

Minutes for January 12, 2009

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069073 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, January 12, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** Chairman Michael Largent, Patrick J. O'Neill and Greg Partch, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

9:00 a.m. - Call to Order/Board Business/BOCC Workshop.

Present: Kelli Campbell (9:00 a.m.) and Bob Lothspeich and Joe Smillie (9:30 a.m.).

069074 1. Items discussed included the Classification Committee proposal, a reclassification, Whitcom grant and cellular phones. No action taken.

9:30 a.m. - Recess.

10:00 a.m. - Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Joe Smillie.

D069074A 2. Motion by Commissioner Partch to accept the consent agenda with the deletion of item #1D1. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner O'Neill and **carried**.

069075 3. January 5 and 7, 2009 minutes approved.

069076-069081 4. Personnel board orders approved.

10:10 a.m. - Paul Spencer.

069082 5. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve a memorandum of understanding with Whitcom as presented for the Quad Cities Regional Coordinated Community Response project.

069083 6. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to authorize publishing a notice of the joint meeting with Adams, Asotin, Franklin, Garfield and Spokane County for the purpose of appointing an individual to the 9th Legislative District House of Representatives position vacated by Steve Hailey.

BOCC MINUTES-01/12/09

069084 7. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to adopt the new Whitman County logo with dot/Colfax as the county seat.

069085 8. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to appoint John Henry to the Civil Service Commission with a term expiring 12/31/14.

069086 9. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to call for 2009 Public Facilities grant (.09 Funds) applications.

069087 10. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to call for 2009 Historical Preservation grants applications.

069087A 11. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the 2009 county dues less Upper Columbia RC&D.

069088 12. Pursuant to County Code regarding delegation of purchase orders, claims and payroll responsibilities, an authorization form was received from the Finance Department, signed by the Board and forwarded to the Auditor's office. **Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner O'Neill and **carried** to approve the delegation order.

069089-069090 13. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the 2009 levy certifications to be signed by the Chairman.

069091 14. Additional information regarding the renaming of SR 26 to the WSU "Cougar" Highway was received.

069092 15. A request for homeless information was received from the U.S. Census Bureau and forwarded to the Community Action Center for completion.

069093 16. Training status for Whitman County Water Conservancy Board members was received from the Department of Ecology.

069094 17. An executed copy of the Columbia County contract for Professional Services received (02/27/09).

069095 18. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

10:30 a.m. - Recess.

1:30 p.m. - Mike Berney, Greater Columbia Behavioral Health (GCBH).

069096 1. Highlights from the December 04, 2008 GCBH Board meeting:

- The Board ratified the Executive Committee's draft hiring plan for a new Director and named Julie LaPierre (currently Office Manager) as Interim Director with a temporary increase in salary.
- Further discussion of court costs associated with Involuntary Detentions.
- Report/Recommendations from the Special Board Committee reviewing the large Utilization Management contract with Behavioral Health Options.

D069096A 2. Over the next 6 months we can anticipate a number of recommendations coming from the Funding Committee that will have significant policy implications. The committee has been asked to look at ways to share inpatient risk to help protect the smaller GCBH counties, court costs associated with the Involuntary Treatment process that impact mostly significantly Yakima and Benton Counties, and the GCBH Funding Formula in anticipation of the new biennium. Once GCBH is notified how much their funding will be reduced as part of the State's cost cutting process, the funding committee will be asked for their recommendation on how best to apportion that reduction.

069097 3. The latest version of the GCBH amended interlocal agreement proposed by GCBH legal counsel is mostly housekeeping in nature. It clarifies/unifies liability/indemnification language and reflects the current status of the Yakama Nation. A second version of the amended interlocal was proposed by Benton County. Feedback from Whitman County was provided to GCBH legal counsel and it formed the basis for the current draft. There still seems to be no support for the Benton County version. A copy of the latest draft of the amended interlocal Agreement has been forwarded to the Whitman County Prosecutor.

D069097A 4. The "additional" 30 bed ward at Eastern State Hospital is now completely closed. Spokane RSN would still like 25 additional beds from GCBH. A letter from Sacred Heart Medical Center was received by all Easter Washington RSNs informing them that the hospital would no longer take ITA revocations from counties other than Spokane. Contingency planning continues with local hospitals and the judicial system in the event we encounter a "wait list" environment.

D069097B 5. The Coordinator passed on the preliminary information he has received regarding possible budget cuts at the local level for Chemical Dependency. As of February 1st, the state will no longer be staffing the Community Service office in Colfax 2 half days/week. However, the individual who visits the jail once each week will continue to do so.

D069097C 6. Mr. Berney provided a brief update on the status of repairs at the Harvest House resulting from a fire.

2:00 p.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.

D069097D 20. The classification system was discussed. No action taken.

3:00 p.m. - Adjournment.

D069097E Commissioner O'Neill **moved** to adjourn the **January 12, 2009** meeting. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried**. The Board will meet in regular session, in their Chambers', in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington, on **January 19, 2009**. The foregoing action made this **12th** day of **January 2009**.

ss/ GREG PARTCH, COMMISSIONER
ss/ PATRICK J. O'NEILL, COMMISSIONER

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board

MICHAEL LARGENT, CHAIRMAN
Board of County Commissioners