

## Minutes for February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003

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**060730 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **February 3, 2003** at **10:00 a.m.** G.R. "Jerry" Finch, Chairman, Greg Partch, and Les Wigen, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

**10:00 a.m. - Board Business.**

**D060730A 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance.**

Present: Brett Bosse and Tammy Lewis.

**D060730B 2. Motion** by Commissioner Partch to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**.

**060731C 3.** Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **145487, 145490, and 145493-145579** for **\$494,871.20** approved.

FUND	FUND NAME	AMOUNT
001	Current Expense	53,910.75
102	Building & Development	277.86
103	Countywide Planning	3.46
105	Mental Health	350.47
107	Chemical Dependency	100.65
110	County Roads	34,256.16
117	Boating Safety	55.00
118	Inmate Welfare	666.66
123	Paths & Trails	257.11
127	Drug Enforcement	7,710.34
400	Solid Waste	3,926.43
501	Equipment Rental & Revolving	270,878.57
521	Family Svc. Ctr. Revolving	65.80
690	Clearing & Suspense	122,411.94

**060731 4.** January 27, 2003 minutes approved.

**060732-060735 5.** Personnel board orders approved.

**060736 6. Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to authorize the Chairman to sign the E911 operations contract amendment B.

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**060737** 7. **Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to authorize the publishing of a call for bids for 2003-2004 legal printing.

**060738** 8. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** to authorize publishing of a notice extending the Courthouse HVAC system bids to February 18<sup>th</sup>.

**060739** 9. The commissioners reviewed a draft resolution that will be presented at the quad counties meeting tonight opposing the consolidation of the County Road Administration Board with two other state agencies.

**060740** 10. A request for support of economic development in small cities/towns was received from Bainbridge Manufacturing, Inc. in Waterville, Washington. Commissioner Partch will draft a letter of support.

**D060740A** 11. The commissioners' reviewed they're pending list.

**10:30 a.m. - Eunice Coker, County Auditor.**

Present: Kathy Lemon, Bob Lothspeich, Brett Bosse, and Tammy Lewis.

**060741** 1. The Auditor presented the 2002 tax refunds totaling \$28,406.39.

**060742** 2. The 2002 tax collection report indicating a 97.79% collection of \$27,174,111.07 was received from the Auditor. It was noted \$599,777.37 is yet to be collected.

Ms. Coker noted there is current legislation proposed that would remove the first year penalty for the payment of late taxes. The Board requested the Treasurer prepare a letter explaining the total estimated costs lost if this legislation is passed.

**060743** 3. A list of uncollectible personal property taxes was also presented to the Board.

**060744** **Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to sign a resolution canceling \$459.05 in uncollectible personal property taxes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 060744  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

In the matter of the approval of the Board of County Commissioners to cancel the following uncollectible personal property taxes, in accordance with R.C. W. 84.56.240,

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WHEREAS, it has been deemed by Kathy Lemon, Revenue Officer for the Whitman County Treasurer, that the taxes on the following parcels are uncollectible:

4-4390-00-08-99-0960	Blomgren Enterprises	2002	\$ 61.20
4-4520-00-11-65-0990	Sun Straw Fiber, LLC	2001	\$397.85
	<b>Total Cancelled</b>		<b>\$459.05</b>

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD that the above-mentioned uncollectible personal property taxes be cancelled, as we are satisfied they are uncollectible.

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
G.R. Finch, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Partch, Commissioner

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maribeth Becker, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Les Wigen, Commissioner

**D060744A 4.** The Auditor requested and was authorized to fill two positions within her office, the vacant Accounts Payable Financial Specialist position and a new Legal Filing Office Specialist position, both of which are budgeted.

**D060744B 5.** In Legal Filing the Eagle recording equipment needed to be upgraded. Rather than continuing to contract with Eagle for maintenance of the hardware, Ms. Coker said the county's Information Services Department would now manage that aspect of the system. Some hardware was replaced and the software was upgraded to the most current version, thereby saving the county \$150,000 over the estimated contract price from Eagle. The commissioner congratulated the Auditor for her cost-savings measure.

**10:50 a.m.- Recess.**

**11:00 a.m. - Dane Dunford, Public Works Director.**

Present: Phil Meyer, Julie Fox, Tim Davis, Brandon Miles, and Mark Storey.

**Action Items:**

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**060745** 1. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** that the certificate of road fund expenditures for fish passage barrier removal be signed as presented.

**060746** 2. **Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** that the interlocal agreement with the Steptoe School District be signed as presented.

**060747** 3. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** that the contract between Whitman County and Frank Gurney, Inc. for the Wawawai Guardrail project be signed as presented.

**Solid Waste Division:**

**060748** 4. Tim Davis reported on the Community Litter Cleanup program and grant. The Solid Waste Division began administering the program in 1998. The Department of Ecology (DOE) administers the grant to operate the Sheriff's Department roadside litter crew. The funding pays for supervisory labor, equipment, supplies, and tipping fees. The Sheriff's Department acquired a donated van from the State Department of Corrections to transfer the inmate litter crew to and from the work sites. The county donated a pickup to collect and haul the litter once it is bagged.

