Commissioners' Proceedings for August 17, 2011

The Honorable Board of Franklin County Commissioners met on the above date. Present for the meeting were Robert E. Koch, Chairman; Rick Miller, Chair Pro Tem; and Brad Peck, Member; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board. Meeting convened at 9:00 am. Fred Bowen, County Administrator, was absent on personal leave.

BENTON FRANKLIN COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE (BFCAC)

BFCAC Executive Director Judith Gidley, Board Chairman Eileen Crawford and Vice Chairman Doug Kellogg met with the Board. Those present in the audience included: Roger and Erich Lenk, Les Litzenberger, Ed Thornbrugh, Doug Gould, Jan Barrow, Milton B. Robbins, Jean Turley, Randy Turley, Linda Wagner, Todd Blackman, Jay and Marcia Frichette, Janet Johnson, Lester Storms, Steve Johnson, Mark MacFarlan, Pam Follansbee, Rosie Rumsey, W. G. Schinkelshoek, Dan Blasdel, Dave Bushey and <u>Tri-City Herald</u> Reporter Kristi Pihl. Others joined the audience during the meeting.

Homeless Housing and Assistance Act Report (2163 funding)

Affordable Housing Report

Ms. Gidley gave the 2011 Semi-Annual Homeless Housing and Assistance report (Exhibit 1). Mr. Miller noted that the funding comes from building permits and document recording fees.

Home Base

Ms. Gidley gave an update on the Home Base project, which was the number one objective as a part of the homeless housing plan that is a continuum of care system. The Homebase Connection Center has been established with completion of a building remodel, allowing for one point of entry for 13 different functions. An Open House is being planned for September as well as a roundtable meeting of elected officials to talk about homeless issues.

Ms. Crawford read a statement that explained the goals of the programs and how work is done to provide service to each person. Her statement included information about efforts to reach homeless people. She gave an example of a particular person she called Rose who needed help and explained how BFCAC was able to help her, using the one-application, one-stop program that connects with many programs and available help. Ms. Crawford listed many of the

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programs that can help people in need. She stated we use the money to create a long-term solution. We provide our clients with a hand up, not a hand out.

Ms. Gidley explained further how the One Stop program functions and other aspects of the program including billing procedures. BFCAC has two major community partners who also provide housing assistance: Salvation Army and Domestic Violence Services of Benton and Franklin County. They also are able to enter their data on the system. There is an agreement in place between CAC and the two partners. Ms. Gidley gave the Board members a copy of the guidelines.

Ms. Gidley explained aspects of the housing program in detail.

Shawn Sant joined the audience.

Ms. Gidley answered Mr. Peck's question about use of poverty guidelines.

Mr. Peck asked if the single point of service has improved efficiency for CAC.

Ms. Gidley said yes. In response to Mr. Peck's question, Ms. Gidley said the single point of service has not reduced operating costs.

Ms. Crawford told about the GED program.

Mr. Peck commented that point in time (PIT) counts are anecdotal at best. Ms. Gidley said we look at the counts as trend data. Ms. Crawford said the Federal government mandates the day that PIT counts will be done. The CAC tries to use the same day, same form and same location from year to year.

PROSECUTOR

Prosecutor Shawn Sant met with the Board. Those present in the audience included: Roger and Erich Lenk, Les Litzenberger, Ed Thornbrugh, Doug Gould, Jan Barrow, Milton B. Robbins, Jean Turley, Randy Turley, Linda Wagner, Todd Blackman, Jay and Marcia Frichette, Janet Johnson, Lester Storms, Steve Johnson, Mark MacFarlan, Pam Follansbee, Rosie Rumsey, W. G. Schinkelshoek, Dan Blasdel, Dave Bushey, <u>Tri-City Herald</u> Reporter Kristi Pihl and Toni Fulton. Others joined the audience during the meeting.

Salary step increase request

Mr. Sant told the Board about how duties of a vacant position in his office have been combined between other positions and requested approval of a salary step increase for one of the

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positions. The fiscal impact of the salary step increase will be about \$3000 per year. Mr. Sant and his staff are also researching the possibility of some state reimbursements for salaries and benefits of staff members doing Child Support work that would affect the 2012 budget.

<u>Motion</u> – Mr. Peck: I move for approval as requested and authorize the chairman to sign on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, with thanks to Mr. Sant for seeking improvements and efficiency in his office. Second by Mr. Miller.

