

Minutes for April 16, 2007

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066732 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **April 16, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.** Chairman Greg Partch, G.R. Finch and Michael Largent, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

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

Present: Sharron Cunningham and Joe Smillie (9:00 a.m.), Kelli Campbell and Joe Smillie (9:10 a.m.) and Adam Roberts and Joe Smillie (9:30 a.m.).

066733 1. Items discussed included a financial and Capital Improvement Program update, courtroom microphones, Workplace Violence Prevention Policy, cellular telephones and long distance service. No action taken.

9:30 a.m. - Recess.

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

Present: Joe Smillie and Monica Krause.

D066733A 2. Motion by Commissioner Largent to approve the consent agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Finch and **carried**.

066734 3. Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **202324-202325** and **202351-202499** for **\$333,740.78** approved.

| FUND | FUND NAME | AMOUNT |
|------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 001 | Current Expense | 52,748.53 |
| 101 | Self Insurance | 43.12 |
| 102 | Building & Development | 12.37 |
| 103 | Countywide Planning | 5.05 |
| 104 | Developmental Services | 52.99 |
| 109 | Homeless Housing | 1,582.53 |
| 110 | County Roads | 82,374.50 |
| 118 | Inmate Welfare | 253.48 |
| 123 | Paths & Trails | 177.31 |
| 141 | Washington Housing SHB 2060 | 3,547.95 |
| 400 | Solid Waste | 10,353.81 |
| 501 | Equipment Rental & Revolving | 71,355.44 |
| 513 | Communications Revolving | 2,489.60 |
| 660 | Whitcom-General-660.911.000 | 6,543.72 |
| 660 | Whitcom-Grant Funding-660.911.001 | 42,193.31 |

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| | | |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------|
| 690 | Clearing Fund 690.006.000 | 1,852.20 |
| 690 | Clearing Fund 690.006.001 | 56,416.06 |

066735 4. April 9, 2007 minutes approved.

066736-066741 5. Personnel board orders approved.

10:05 a.m. - Adam Roberts and Corinne Sloom.

066742 6. Adam Roberts recommended the county switch from SCAN with the State Department of Information Services (DIS) to Qwest for long distance telephone services saving approximately \$250/month. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to switch long distance services to Qwest at the recommendation of Adam Roberts. This change will take effect following a 30-day termination notice to DIS.

066743 7. Commissioner Largent **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign the 2007 Community Action Center subrecipient agreement for the CDBG-Public Service grant.

8. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to publish notices for the Public Works Department Rural Residential Housing workshop in the:

066744 Gazette and,

066745 Daily News.

9. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign the following grant application data forms:

066746 Department of Justice/Office of Violence Against Women-\$312,790.

066747 Community Action Center CDBG-PS grant less Whitman County's Administrative portion-\$125,539.

066748 Whitman County's Administrative portion of the Community Action Center CDBG-PS grant-\$3,000.

066749 10. Notice was received from Whitman County Fire District #12 wishing to terminate their lease agreement with the county for property near the Landfill used for training purposes. Commissioner Largent **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a letter to Fire District #12 honoring their request.

066750 11. Commissioner Largent **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the 2007-2008 legal printing agreement with the Whitman County Gazette/Moscow-Pullman Daily News.

066751 12. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter appointing

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John Goyke to a 4-year unexpired term on the Blue Ribbon Advisory Task Committee. Mr. Goyke's term will expire 12/31/08.

066752 13. A letter of appreciation for Whitman County's continued WSU Extension program support was received from Linda Kirk Fox, Dean and Director.

066753 14. Comments associated with the proposed Rural Residential Housing hearing were received from the City of Pullman.

066754 15. A letter was forwarded to Deborah Pennick, State Auditor's Office regarding Whitman County's 2005 and 2006 audit processes.

066755 16. Robert Zorb wrote Commissioner Largent concerning the proposed Rural Residential Housing issue.

066756 17. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

10:30 a.m. - Kristie Kirkpatrick, Whitman County Library Director.

Present: Book Bear, Joe Smillie and Corinne Sloat.

D066756A 1. In celebration of National Library Week that begins today, Ms. Kirkpatrick said Whitman County Library is holding a penny drive. The proceeds from the penny drive have a different usage in each location. The commissioners gave their extra coins to Book Bear for this purpose.