The next grant cycle runs from July 2003-June 2005. Whitman County's allocation is \$30,000. The program is funded 100% and does not require any matching funds from the county.

In 2002 the litter crew collected 12,660 pounds of litter and cleaned 1202 should miles of roadway.

The Director pointed out this has been a very successful program for Whitman County. The Sheriff's Department establishes the routes that will be cleaned each year, some roads being cleaned more than once a year. This is something the citizens recognize as being very helpful.

Mr. Davis added that the litter crew separates and recycles the aluminum cans. The money is then used to purchase beverages and snacks for the litter crew.

**D060748A** 5. Julie Fox reported on the Christmas Tree Recycling programs in Pullman and Albion. Once again this year the Boy Scouts participated in the Pullman program and collected 522 trees. Between the two cities, 12760 pounds of trees were brought into the Transfer Station mulch pile.

**D060748B** 6. In November, Ms. Fox said in celebration of America Recycles Oakesdale Grade School and Franklin Elementary School participated in a calendar program. The students drew pictures about recycling and the 12 winning entries were used in the making of recycling calendar, later distributed to local businesses.

**Planning Division:**

**060749** 7. Mark Storey talked about the Department of Ecology hearing the previous week regarding the changing of Water Quality Standards from a class-based to a use-based system. Jean Wardwell, Mark Bordsen, Rhoderick McIntosh, Randy Baldree, Rob Buchert, and Mr. Storey all provided oral and written testimony at the hearing. Their testimony basically supported the change, but only as long as the standards are realistically achievable. The comment period will remain open until March 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Maintenance Division:**

**D060749A** 8. Phil Meyer stated Districts 2 and 3 experienced some minor problems over the weekend that the crews responded to as a result of the heavy rainfall.

**11:30 a.m. - Dan Antoni, Pullman.**

Present: Dane Dunford, Mark Storey, and Brandon Miles.

**D060749B** Mr. Antoni distributed packets to each commissioner in support of his request to obtain access from the Pullman-Albion Road to his property located at the intersection of SR 27/Pullman-Albion County Road.

He talked about similar approaches near intersections: 1) Motley-Motley property at SR 195/Wawawai-Pullman Road and 2) Hilltop Restaurant at Davis Way/Wawawai-Pullman Road.

This property was made into a distinct parcel in 1976. It is approximately 2 acres but there is some question about the description. Mr. Dunford gave him a description showing only .9 acre, which is probably a more accurate description.

According to Mr. Antoni, this situation basically involves two issues.

1. Property rights covered under the 5<sup>th</sup> amendment of the US Constitution, and,
2. The property should be grandfathered because of circumstances existing before the county's regulation took effect.

Mr. Dunford told him in a letter that no further action would be taken on his CZC application until a traffic study is completed, which Mr. Antoni said he will not pay for. He continued that he could not be denied access to his property. He is not afraid to litigate the issue and will.

Commissioner Wigen talked about footage requirements for sewer and water systems and the fact Mr. Antoni may not have enough land to accommodate this requirement. Mr. Antoni responded as part of the CZC process he presented a plan for water and sewer based on the 2-acre description. Chairman Finch also noted the requirement for a second drainfield in the event the first

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drainfield fails. It was Mr. Antoni's opinion this parcel should be able to stand on its own and be grandfathered in.

The Director pointed out when Mr. Antoni, Brandon Miles initially visited about the progression of this project it was agreed by all that access should be settled first. Mr. Antoni concurred with the Director's comments but stated it was his choice to proceed with the CZC.

Chairman Finch indicated the Board needed to visit with Mr. Tracy before any decision is rendered and would get back to Mr. Antoni on or before February 24<sup>th</sup>.

**12:00 p.m. - Recess.**

**1:30 p.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.**

Present: Fran Martin.

**060750 12.** Items discussed included quad-counties Health Department partnership opportunities, Medicaid dental program, ABCD program, WSU letter regarding Health Department agreement, EOC grant application for Whitcom, and arrival of SmileMobile March 17-24.

**2:00 p.m. - Recess.**

**2:30 p.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.**

Present: Bob Reynolds, Tim Myers, and John Peterson; Dane Dunford (3:00 p.m.).

**D060750A 13.** Items discussed included \$25,000 donation for Fair gazebo, \$32,000 unexpended budget authority, and use of Palouse Fair Museum funds, Fair Coordinator, gas tax distribution. No action taken.

**4:00 p.m. - Adjournment.**

**D060750B** Commissioner Partch **moved** to adjourn the **February 3, 2003** meeting. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**. The Board will meet in regular session, in their Chambers', in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington, on **February 10, 2003**. The foregoing action made this **3rd** day of **February 2003**.

ss/ GREG PARTCH, Commissioner  
ss/ LES WIGEN, Commissioner

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MARIBETH BECKER, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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G.R. FINCH, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners