

Minutes for April 3, 2006

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065305 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **April 3, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.** G.R. Finch, Chairman, Greg Partch and Les Wigen, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

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

Present: Bev Welch and Sharron Cunningham (9:30 a.m.).

065306 1. Items discussed included a Planning Commission appointment, the regional quarterly breakfast, Commissioners' choice award and Information Services staffing. No action taken.

9:50 a.m. - Recess.

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

Present: Approximately 20 guests in attendance.

D065306A 2. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen to approve the consent agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried**.

065307 3. Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **188811-189011** for **\$207,440.26** approved.

FUND	FUND NAME	AMOUNT
001	Current Expense	36,940.44
102	Building & Development	307.43
103	Countywide Planning	42.00
104	Developmental Services	913.14
110	County Roads	44,339.87
111	CETC Building	2,082.16
118	Inmate Welfare	100.26
123	Paths & Trails	50.33
127	Drug Enforcement-Quad City	156.33
134	Elections Reserve Fund	20,849.61
300	Capital Projects Asset Acq.-300.010.001	190.06
400	Solid Waste	4,273.43
501	Equipment Rental & Revolving	13,206.71
510	Photocopier Revolving	261.15
513	Communications Revolving	674.72
660	Whitcom-General-660.911.000	66,887.80

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660	Whitcom-Grant Funding-660.911.001	4,548.89
690	CAC Agency Svc.-690.026.001	11,616.33

065308 4. April 3, 2006 minutes approved.

065309-065311 5. Personnel board orders approved.

065312 6. After reading a letter that recognized outstanding service by a county employee, Chairman Finch presented the 2006 Commissioners' Choice Award to Kristopher K. Bunch, Network Administrator.

065313 7. Sheriff's Chaplain/Reserve Deputy Ron McMurray was also acknowledged in connection with his recent national recognition as, "Chaplain of the Year". The commissioners and others in attendance individually expressed their appreciation to Chaplain McMurray.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Whitman County Chaplain's office is an integral part of the county's ability to support and protect the citizens of our county; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize the invaluable service given to our citizens at the most crucial of times by our Chaplain; and,

WHEREAS, the Chaplain's position is an uncompensated position attached to our Sheriff's Office; and,

WHEREAS, our Chaplain also serves as a volunteer Sheriff's Reserve Deputy; and,

WHEREAS, our Chaplain recently put his life on the line protecting the citizens of our county, which involved the pursuit and apprehension of an individual causing severe and life threatening harm; and,



WHEREAS, we recognize the dedication and service our Chaplain has given to the people of Whitman County; and,

WHEREAS, due to his professionalism, dedication and caring, he was recently recognized as "the National Chaplain of the Year".

NOW, THEREFORE, WE DO HEREBY PROCLAIM Chaplain Ron McMurray a Whitman County "Hero of Freedom".

Dated this 3rd day of April 2006.

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

065314 8. Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a proclamation designating April 3-9, 2006 as Public Health Week in Whitman County.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the major improvements in health status during the last century have been the result of population-based public health initiatives for such things as safe drinking water and food supplies, reduction of

smoking, promotion of oral health, immunizations, sewage disposal, and infectious disease control; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of public health is to empower individuals and communities to take responsibility for their own health by minimizing known unhealthy behaviors and take appropriate preventive measures; and,

WHEREAS, public health today represents society's best effort to improve health by reducing social and physical environment health threats and by promoting access to proven cost effective, preventive health practices; and,

WHEREAS, the health of all Whitman County residents depends upon the availability of adequate health protection, promotion, and education; and,

WHEREAS, the American Public Health Association has proclaimed April 3-9, 2006 as Public Health Week, and the nation will focus on ways to build healthier communities and healthier kids during National Public Health Week; and,

WHEREAS, the Whitman County Health Department will highlight the public health message of "Always Working for a Safer and Healthier Whitman County" during the month of April.

NOW, THEREFORE, we the Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 3-9, 2006 as:

PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

In Whitman County and urge all citizens to join in this special observance.

Signed this 3rd day of April 2006.

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

065315 9. Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to appoint Darin Watkins to a 4-year term on the Planning Commission. Mr. Watkins term will expire 12/31/2009.

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065316 10. A grant application data form was received from Administrative Services for a \$1,650 U.S. Department of Justice SCAAP grant.

065317 11. An email letter of commendation for John Skyles was received from John and Joan Neff. The commissioners echoed the Neff's comments.

065318 12. A letter was received from Holly Heaton, Paradise Ford General Manager in response to the Commissioners request to reduce the amount of units ordered from 3 to 1. Ms. Heaton said unfortunately, the orders have been locked in and the units are in the process of being built. However, the dealership will be able to take one of the orders into its inventory. As a result of this letter, one remaining unit will be incorporated into the ER&R system.