066757 2. Ms. Kirkpatrick distributed and reviewed a flyer with quotable facts about the library.

D066757A 3. The Director shared an emailed she received about the Teen Dance held at the Fairgrounds. This event was jointly hosted by the Library and Extension 4-H. A total of 385 teens attended. The Library's portion of the shared proceeds will be used for children's' library programs throughout the county.

D0066757A 4. Ms. Kirkpatrick talked about the fact Jackson County, Oregon libraries will be closing at the end of the week if they don't find an alternate source of funding. They were being funded by timber tax.

Commissioner Partch said I-747 had a direct impact on our libraries and other junior taxing districts. The county asked the Governor to consider our junior taxing districts and property tax formula and she chose not to. Therefore, the county's challenge will move forward unless the legislature decides to codify the initiative. The Director noted the library has a difficult time keeping up with inflation and one of the reasons for that is because the library's tax dollars are so set. She concurred I-747 has really impacted the library because they can no longer collect the funds that helped keep up with inflation. She would like to see I-747 overturned

or to find a better funding model. The Director appreciated the commissioners' efforts in this regard. Chairman Partch stated the I-747 challenge would be heard May 8 at 9 a.m. The initiative won't make a difference to the county's revenue because the county is capped at \$1.80/thousand; it is all about the junior taxing districts.

D066757B 5. The Director shared a second email from a resident expressing appreciation for all the services provided by the library. Ms. Kirkpatrick pointed out, while use of the library has risen by more than 50% over the past 10 years, their budget has only risen by 21% operating 13 branches.

066758 6. A second brochure was distributed and reviewed outlining the Library's 2006 annual report, performance measures and library support.

D066758A 7. The Director said she is in the beginning stages of investigating the possibility of expanding the Colfax branch to an adjacent building in order to accommodate main floor meeting space. In addition, the library still desires to install an elevator in the Colfax branch.

D066758B 8. Ms. Kirkpatrick requested a link be added to the county's website for the Library, which the commissioners will check into.

D066758C 9. The Director will once again participate with the National Library Association to lobby for libraries at the national level.

11:00 a.m. - Recess.

11:05 a.m. - Mark Storey, Public Works Director.

Present: Phil Meyer, Alan Thompson, Mariah Simpson, Dan Gladwill, Joe Smillie and Corinne Sloat.

ACTION ITEMS

Engineering Division:

066759 1. Commissioner Largent **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to award the bid for crushing at Union Center Quarry to Shawnee Rock in the total bid amount of \$197,220.00.

066760 2. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** that the resolution to initiate a county road for Ewan High School Bridge be signed as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 066760

BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

In the matter of initiating a county road bridge project designated as C.R.B.P. No. 4150-00.10(3), Project No. XFB0700.

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IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Ewan High School Bridge, County Bridge No. 4150-00.10 be improved as follows:

This project provides for the replacement of the Ewan High School Bridge with a 28 foot wide, 25 foot long prestressed concrete superstructure on a steel substructure.

This project is hereby declared to be a public necessity and the County Engineer is hereby ordered and authorized to report and proceed thereon as by law provided (RCW 36.75.050, 36.80.030, 36.80.070)

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that an appropriation from the official adopted county road fund budget and based on the County Engineer's estimate is hereby made in the amounts and for the purposes shown:

| PURPOSE | AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Engineering (PE & CE) | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Construction | \$95,000.00 |
| TOTAL | \$99,000.00 |

This project was included in the official adopted annual road program as Item No. 1.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the construction is to be accomplished by county forces in accordance with RCW 36.77.065 and WAC 136-18.

ESTIMATED date of commencing work: June 1, 2007

ESTIMATED date of completing work: October 15, 2007

ADOPTED this 16th day of April 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Greg Partch, Chairman

G.R. Finch, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Michael Largent, Commissioner

066761 3. Commissioner Largent **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** that the resolution initiating a county road bridge project for K.E. Smith Bridge be signed as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 066761

BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

In the matter of initiating a county road bridge project designated as C.R.B.P. No. 3160-00.01(2), Project No. XFB0701.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the KE Smith Bridge, County Bridge No. 3160-00.01 be improved as follows:

This project provides for the replacement of the KE Smith Bridge with a 28 foot wide, 20 foot long prestressed concrete superstructure on a steel substructure.