Mr. Koch asked if the reimbursements have been available in the past but not utilized. Mr. Sant said apparently that is the case. He and his staff have been obtaining further information. Mr. Koch commended Mr. Sant and his office staff for asking the question. 3:0 vote in favor.

OFFICE BUSINESS

Administrative Assistant Toni Fulton met with the Board. Those present in the audience included: Roger and Erich Lenk, Les Litzenberger, Ed Thornbrugh, Doug Gould, Jan Barrow, Milton B. Robbins, Jean Turley, Randy Turley, Linda Wagner, Todd Blackman, Jay and Marcia Frichette, Janet Johnson, Lester Storms, Steve Johnson, Mark MacFarlan, Pam Follansbee, Rosie Rumsey, W. G. Schinkelshoek, Dan Blasdel, Dave Bushey, <u>Tri-City Herald</u> Reporter Kristi Pihl and Toni Fulton. Others joined the audience during the meeting.

Vouchers

<u>Motion</u> – Mr. Peck: Mr. Chairman, I move for approval of vouchers certified and presented by the Public Works Director in Solid Waste Fund for \$515,86, Probation Work Crew Fund for \$230.88, County Road Fund for \$448,295.64, and Motor Vehicle and Public Works Equipment Fund for \$78,739.13. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 2)

<u>Motion</u> – Mr. Peck: I move for approval of fund expenditures presented and signed and certified by the auditor Mr. Beaton in the total amount of \$63,902.72. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

| Fund Expenditures | <u>Warra</u> | <u>ants</u> | Amount Issued |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|
| Current Expense | 53880 | 53919 | \$26,230.99 |
| Enhanced 911 | 53920 | 53921 | \$150.62 |
| Landfill Closure Trust Fund | 53922 | | \$2,566.57 |

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| TRAC Renewal & Replacement Fund | 53923 | | \$445.87 |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------------|
| TRAC Operations Fund | 53924 | 53965 | \$32,602.55 |
| Franklin County RV Facility | 53966 | 53968 | \$1,906.12 |

(Exhibit 3)

Consent Agenda

Motion - Mr. Peck: Mr. Chairman, I move for approval of the consent agenda as listed.

- 1. Approval of Resolution 2011-283, Interagency Agreement IAA12055 between The State of Washington Administrative Office of the Courts and Benton/Franklin Juvenile Court
- 2. Approval of Resolution 2011-284, Interagency Agreement between Pasco School District No. 1 and Franklin County, by and for the Sheriff's Office, effective August 2011 through June 2013, for a School Resource Deputy
- 3. Approval of Resolution 2011-285, renewal of Minolta Copier Maintenance Contract between Franklin County Corrections and Abadan for the copier located in Corrections Booking
- 4. Approval of Resolution 2011-286, renewal of Minolta Copier Maintenance Contract between Franklin County Corrections and Abadan for the copier located in Corrections Administration
- 5. Approval of Resolution 2011-287, Agreement between Basin Disposal, Inc., and Franklin County to provide financial assurance for closure of the Solid Waste transfer station and the Household Hazardous Waste Facility

Walla Walla Sustainable Living Center Home Energy Weatherization Program

Mr. Koch said a request for support of a grant application has been received from the Sustainable Living Center. Todd Blackman as an employee with Franklin County PUD briefly explained his work with the group. The materials were received by the county only about 24 hours before the meeting. Mr. Peck abstained because he had not had time to review the materials.

<u>Motion</u> – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move to approve the resolution in support of the Walla Walla Sustainable Living Center's Home Energy Round-Up Weatherization Program. Second by Mr. Koch. 2:0 vote in favor. Mr. Peck abstained. Resolution 2011-288 was approved.

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Minutes

<u>Motion</u> – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve the proceedings of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting for July 27, 2011. Second by Mr. Peck. 3:0 vote in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS

Annexation

Those present in the audience included: Roger and Erich Lenk, Les Litzenberger, Ed Thornbrugh, Doug Gould, Jan Barrow, Milton B. Robbins, Jean Turley, Randy Turley, Linda Wagner, Todd Blackman, Jay and Marcia Frichette, Janet Johnson, Lester Storms, Steve Johnson, Mark MacFarlan, Pam Follansbee, Rosie Rumsey, W. G. Schinkelshoek, Dan Blasdel, Dave Bushey, <u>Tri-City Herald</u> Reporter Kristi Pihl and Toni Fulton. Others joined the audience during the meeting.

The Board invited Fire District officials to speak. Fire District #3 Commissioner Todd Blackman and Fire District Chief Les Litzenberger asked the Board to enter non-binding annexation contract negotiations with the City of Pasco.

- Mr. Koch talked about the law that allows the negotiations to occur regarding annexation.
- Mr. Peck said he does not know that annexation is inevitable.
- Mr. Miller said he has only found one person who lives in the affected area that wants to annex. He does not want to enter into negotiations.
- Mr. Peck doesn't want to have a lot of people saying "don't negotiate" while overlooking an option which is to negotiate firmly requiring considerations such as property size and number of years before annexation would occur.

Mr. Koch asked if anyone in the audience would like to comment. Those who spoke included Mark MacFarlan (who gave the Board a petition), Jay Frichette, Jan Barron, Doug Gould, Lester Storms, Doug Bushey, Stephanie Swanberg, Steve Johnson, Janet Johnson and Roger Lenk. All those who spoke initially expressed opposition to negotiating for an annexation agreement. In their comments and in response to questions from the Board, their concerns included: desire to have public hearings, maintaining the current way of life in the area (including zoning codes, maintaining current lower density lot sizes, water and septic systems,

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and the effect on businesses that are already established, ability to keep having horse barns, gardens, plenty of space for dogs), the integrity and credibility of the city, and a requirement for a written document that would be binding.

Mr. Koch asked for a show of hands of those who would be in favor of negotiating with an outcome of a binding resolution to keep the current lot size and keep the current density. (Hands were raised in the audience.) He said without going into negotiations, we have nothing.

Mr. Peck said any proposed agreement would be presented to the citizens for feedback before we committed to it. Mr. Koch agreed.

The Board asked the audience the question: Would you feel comfortable with the county, fire district and city sitting down and at least discussing the mitigation of lot size, property size and zoning? The negotiation is not binding. It doesn't stop us from getting away from the table at any point but at least gives us an opportunity to sit at the table. If we don't sit at the table, it's a crap shoot.

Mr. Peck asked who says yes, we should negotiate? (About half the hands in the audience were raised.) Ms. Barron said I feel like I have to have a choice of how high I raise my hand. I understand what you're saying.

Mr. Peck said so the choice is either we tell the city "pound sand – no, thank you – go away," as Mr. Gould stated, or the other option is we agree to negotiate. Our minimum acceptable term is that all of the development standards for property – I'm not talking for roads because road widths might change; I'm not talking utilities because that might change – for property, specifically density, zoning, those kinds of things, that that remains essentially unchanged. I use the word "essentially" because the labels might change, but it still means a minimum half-acre for a residence and that we keep essentially the same density, the same zoning, and if we don't get that, then we say, "No, thank you." Those are kind of the two choices that I'm at least suggesting. He asked if the people present would let the Commissioners negotiate or would require a referendum after negotiation. He said the options do not address when areas may be annexed. He asked how many people want to negotiate under that description? (About half the hands were raised.)

Mr. Peck asked how many people want to just say thanks for the offer but no thanks?

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(Three hands were raised.)

Mr. Peck asked how many are undecided? (Two hands were raised.)

Mr. Peck noted that the number of hands raised did not add up.

Mr. Koch thanked the people for their input.

Mr. Peck said my preference is to spend a little more time talking to people before making a decision. Mr. Koch said okay.

The Board decided to hold a meeting, probably on August 31 in the evening, to listen to more testimony and to make a decision. The meeting will be advertised as well as the normal practice of putting it on the web site.

Mr. Miller said I think that's an appropriate idea. I do agree that an evening meeting would be appropriate.

Recessed at 11:42 am.

Workshop Session: Voluntary Stewardship Program

Planning Director Jerrod MacPherson and Assistant Director Greg Wendt met with the Board in a workshop session regarding House Bill 1886 – Voluntary Stewardship Program. Two people were present in the audience.

Adjourned at 12:35 pm.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until August 24, 2011.

| | BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS |
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| | FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON |
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| | Robert E. Koch, Chairman |
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| | Rick Miller, Chairman Pro Tem |
| | |
| | Brad Peck, Member |
| Attest: | |
| | |
| Clerk to the Board | |
| | |
| Approved and signed August 24, 2011. | |