065319 13. A petition opposing the rural residential ordinance was received.

14. Executed copies of the following documents received:

- 065320** Military Department Homeland Security contract #E06-064,
- 065321** Spokane County interlocal agreement amendment #3 for Regional Homeland Security planning and administration,
- 065322** Spokane County interlocal agreement for the Citizen Corp. Program,
- 065323** Tetra Tech/KCM contract for the Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

D065323A 15. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

D065323B 16. Those in attendance were given an opportunity for comments and/or questions.

10:30 a.m. - 2006-2007 Legal Printing Bids.

Present: Gordon Forgey, Thinh Nguyen, Ed Schultz and Gary Kopf.

065324 The following combined bid for 2006-2007 legal printing was received, opened and read aloud.

BIDDER	AMOUNT
Whitman County Gazette/Moscow-Pullman Daily News	\$9.28/column inch.
This amount is up \$.27 per column inch from the current contract. The bid was taken under advisement and a decision is planned for April 10 th .	

10:35 a.m. - Recess.

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

Present: Mark Storey, Cindi Lepper, Thinh Nguyen, Joe Smillie, Don Nelson and Gary Kopf.

Action Items:

065325 1. Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to publish the ad to designate No-Spray areas during noxious weed control.

Solid Waste Division:

065326 2. Ms. Lepper reported on the Home and Garden Show at the Kibbee Dome. This years' focus was educating the public about computer recycling. Dennis Ford of Inland ReTech answered questions on Saturday. A prize wheel attracted much attention for 2 refurbished computers donated by Inland ReTech. To date, this was the most successful booth Ms. Lepper has set up.

065327 3. Whitman County is collaborating with other entities in Latah and Whitman County that have environmental interests. They have established a weeklong schedule of events for people to participate in Earth Day with a compilation of gifts and prizes donated by the community.

D065327A 4. A computer recycling event is scheduled for June 17th at the Transfer Station. Whitman County will partner with Moscow Recycling. Inland ReTech will accept all parts of a computer for a small cost to the consumer. The Department of Ecology grant will also contribute towards the costs. Acceptable items include: computers, printers, faxes, copiers and cell phones. No TV's or stereos are being accepted at this time. Pre-registration is required. Ms. Lepper hoped this would be the beginning of an annual event. The Coordinator will have detailed consumer cost information at a later date.

Engineering Division:

D065327B 5. The Engineer stated the county is almost done purchasing right-of-way for the Almota Road project.

Maintenance Division:

065328 6. A quote for asphalt/crack seal material was awarded to Special Asphalt Products of Spokane for \$.318/lb. without tax through the small works roster process.

11:20 a.m. - Denis Tracy, County Prosecutor.

Present: Sharron Cunningham, April & Russ Cogans, Gary Kopf, Joe Smillie and Thinkh Nguyen.

065329 Mr. Tracy shared a letter from Peter G. Scott, attorney for the City of Moscow. The city agrees not to object to a delayed SEPA hearing based on the party's agreement. In doing so the city waives its right to a hearing within the 30-day time limit.

He also spoke with the attorney for the developer, Hawkins Group, who is also in agreement with the commissioners extending the 30-day time limit. Mr. Tracy said his suggestion to the Board is to strike the current hearing

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set for April 10th and not set a new date at this time. Rather he asked to be placed on the commissioners' agenda for April 10th to consider the next step in this process.

Mr. Tracy said he is currently engage in a review of the County Code regarding both the SEPA and Conditional Use Permit (CUP) processes and comparing the ordinances with state laws and the Board of Adjustment. His initial take is that the County Code may need to be revised to conform with state law revisions made after the last time the County Code was revised. He expects to have an answer/recommendation for the Board next week. Between now and then the Prosecutor will have additional conversations with the City of Moscow and Hawkins Group attorneys. It is his goal to keep Moscow through their attorney, fully informed and involved in this process and to hear their input to the fullest possible extent.

The proposal will not involve any substantive changes. He would only be recommending procedural changes to the County Code for SEPA and/or the CUP processes.

11:30 a.m. - Michelle Dupler.

065330 Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to strike the SEPA hearing date to a date yet to be determined and after they meet with the Prosecutor on April 10th.

Those in the audience were given an opportunity for comments and/or questions.

11:35 p.m. - Recess.

1:00 p.m. - Assessor/Treasurer Software.

Present: Bob Lothspeich, Kathy Lemon, Kris Bunch, Adam Roberts, Bev Welch and Joe Reynolds.

065331 Bob Lothspeich said both TerraScan and CompuTech provided software presentations. The Assessor and he along with other staff members visited 4 counties that use these two systems. They talked with their staffs about reports and keying information. All of the counties were happy with their systems, but there is always something they wished the systems could do. They learned about some additional costs that did not show up in CompuTech's RFP.