This project is hereby declared to be a public necessity and the County Engineer is hereby ordered and authorized to report and proceed thereon as by law provided (RCW 36.75.050, 36.80.030, 36.80.070)

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that an appropriation from the official adopted county road fund budget and based on the County Engineer's estimate is hereby made in the amounts and for the purposes shown:

| PURPOSE | AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Engineering (PE & CE) | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Construction | <u>\$85,000.00</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>\$89,000.00</u> |

This project was included in the official adopted annual road program as Item No. 1.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the construction is to be accomplished by county forces in accordance with RCW 36.77.065 and WAC 136-18.

ESTIMATED date of commencing work: June 1, 2007
ESTIMATED date of completing work: October 15, 2007

ADOPTED this 16th day of April 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Greg Partch, Chairman

G.R. Finch, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Michael Largent, Commissioner

066762 4. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** that the resolution to initiate a county road bridge project for Halver-Nelson Bridge be signed as presented.

RESOLUTION NO. 066762

BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

In the matter of initiating a county road bridge project designated as C.R.B.P. No. 1450-00.04(2), Project No. XFB0702.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Halver-Nelson Bridge, County Bridge No. 1450-00.04 be improved as follows:

This project provides for the replacement of the Halver-Nelson Bridge with a 28 foot wide, 25 foot long prestressed concrete superstructure on a steel substructure.

This project is hereby declared to be a public necessity and the County Engineer is hereby ordered and authorized to report and proceed thereon as by law provided (RCW 36.75.050, 36.80.030, 36.80.070)

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that an appropriation from the official adopted county road fund budget and based on the County Engineer's estimate is hereby made in the amounts and for the purposes shown:

| PURPOSE | AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATION |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Engineering (PE & CE) | \$ 4,000.00 |
| Construction | <u>\$90,000.00</u> |
| TOTAL | \$94,000.00 |

This project was included in the official adopted annual road program as Item No. 1.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the construction is to be accomplished by county forces in accordance with RCW 36.77.065 and WAC 136-18.

ESTIMATED date of commencing work: June 1, 2007
ESTIMATED date of completing work: October 15, 2007

ADOPTED this 16th day of April 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Greg Partch, Chairman

ATTEST:

G.R. Finch, Commissioner

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Michael Largent, Commissioner

Planning Division:

066763 5. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to set the decision on amending the Whitman County Zoning Map for the proposed McCormack rezone changing 24.013 acres of land from the Agricultural District to Cluster Residential District to be held in this room at 11:00 a.m. on April 23, 2007.

066764 6. Commissioner Finch **moved**, Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to set the decision on amending the Whitman County Zoning Map for the proposed Bruce/BNP Lentil Company rezone changing 12.9 acres of land from the Agricultural District to Heavy Commercial District to be held in this room at 11 a.m. on April 23, 2007.

Building Division:

066765 7. The 1st quarter Building Division report for 2007 was received from the Director.

D066765A 8. Mr. Gladwill announced he has tested and received his certification as a certified building official. The commissioners applauded Mr. Gladwill for this fete.

Planning Division:

066766 9. The Director presented a summary report of geological conditions in the vicinity of the "buttes" as it relates to the upcoming rural residential hearing April 17th. Also, the Planning staff is available, as advertised, for a workshop from 2-5 p.m. on the 17th to answer questions. In no way is this workshop intended as a replacement for the hearing at 6 p.m. on the 17th.

Maintenance Division:

D066766A 10. Phil Meyer reported maintenance crews are hauling rock and performing maintenance work on the Hayward Road Bridge. Most dirt roads have been graded and some will be graded again before continuing on to gravel roads.

Administrative Division:

066767 11. A copy of the 2006 Public Works Department Annual Report was received for review.

11:30 a.m. - Sharron Cunningham, Administrative Services.

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Present: Bev Welch, Eunice Coker, Christina Thompson, Janet Schmidt, Doug Robinson, Joe Reynolds, Kelli Campbell, Bob Lothspeich, Bob Reynolds, Mark Storey, Eileen Roe, John Thompson, Joe Smillie and Corinne Sloom.

The following individuals contacted the Clerk of the Board regarding their absence from today's meeting: Tim Myers and Fran Martin.

066768 1. The March 2007 ending financial report provided by Ms. Cunningham.

