

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 48
FRANKLIN COUNTY
Commissioners' Proceeding for November 5, 2007

The Honorable Board of Franklin County Commissioners met on the above date. Present for the meeting were Bob Koch, Chairman; Neva J. Corkrum, Chair Pro Tem; and Rick Miller, Member; Fred Bowen, County Administrator; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board.

OFFICE BUSINESS

Secretary Patricia Shults met with the Board. Present in audience: six men.

Consent Agenda

Motion - Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move that we accept the consent agenda for November 5, 2007, as listed:

1. Approval of **joint Resolution 2007-592** in the matter of the request for signature from the Chairman of the Boards of Benton and Franklin County Commissioners on the contract between the Juvenile Justice Center and the Pasco School District to provide a probation counselor in Pasco High School, effective July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008. (Exhibit 1: Information sheet.)
2. Approval of the request for a public hearing authorizing supplemental appropriation for Juvenile Fund Number 0115-101 in the amount of \$153,520. (Exhibit 2)
3. Approval of **Resolution 2007-593** for the Change Order between Intergraph and Franklin County for the Statement of Work for I/CADLink Interface Add-on for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center, thus, amending Franklin County Resolution 2007-307, and authorizing the Chairman to sign said Change Order on behalf of the Board.

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

Vouchers/Warrants

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of payment of vouchers/ warrants as follows: Current Expense warrants 59765 through 59777 for \$19,021.20; Auditor O&M warrants 442 through 446 for \$10,472.96; Veteran's Assistance warrants 1360 through 1364 for \$3,372.90; Franklin County Capital Projects warrants 338 through 339 for \$17,585.77; Franklin County Public Facilities Construction warrant 822 for \$490.00; and Current Expense warrants 59778 through 59784 for \$4,414.31; for a total of \$55,357.14.

Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 3)

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HUMAN RESOURCES (HR)

HR Director Rosie H. Rumsey met with the Board. Present in audience: six men.

Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Increase

Ms. Rumsey explained the formula that is used to calculate COLA increases. The All Cities West figure was 2.7% from July to July. The formula also takes into consideration any insurance increase. There is a \$20 insurance increase based on PEBB's increase, even though we're not using PEBB in 2008. The final figure for the COLA is 2.6%. The resolution would cover all non-bargaining employees and elected officials. A copy of the resolution will be sent to the unions.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval of Franklin County Resolution 2007-594 approving the 2008 cost of living adjustment for elected officials/department heads and non-bargaining personnel and continued approval of the salary administration procedures and approval for the county to contribute up to a maximum of \$691 towards the medical, dental, vision, and life insurance plans. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

New Hire Classification Review

Ms. Rumsey gave the Board a classification review for a new hire in the professional licensed surveyor position which has been vacant since the middle of the summer. It is not a new position. The Classification Review Committee requested the person be hired at Grade 53 (which is the current grade) at Step 14 because of experience. After the committee met and discussed this, including consideration of the Hay Group study, the committee recommended placement at Grade 53 Step 13 instead of Step 14.

Motion – Mr. Miller: I'll make the motion that we offer this position for professional licensed surveyor at Grade 53 Step 13. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. A Change of Status will be prepared when the person comes on board.

Recessed at 9:17 a.m.

Reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineer Tim Fife met with the Board.

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Public Hearing: To take testimony for and against establishing a new route for Commercial Avenue between Pasco-Kahlotus Road and Tank Farm Road.

Public Hearing convened at 9:30 a.m. Present: Commissioners Koch, Corkrum and Miller; County Administrator Fred Bowen; Engineer Tim Fife; Matt Mahoney; J-U-B Engineers Rick Door, Spencer Montgomery and Travis Marden; and Clerk to the Board Mary Withers. Present in audience: Those people listed on the sign-in sheet (Exhibit 4) who included Tri-City Herald Reporter Joe Chapman, a woman reporter, Troy Woody, and other men who did not sign in.

Mr. Fife gave the Board a copy of the Engineer's Report (Exhibit 5). We hired J-U-B to do the design study for us. We are coming before you to recommend a preferred alternative that we came up with during that process.

Mr. Door and Mr. Montgomery gave a presentation about the design location which included the following aspects: study intent and background, purpose of road extension, existing conditions, public involvement process, evaluation of alternatives, and traffic forecasts. A map was shown on the screen showing two alternatives.

Mr. Fife said the Engineer's Report basically reiterates the presentation by J-U-B. He said we formed a County Road Project (CRP) to study this area because we anticipated that the intersections would be a problem. We have come up with a preferred alternative for people to comment on today. The state has \$1 million set up to begin the process of locating an interchange there. They have not got very far with it yet.

Mr. Koch said this will give us time for the public to have time to talk against or for it. He asked three times if anyone would like to speak against this proposed new Commercial Avenue/Tank Farm Road Extension. There was no response.

Mr. Koch asked twice if anyone would like to speak for this expansion.

Tony Czebotar said it's not shown in here about the potential fatalities when it intersects with Highway 12. On a foggy day you could not cross the road safely. Literally you're taking your life in your hands. It's a disaster waiting to happen. It's surprising that there hasn't been a major fatality. He feels it's not a question of if an accident will happen, it's a question of when. If an accident happens, there's going to be

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a major problem to the river. Mr. Czebotar said as a landowner I would be in favor of Alternate 2. It looks to be the best for the property and the community.

Mrs. Corkrum said that's why we're studying this intersection is because safety is a concern for this Board also.

