign the original plat. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-006.

Final Approval Subdivision SUB 2007-02, Kent Sanders

**Motion** – Mr. Miller: I move that we approve the final approval for Subdivision 2007-02, a preliminary plat to subdivide approximately 6.45 acres into 11 single-family residential lots. The property is zoned Residential Suburban 20,000 (RS-20). The land is located within the Pasco Urban Growth Boundary. The land is located in Pasco north of Court Street, south of Wernett Road and along the west side of Road 64 near the address 2021 Road 64. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2008-007.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board.

Discuss departments awarding plaques to employees using county funds

County Clerk Mike Killian was present in the audience.

Mr. Bowen said his understanding is that if departments buy plaques for employees, it is up to departments to pay for the plaques, not the Commissioners. He asked the Board for direction.

Mrs. Corkrum said if it is under the guidelines of the Awards Banquet, she assumes it would be under the Awards Banquet Committee. Mr. Bowen said we recognize a lot of people for the things they do for the county. He wishes some people had been recognized at the Awards Banquet in December 2007 that are going to retire soon.

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He asked the Board to decide, one, if you are willing to pay for plaques, and if that's not the case, are we going to recognize the employees at the Awards Banquet.

Mrs. Corkrum said when two people retired in the Commissioners Office, we took up a collection in the office to pay for it. Mr. Bowen said the county did pay for one plaque from another office because the office that ordered the plaque did not pay for it and the local business needed to be paid.

Mr. Killian asked is there a policy that we don't buy these sorts of things? Mrs. Corkrum said there is a policy. Mr. Killian said he didn't know there was a policy. Mrs. Corkrum thinks it is a common sense issue.

Mr. Killian described the award given in his office. One person in his office is selected each year, nominated by the other employees in the office. A plaque is given to that person. Mrs. Corkrum said it is done in his office only. Mr. Killian said it was paid for last year by the county. He probably would not have done it again if he had known the county would not pay for the plaque. He thinks the county needs to have a written policy.

After further discussion, Mr. Killian said he will pay for the plaque.

Mr. Killian left the meeting.

Mr. Bowen said awards are given at the Awards Banquet for longevity, no use of sick days, and no accidents in county vehicles. An additional award could be presented: If an employee recognizes that the county is spending money that can be saved instead, they can receive 10% of the savings for a year with a cap of \$5000. He explained how the program got started in Arizona. The award has never been presented in Franklin County. It is part of the Awards Banquet program.

There was discussion about how to honor employees that are retiring.

The Board **approved** a memo regarding unauthorized expenditures – plaques/awards (Exhibit 5).

**Adjourned** at 11:03 am.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until January 7, 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 January 7, 2008.