March 2007 Cash Balance - \$1,583,138
March 2006 Cash Balance - \$ 957,086

March 2007 Revenue - \$1,734,445 - 14.93% of budget.
March 2006 Revenue - \$1,522,770 - 12.52% of budget.

March 2007 Expenditures \$2,825,872 - 24.14% of budget.
March 2006 Expenditures \$2,414,032 - 20.45% of budget.

2. Two employees were recipients of the 2007 Commissioners' Choice award:

066769 M. Christine Thompson and
066770 Sharron Cunningham.

11:55 a.m. - Recess.

2:00 p.m. - Two (2) Truck Boxes.

Present: Mark Storey, Phil Meyer, Chris Cook and TJ Mitzimberg.

066771 The following bids for 2-truck boxes were received, opened and read aloud. Public Works will review the bids and make a recommendation for award on April 23rd at 11:00 a.m.

| BIDDER | AMOUNT |
|---|----------------------|
| All Fab Supply, Pullman, WA | \$94,076.00 Base Bid |
| Transport Equipment, Spokane, WA | \$72,473.24 Base Bid |
| ED-KA Manufacturing, Inc., Garfield, WA | \$43,450.00 Base Bid |

2:10 p.m. - Recess.

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

Present: Mark Storey and Mark Bordsen (2:30 p.m.) and Bev Welch and Sharron Cunningham (3:00 p.m.).

D066771A 18. Items discussed included rural residential housing and an audit update. No action taken.

3:25 p.m. - Recess.

D066771B THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **April 17, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.** Chairman Greg Partch, G.R. Finch and Michael Largent, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

2:05 p.m. - Reconvene/Board of Health.

Present: Fran Martin, Dr. Moody, John Skyles, Jana Davidson, Tammy Bailey and Polly Anderson.

D066771C 1. Dr. Moody addressed the following newly approved vaccines:

- Human Pathloma Virus for females age pre-adolescent to 25
- Tetanus, Diphtheria, and A-Cellular Pertusis (TDAP) for ages 7+
- Shingles for ages 60+

D066771D 2. Dr. Moody is working on influenza planning and gearing up for the West Nile Virus by taking a pro-active approach.

D066771E 3. John Skyles noted with the warmer, dryer weather Environmental Health is becoming busy again with water and sewer system permits, especially around the Pullman area.

D066771F 4. The Director reviewed proposed changes to Public Health staff responsibilities due to Judy Stone's departure. The end result is the need for a school nurse at Oakesdale, Tekoa and Steptoe schools beginning in June/July. The Board had no objections to Ms. Martin's reorganization plans.

D066771G 5. Public Health removed old lab equipment from the office and is offering it to the hospital or any other agency that may have a need for it. Removal of the equipment freed up space for much needed file storage.

D066771H 6. Ms. Martin said they have now scanned 5 years of birth and death certificates.

066772 7. Copies of the 2007 Standards for Public Health in Washington State were received from the Director.

066773 8. A draft Staged Pandemic Influenza Plan was distributed to the commissioners for their review. A tabletop exercise using this draft plan will take place May 10th at the Public Service Building.

D066773A 9. According to Ms. Martin, the Prosecutor is still reviewing the proposed plan for private clubs.

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D066773B 10. State nurse core funding hours through ESD 101 remains unchanged. Contracts for the 2007-08 school year will be distributed to all participating school in May at the current hourly rate.

D066773C 11. A stockpile of drugs known as a "pod" is being negotiated with Region 9 and Pullman Hospital to be housed in locked conditions in Pullman. The only unresolved issue is determining what type of security recording system will be used.

D066773D 12. The next Board of Health meeting is May 15th.

2:40 p.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.

Present: Fran Martin and Sharron Cunningham.

066774 19. The emergency communications fund was discussed. No action taken.

2:50 p.m. - Recess.

6:00 p.m. - Rural Residential Housing (Comprehensive Plan, Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances (Public Service Building Auditorium)).

066775 Present: Mark Storey, Mark Bordsen, Alan Thomson, Mariah Simpson, Denis Tracy and approximately 20 citizens attended.

066776 Chairman Partch reconvened the commissioners' regular meeting, opened the hearing for the above subject matter and read an opening statement. Those in attendance were advised of a change from the web published document and that is Steptoe Butte will be treated the same as all other buttes. The hearing was then opened to comments from those for or against the proposed revisions.

