

## Minutes for February 17, 2009

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**069217 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Tuesday, February 17, 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.

**10:00 a.m. - Call to Order/Board Business/Pledge of Allegiance.**

Present: Joe Reynolds, Ted Maxwell, Dick Watters and Joe Smillie.

**069218 1.** The Assessor presented the Whitman County 2009 assessed valuations and tax levies. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to certify to the best of their knowledge that the following are a true and accurate accounting of the assessed valuations and tax levies in Whitman County for the tax year 2009.

**D069218A 2.** Assessor Reynolds also gave a very brief explanation of the senior exemption program.

**069219 3.** Ted Maxwell, Mayor of Malden was in attendance and thanked the commissioners for their assistance with the tires problem. He was pleased with the letter from Commissioner Partch, but noted the environmental situation referenced in his letter pertained to the wrong property. Mayor Maxwell presented a copy of a 1995 letter sent to Gary VanDyke, former Malden Mayor, concerning on-site sewage systems when expanding a residence or other facility. He will talk to Environmental Health about the correct piece of property. The mayor requested the same cooperation from the county that the county has asked of the town.

**D069219A 4. Motion** by Commissioner O'Neill to accept the consent agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried**.

**069220 5.** Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **224814, 224956-224979, 225004-225028, 225230-225231** and **225263-225433** for **\$1,074,431.30** approved.

FUND	FUND NAME	AMOUNT
001	Current Expense	52,626.32
101	Self Insurance	1,158.01
102	Building & Development	467.39
104	Developmental Services	287.40
109	Homeless Housing	1,021.52
110	County Roads	4,284.39
111	CETC Building	1,425.82
114	Bulk Purchasing	1,695.89
118	Inmate Welfare	1,020.45
123	Paths & Trails-123.310.000	386.47
127	Drug Enforcement-Quad City	3,249.11
129	House Bill 3900-CASA	333.77

**BOCC MINUTES-02/17/09**

137	Web Site Development	51.98
141	Washington Housing SHB 2060	1,426.11
144	Emerg. Communic.-144.260.001	1,235.71
400	Solid Waste	7,935.45
501	Equipment Rental & Revolving	74,841.64
510	Photocopier Revolving	77.71
513	Communications Revolving	1,358.86
660	Whitcom-General-660.911.000	201,661.34
660	Whitcom-Grant-660.911.001	13,594.78
690	Clearing Fund 690.002.000	246,671.79
690	CAC Agency Svc.-690.026.001	11,201.68
ET	Electronic Transfer	446,917.71

**069221** 6. February 9, 2009 minutes approved.

**069222-069224** 7. Personnel board orders approved.

**10:15 a.m.** - Adam Roberts.

**069225** 8. Mr. Roberts informed the commissioners about the surplus equipment program offered by the State Department of General Administration. The state contracts with other entities to sell their surplus equipment on e-Bay for a fee of 7.5%. If this service is pursued, it would free up many hours of the departments' time. Having no objections, Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to authorize the Chairman to sign the necessary paperwork when available. The commissioners did ask Mr. Roberts for an update after the first or second sale.

**D069225A** 9. Upon inquiry, Mr. Roberts said he has forwarded a laptop policy to Human Resources for review.

**069226** 10. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to authorize publishing a notice cancelling the March 16<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Board.

11. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign the following grant application data forms:

**069227** Treasurer's REET Automation grant in the amount of \$5,255.25

**069228** Sheriff's WA State Methamphetamine Initiative grant in the amount of \$16,872.00

**069229** 12. A letter was received from the Governor reiterating her commitment to partnering with the county in revitalizing our economy and securing a future of health and prosperity for the people of Washington State.

13. Executive copies of the following documents received:

**069230** 2009 CDBG-PS contract #09-64009-011 (02/28/10)

**069231** Emergency Management contract #E09-170 (06/30/10)

**069232** Emergency Management contract #E09-171 (04/30/10)

**069233** 14. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

**BOCC MINUTES-02/17/09**

**10:30 a.m. - Dick Watters, Whitman County ADO Coordinator.**

Present: Janet Schmidt, Steve VanVleet and Joe Smillie.

**D069233A** Mr. Watters provided his first ADO update to the commissioners since accepting the County's ADO Coordinator position 3 months ago. Areas touched on included:

- Community visits
- Palouse Knowledge Corridor
- Business Plan Competition Program (52 Whitman County projects)
- Stimulus package/shovel ready project
- Mr. Watters work schedule in Colfax/Pullman
- ADO conference workshop in Olympia/meeting with legislators
- Future meetings to update the county commissioners

Commissioner Partch pointed out at the last joint Port/County Commissioners meeting where he relayed strong feelings about the ADO/WSU Extension partnership maintaining a close bond. Also, that the ADO Coordinator does not become so absorbed into the Port's big economic development picture that he is not able to make community outreach contacts as in the past.

Janet Schmidt talked about possible WSU Extension budget scenarios reducing services released by the Vice Provost last week.

12% budget reduction scenario = 49% Extension reduction  
18% budget reduction scenario = 75% Extension reduction

Steve Van Vleet said Eastern Washington is an agricultural based community. Individual communities will be tremendously affected if Extension is cut as proposed. What is needed is a countywide community meeting to ask residents if they are willing to financially support their local communities because that is what it will take for the communities to survive rather than doing business outside the county.

It was Commissioner Largent's opinion that residents will travel outside the county to save money especially during these times of economic stress.

