

Minutes for April 29th, 2002

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059598 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **April 29, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.** Greg Partch, Chairman, Jerry Finch and Les Wigen, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

9:30 a.m. - Board Business.

D059598A 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Joe Poire', Port of Whitman County Manager.

D059598B 2. Mr. Poire' indicated that the Port does hold the ADO contract issued by the County Commissioners for economic development and have begun work in this area. He reported on a personnel change at the Port and assured the Board that the contents of the ADO program and implementation of the economic development plan is not going to falter.

9:40 a.m. - Recess.

10:00 a.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued.

Present: Chris Anderson.

D059598C 3. Motion by Commissioner Finch to approve the Consent Agenda with the deletion of item #1. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**.

059599 4. April 22, 2002 minutes approved.

059600-059603 5. Personnel board orders approved.

059604 6. Motion by Commissioner Finch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to sign the 2002-2003 legal printing agreement. Due to receipt of the required bond document, the bidder's cashier's check was returned.

059605 7. A response to the commissioners' inquiry concerning parking lot repairs was received from Colfax City Administrator Emily Adams. The City agreed to pay for ½ of the repairs to the approach they use. The Chairman will follow-up on this issue.

059606 8. A response to Commissioner Partch's letter regarding the hiring freeze imposed on all state agencies under the Governor's direction was received from Marty Brown, Director of the Office of Financial Management.

059607 9. An order dismissing an appeal associated with Department of Ecology Delegation Order No. 02AQER-3570 was received from the Environmental Hearings Office.

059608 10. A letter was received from the Ferry County Commissioners' Office expressing Commissioner Mike Blankenship's interest in serving on the Forest Practices Board. The Board voiced their support for Commissioner Blankenship and agreed to write a letter supporting his candidacy.

059609 11. Notification was received from Dane Dunford advising who should be contacted regarding county telephone related issues as of April 29, 2002.

059610 12. A memo was sent to all departments concerning an inventory of non-Public Works vehicles.

059611 13. A recommendation was received from Human Resources regarding the County Administrator job description.

D059611A 14. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

10:30 a.m. - Dorothy Talley, Prosecutor's Office.

Present: Dave Repp, Chris Anderson and Jennifer Snead.

D059611A On behalf of the Prosecutor's Office, Ms. Talley requested authorization to refill the recently vacated Legal Secretary-Superior Court position. The commissioners authorized Ms. Talley to proceed.

059612-059613 Personnel board orders approved.

10:40 a.m. - Recess.

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

Present: Jeff Motley, Bill Motley, Chris Anderson, Mark Bordsen, Jean Wardwell, Phil Meyer, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Janice Miller, Evan Ellis and Gary Kopf.

Action Items:

059614 1. Chairman Partch reviewed the options available to the Board last week concerning a Zoning Ordinance amendment to allow concrete pre-mix plants in the Pullman-Moscow Corridor (PMC) district.

Commissioner Wigen said the Planning Commission conducted public hearings. In the past 8 years he has been involved in 3 new zone changes. The first was the Planned Residential Development. To him, once signed into Code, this represented economic growth. The second was the Highway/Waterway Commercial zone that now provides an opportunity to bring economic activity into Whitman County. This proposed amendment is the third. Every street in Pullman and Moscow and half the roads in Whitman County have been paved by

using rock from the quarry in the Corridor. Commissioner Wigen indicated his support for the amendment and was ready to vote.

Chairman Partch said he was especially impressed with the testimony from the Planning Commission hearings, the testimony received last week in the County Commissioners' meeting, and hearing from those people who live very close to the pre-mix plant area who stated the plant would not be a problem for them. He thought all the comments were critical and to be taken to task by the media that the commissioners do not listen to the people is wrong. They have listened to the people. The proposed amendment is still a conditional use and these types of applications must go through all the hoops. It is not a rubber stamp situation. The Board is actually addressing an area that was more of an oversight than anything else and a non-substantive change in wording.