066777 Proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning and Subdivision ordinance document.

066778 City of Pullman Supervisor John Sherman urged the commissioners to ensure good planning principles are followed by preserving the area around Pullman for future city growth.

066779 Lucille Linden for the League of Women Voters of Pullman urged the commissioners to adopt the proposed ordinance as written and not to alter the ordinance for at least one year.

Jean Wardwell of Pullman and a 13-year member of the Planning Commission spoke as a member of Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 34. More and more studies are coming out from both universities on the Palouse about how limited the water supply is in our aquifer. The Department of Ecology (DOE) is looking at eastern Washington to limit wells in our area. Fortunately,

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they are looking at 1,200 gallons/day rather than 500 via the legislature a few years ago. Ms. Wardwell felt one of the things we should be concerned with is that DOE not dictate how many houses we get rather than the citizens of Whitman County making that determination. She strongly urged the commissioners to adopt this proposal because those protections are included in this document.

Ted Nealey of Cheney, an Endicott farmer and former Planning Commission member said he has followed this issue over the past few years and understands the difficulty in developing this type of document. Hearing other farmers talk about how valuable farmland is and that they should have the right to do whatever they want with their land is always dangerous talk because that means the farmer's neighbor has the same freedom. The rules are put in place to protect the citizens and our farms. Whitman County is a very special county and the longer we can help protect our way of life, the better. While on the Planning Commission he learned there are two things they work with while planning, community and the future. Mr. Nealey is for economic growth, but cautioned that we must also watch the building in the agricultural area and do what we can to keep Whitman County open and rural. With respect to the County Commissioners and Planning Commission, we must keep in mind we are dealing with our fellow citizens. The most efficient government is local government. As long as we have this process, there are opportunities for zone changes if a business wants to locate in Whitman County. Mr. Nealey was in favor of the document as proposed.

Tom Barlass of Colfax thought this was poor timing for the hearing because the farmers are in their fields. The way he reads the document, if his home were to burn down, he could not rebuild. He talked about the set-asides and buffer zones and wondered who would be responsible for maintenance of these areas and it is something that should be incorporated into the document.

Earl Enos of Colfax said the section that says if you don't have one acre of land you cannot rebuild your home if it burned should be changed. He is in the process of selling a farmstead and the problem he has run into is that he has a one-acre fenced pasture that is considered farmland. He was told when the revised ordinance passes he could sell that piece of ground. For personal reasons, he would like to see the document adopted quickly so he can sell his farmstead.

Rob Zorb of Spokane and Whitman County taxpayer spoke about population figures versus employment in Whitman County.

Denis Tracy stated he was not present to indicate the document was a good or bad proposal. However, he wanted to address two points: 1) In response to an earlier comment about not being able to rebuild if a home burns down Mr. Tracy did not recall that being included in the proposed document. 2) He requested the Board considered what he believed not to be a substantive change concerning Steptoe Butte (mentioned earlier).

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Pete Lazzarini of Elberton said although he has not read the revised document, he had concerns about verbiage in prior documents, view sheds and distance, timing of this meeting and associated advertising. In talking with other residents he has a different perspective. They feel the proposed document is more restrictive than the current ordinance and takes away the owners property rights. He suggested the commissioners visit with their constituents at their homes and that the language be more specific.

066780 Gary and Marie VanDyke of Malden and Don and Leila VanDyke of Rosalia submitted a letter opposing the 200' buffer zone.

There being no further comments, Chairman Partch closed the public hearing noting the comment period will remain open until 5:00 p.m., April 24, 2007. A tentative date of April 25th at 4:00 p.m. has been set for a workshop, if necessary and a tentative date of April 30th at 11:00 a.m. has been scheduled for the commissioners' decision.

7:00 p.m. - Adjournment.

D066780A Commissioner Largent **moved** to adjourn the **April 16 and 17, 2007** meeting. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Finch and **carried**. The Board will meet in regular session, in their Chambers', in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington, on **April 23, 2007**. The foregoing action made this **17th** day of **April 2007**.

ss/ G.R. FINCH, Commissioner
ss/ MICHAEL LARGENT, Commissioner

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board

GREG PARTCH, CHAIRMAN
Board of County Commissioners