Kris Bunch talked about the technology for both systems.

Software and Hardware

TerraScan runs on a windows server under Microsoft Office Systems, which is what the county currently uses. CompuTech runs on very customized software

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using IBM proprietary hardware (not a PC based server). He went on to explain the costs associated with each system.

<u>Initial Costs</u>	<u>TerraScan</u>	<u>CompuTech</u>
Software	\$166,895.00	\$283,168.00
Hardware	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 53,808.00
Total Initial Costs	\$176,895.00	\$336,976.00

Maintenance

CompuTech has what is called Gold Tech Support. This cost is used for a technician to visit a site, maintain the software and hardware and perform any type of development work. Each department must pay \$10,000 each per year in addition to a fee every 2 years to IBM for their software. One county they visited budgets \$45,000 every 3-years for the required IBM hardware update.

<u>Maintenance Costs</u>	<u>TerraScan</u>	<u>CompuTech</u>
Software Yearly	\$ 54,632.00	\$ 22,315.00
Hardware Yearly	\$ 124.00	\$ 47,324.50
Total Yearly Maint.	\$ 54,756.00	\$ 69,639.50
<u>Total Cost After 5 Years</u>	\$395,919.00	\$615,534.00

In his opinion, Kris said contracting with CompuTech would be a step in the wrong direction.

Adam Roberts interjected, Information Services staff would not be able to work on the CompuTech system. This means additional down time because a CompuTech technician would have to be dispatched to Whitman County to resolve the problem.

Bob Lothspeich talked about time delays by CompuTech for small fixes expressed by one of the counties. TerraScan has a user group comprised of 9-10 Washington counties that meet annually. If a majority of the group is in favor of some software change, all the counties share in the implementation cost for that change. TerraScan has been running since 1998 in Washington and are almost exclusive in the State of Nebraska.

Joe Reynolds said TerraScan also has an appraisal program. Whitman County currently pays \$7,200 for its appraisal program and that cost could be eliminated with TerraScan. They can also download all Whitman County's information for a smoother transition.

CompuTech too has an appraisal program but it was not included in their RFP. Their system does not allow for downloading Whitman County's information to the new system. All information would have to be re-entered. In his opinion, TerraScan was much more user friendly.

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Bob Lothspeich said TerraScan is in the process of rewriting their program into a windows-based program that goes into effect this fall. Rather than transitioning to the new system and then upgrading in the fall, he would suggest waiting until the windows based program is available.

Kathy Lemon indicated she was impressed with the TerraScan system for the following reasons: it is recommended by Information Services, the cost factor, the support factor, an established user group and the public's ability to access Assessor/Treasurer information via the internet.

According to Joe Reynolds, TerraScan also has the ability to work with GIS and CompuTech does not.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to accept the TerraScan RFP as broken down and presented.

1:30 p.m. - Recess.

2:00 p.m. - One New Pickup.

Present: Dane Dunford, Mark Storey, Phil Meyer and a Paradise Ford representative.

065332 The following bids for one new pickup were received, opened and read aloud. Public Works will review the bids and make a recommendation for award on April 10th at 11 a.m.

BIDDER	AMOUNT
Jess Ford, Pullman, WA	\$18,778.61 w/tax
Wysup Chrysler Dodge, Pullman, WA	\$21,783.24 w/tax
Chipman & Taylor, Pullman WA	\$20,510.91 w tax
Paradise Ford Mercury, Moscow, ID	\$18,877.19 w/tax

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

Present: Kelli Campbell.

D065332A 16. The item discussed was county comparables. No action taken.

3:00 p.m. - Recess.

D065332B THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met at Sage Café (Pullman Memorial Hospital), in Pullman, Washington for **April 6, 2006** at **7:30 a.m.** to host the Regional Quarterly Breakfast. G.R. Finch, Chairman, Greg Partch and Les Wigen, Commissioners attended.

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7:30 a.m. - Reconvened/Board Business Continued/Regional Quarterly Breakfast.

Present: Approximately 40 individuals.

065333 17. Roundtable discussions held. No action taken. Whitman County will host this event again in October 2007.

9:00 a.m. - Recess.

10:00 a.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop (at CETC).

Present: Dr. Livingston, Dr. Peres, Dr. Simmons, Tom Kneeshaw and members of the CETC Advisory Committee.

065334 18. Discussion involved future programs at CETC. No action taken.

12:00 p.m. - Adjournment.

D065334A Commissioner Partch **moved** to adjourn the **April 3** and **6, 2006** 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 **April 10, 2006**. The foregoing action made this **6th** day of **April 2006**.

ss/ Greg PARTCH, Commissioner
ss/ LES WIGEN, Commissioner

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board

G.R. FINCH, CHAIRMAN
Board of County Commissioners