Commissioner Partch concurred but thought it would be advantageous if we could maximize on local businesses and services at a reasonable cost.

Dick Watters felt communities must reinvent themselves to attract jobs/people. Examples: Leavenworth-Bavarian, St. John-boat races, Rosalia-bike rally, Uniontown-Dahmen Barn and Palouse-Halloween.

**11:00 a.m. - Mark Storey, Public Works Director.**

Present: Alan Thomson, Mariah Simpson and Joe Smillie.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**BOCC MINUTES-02/17/09**

**Administrative Division:**

**069235** 1. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to award the bid for a 2006 John Deere diesel powered articulated loader to Rowand Machinery for a total bid amount of \$156,500.00. (Bid document signed.)

**Solid Waste Division:**

**069236** 2. The Transfer Station is now accepting hazardous materials from others rather than just residential hazardous waste. (Revised 03/02/09)

**Planning Division:**

**069237** 3. Mr. Storey talked about the Planning Commission tour to a Dayton wind mill farm last week.

**11:25 a.m. - Recess.**

**11:30 a.m. - Sharron Cunningham, Finance.**

Present: Bev Divine, Brett Myers, Candi Fisher, Eunice Coker, Janet Schmidt, Joe Reynolds, Kelli Campbell, Kristina Cooper, Maria Thomas, Mark Storey, Peggy Wright, Pete Martin, Tim Myers and Joe Smillie.

Excused: Bob Lothspeich and Bob Reynolds.

**069238** The 2008 13<sup>th</sup> month ending financial report provided by Ms. Cunningham.

13<sup>th</sup> Month 2008 Cash Balance - \$2,796,181

13<sup>th</sup> Month 2007 Cash Balance - \$2,548,385

13<sup>th</sup> Month 2008 Revenue - \$11,545,669 - 93.49% of budget.

13<sup>th</sup> Month 2007 Revenue - \$11,966,710 - 91.15% of budget.

13<sup>th</sup> Month 2008 Expenditures \$11,638,645 - 93.61% of budget.

13<sup>th</sup> Month 2007 Expenditures \$12,349,994 - 93.54% of budget.

**069239** The January 2009 ending financial report provided by Ms. Cunningham.

January 2009 Cash Balance - \$2,695,642

January 2008 Cash Balance - \$2,568,836

January 2009 Revenue - \$592,154 - 4.92% of budget.

January 2008 Revenue - \$701,924 - 5.68% of budget.

January 2009 Expenditures \$1,005,715 - 8.38% of budget.

January 2008 Expenditures \$1,008,887 - 8.11% of budget.

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

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

Present: Tim Myers (1:30 p.m.).

**069240** 15. Items discussed included Parks and Developmental Services updates. No action taken.

**BOCC MINUTES-02/17/09**

**2:00 p.m. - Board of Health.**

Present: Fran Martin, Dr. Moody, Cinnamon Brown, Jessie Hunter and Jana Mathia.

**D069240A 1.** Dr. Moody stated the national trends indicate a below average influenza season this year which may have a direct correlation to the amount of flu vaccine available this year.

**D069240B 2.** The Health Officer is continuing his work revising the Communicable Disease Manual.

**D069240C 3.** Dr. Moody reported evidence is mounting that circumcision is a good way to prevent AIDS.

**D069240D 4.** According to Cinnamon Brown, Michael Baker is now certified to inspect the Transfer Station.

**D069240E 5.** Ms. Brown continues her work with food establishments (75) that have not yet submitted their annual permit fees.

**D069240F 6.** Ms. Martin talked about the county's portion (1/3) of the vital records fees versus the state's portion (2/3). The county does all the work but the state receives the largest percentage. She agreed to prepare a document stating the same for legislative purposes.

**D069240G 7.** Jessie Hunter presented items related to the Tobacco Program/Quit Line and Heart Health month.

All tobacco contractors (ESD, Health Department and tribal) are preparing doing a 2-year work plan focusing on policy changes, promoting second hand smoking laws for businesses and communities, child care providers, general education through media avenues, tobacco compliance checks, 3<sup>rd</sup> hand smoke, multi-unit housing and gathering tobacco policy information from various organizations.

**D069240H 8.** Ms. Hunter also spoke about CATCH (Coordinator Approach to Child Health). This program focuses on decreasing risks for children through healthy eating, exercise and education. The majority of the Public Health school nurses have been trained on this curriculum.

**D069240I 9.** Five (5) weeks of *Living Well in Whitman County* activities are planned for the month of March.

**D069240J 10.** Ms. Martin will be meeting with an architect to obtain a remodeling estimate for possible new Pullman Public Health office space.

**D069240K 11.** The Director discussed the newly proposed standardize employee identification badge good for 10 years. Ms. Martin preferred to remain with the current badges and renewing them annually. This concept was new to the commissioners as the proposed system is currently under review by Information Technology and Human Resources.

**D069240L 12.** The next Board of Health meeting is March 24th.

**BOCC MINUTES-02/17/09**

**3:00 p.m. - Board Business Continued/Executive Session.**

Present: Bev Divine (3:00 p.m.).

**069241** 16. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to go into executive session with the above individual until 4:00 p.m. in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) for an employee-related matter.

**4:00 p.m. - Return to Open Session/Adjourn.**

**D069241A** Commissioner O'Neill **moved** to adjourn the **February 17, 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 **February 23, 2009**. The foregoing action made this **17th** day of **February 2009**.

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

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MARIBETH BECKER, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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MICHAEL LARGENT, CHAIRMAN  
Board of County Commissioners