Mr. Koch asked for the third and final time if anyone would like to speak in favor. There was no response.

Mrs. Corkrum said if the stakeholders are in favor of Alternative 2, that is a little bit more money, but with the power station out there I think that kind of eliminates Alternative 1. I would be in favor of going ahead and going through the process when we get money.

Mr. Fife has prepared a resolution for establishment of Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative. He said the resolution basically charges him with trying to get funding.

Motion - Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval of Commercial Avenue and Pasco-Kahlotus Road and Tank Farm Road Alternative 2. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-595.

Those in the audience left, except for Joe Chapman and Troy Woody.

Vouchers

Motion – Mr. Miller: Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve the vouchers for Public Works as listed: County Road Fund for \$556,821.68; MV and PW Equipment Fund for \$106,500.69; Solid Waste Fund for \$7574.09; and CR Unemployment Trust for \$270.96. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 6)

Resolution: Local Agency Agreement between Franklin County and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Supplement #4, CRP 586 – Wernett Road Phase II

Mr. Fife said the supplemental agreement reflects the increase in the construction costs that we're all experiencing and an increase because it took a little longer to do the preliminary engineering because of right-of-way issues. There are funds available that are left over from other projects.

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Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval for the Local Agency Agreement LA 5954, Supplement #4, between Franklin County and Washington State Department of Transportation, for CRP 586 – Wernett Road Phase II. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-596.

TRAC

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

Wage Survey Results

Mr. Woody gave the Board a wage survey comparing various similar facilities with TRAC. Mr. Bowen said the county's study group that worked on the Hay Group study does not want TRAC to be pulled out of the county wage study. Mrs. Corkrum said TRAC is not a normal county function; we're one of the few counties that have this type of facility. Mr. Bowen would recommend the Board pull TRAC out of the Hay Group study. Mrs. Corkrum said they work nights and have scewed hours. Mr. Woody said the Hay Group said they have zero comparable information for TRAC employees.

Mr. Miller said he agreed with Mrs. Corkrum. Mr. Koch also agreed.

Mr. Koch asked that the minutes show the Commissioners have **consensus agreement** to pull TRAC out of the Hay Group study.

Thank You Letters

Mr. Woody showed the Board copies of thank you letters received from two different people regarding events held at TRAC.

Guest Complaint Letter

A guest is concerned about allowing Department of Corrections inmates to be working at TRAC. Mr. Woody has prepared a letter of response.

September Profit and Loss and year-to-date budget review

Mr. Woody reviewed the current budget figures with the Board. He is awaiting a response from the Auditor's Office before preparing the final monthly report for September.

Power discussion and information

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Mr. Woody said Mr. Bowen and he have been working with the PUD for about a year trying to understand how the power rates work and what we can do to reduce our rates. He showed the Board a grid and explained how the rates are determined. Essentially the grid shows a day from 8 am to 12 midnight. At 2 o'clock we hit what we'll call our peak, when we are using the most power. Once we hit our peak, then we get billed that rate for the whole time from 8 am to 12 midnight. The PUD does it based on the month. Any time in the month, whatever time in the day, that is the rate you're paying for the entire month. It's based on a 30-minute average of usage.

An estimate was made using a generator analysis but it does not pencil out. Mr. Woody explained how the estimate was determined, where a generator would be used instead of PUD power when the power usage reached a certain point.

Another analysis was made to determine if the peak could be avoided if power was turned on in sections instead of all at once but that doesn't help because it's really based on what power is on.

Mr. Woody summarized that the good news is we understand how it works. The bad news is there's not a lot we can do about it. We can't avoid a peak because no matter how it turns on, there will be a peak. This weekend every light and heater was running in the Expo, Arena, lobby, etc., because there were groups in every single area.

Mrs. Corkrum asked if the PUD does this to all businesses. Mr. Woody said yes. His understanding of the reason is this is how they are getting paid back for the infrastructure, not just the power usage.

Torres District Court case

Mr. Woody will be representing the county today at 2:15 p.m. in Small Claims court.

Recessed at 10:26 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:32 a.m.

PROSECUTOR

Chief Civil Deputy Ryan Verhulp met with the Board.

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Executive Session at 10:32 a.m. regarding litigation based on RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) expected to last up to 15 minutes.

Open Session at 10:47 a.m.

Mr. Verhulp left the meeting. Prosecutor Steve Lowe met with the Board briefly about state reimbursement of portions of his salary and benefits.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

County Administrator Fred Bowen met with the Board.

Out-of-County Travel Advance

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval for Fred Bowen to go to the WSAC Annual Conference November 12 through 16 and estimated total expenses \$410.27. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 7)

Mr. Bowen asked for approval of out-of-county travel advances for three Grand Old Fourth committee members.

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move approval of Fred Bowen, Troy Woody and Dan Blasdel to go to the IAFE Conference. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 8)

Recessed at 10:56 a.m.

Reconvened at 11:12 a.m.

County Administrator Fred Bowen and Human Resources Director Rosie H. Rumsey met with the Board.

Executive Session at 11:12 a.m. expected to last 30 minutes based on RCW 42.30.140(4).

Open Session at 11:46 a.m.

MINUTES

Motion – Mrs. Corkrum: I move for approval of October 24, 2007, Commissioners minutes. Second by Mr. Miller. 3:0 vote in favor.

Adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until November 7, 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Chairman

Chairman Pro Tem

Member

Attest:

Clerk to the Board

Approved and signed November 19, 2007.