Motion by Commissioner Finch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to sign an ordinance amending Whitman County Zoning Ordinance to revise Section 19.15.060(5)(Y), to allow concrete pre-mix plants as a conditional use associated with an active rock mining and crushing operation within the Pullman-Moscow Corridor District, as described in the attached documents.

ORDINANCE NO. 059614

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WHITMAN COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE to revise Section 19.15.060(5)(Y), to allow concrete pre-mix plants as a conditional use associated with an active rock mining and crushing operation within the Pullman-Moscow Corridor District, as described in the attached documents.

BE IT ORDAINED and enacted by the Board of County Commissioners of Whitman County, State of Washington, it having been determined by the Board that Recommendations and Findings of Fact of the Whitman County Planning Commission should be accepted and this action is consistent with the Whitman County Comprehensive Plan.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Whitman County Commissioners of Whitman County, Washington on the 29th day of April 2002.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Greg Partch, Chairman

G. R. Finch, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Les Wigen, Commissioner

(Y) Mining, rock crushing, and asphalt processing **or concrete** plants. Currently active mining sites within the PMC may continue in such use. Mining, rock crushing, and **temporary** asphalt processing **or concrete** plants in the right-of-way of State Route 270, as it now or hereafter exists, for its road construction, is permitted. Any new mining or rock crushing sites or asphalt processing plants shall comply with the requirements of the Whitman County Code and should not be visible from State Route 270 and shall be hidden by existing natural topography to the extent possible. **Asphalt and/or concrete premixing plants shall be located at an active quarry site and shall comply with the requirements of the Whitman County Code.** Mining is allowed because it is a natural resource, which if it is to be used, cannot be moved and then mined.

Administration Division:

059615 2. The Chairman presented a certificate of good practice to the Public Works Director from the Washington State County Road Administration Board.

059616 3. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Finch and **carried** that the site lease between Whitman County and Jack and Bernice Glorfield for the Glorfield Quarry and Stockpile site be signed as presented.

Maintenance Division:

D059616A 4. Crack sealing began in District I today and will continue for two weeks before the equipment is moved to District III for two weeks. As the weather continues to warm, the crews will shift to asphalt related work in preparation of seal coating.

D059616B 5. In response to Commissioner Finch's inquiry, Mr. Dunford said paving of the Green Hollow Road would probably take place by the end of May.

11:15 a.m. - Board Business Continued.

Present: Mr. & Mrs. Miller.

D059616C 15. Janice Miller commented she was disappointed but not surprised by the vote on the zoning amendment. She hoped everything would be handled very carefully as the various components come up for review. Mrs. Miller was aware of one couple that submitted written comments about being very much impacted by the proposal and that sort of thing is only the tip of the iceberg. Unfortunately, as the Board is aware, many citizens who are interested in something don't attend meetings to speak for or against an issue. Nonetheless, there is still a lot of citizenry very concerned by the idea of inappropriate development in the Corridor.

11:20 a.m. - Recess.

11:30 a.m. - Tim Myers, Director of Parks, Fair, Facilities and Risk Management.

Present: Tom Miller and Alan Solan.

D059616E 1. One spray quote was received for the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail from ASAP Spray in the amount of \$4,200 including tax. Mr. Myers will make a recommendation for award May 6.

059617 2. The Chairman signed the Avista energy efficiency agreement relative to the county lighting project. Avista will make a cash or credit payment of \$17,979 to the county on November 1, 2002. The Board preferred receiving the payment by check from Avista via a formal, publicized presentation. **Motion** by Commissioner Finch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to sign the energy efficiency agreements between Whitman County and Avista Corporation.

D059617A 3. A Risk Management update provided by Mr. Myers.

D059617B 4. **Motion** by Commissioner Finch to go into Executive Session with Mr. Myers for discussion of legal matters until 12:00 p.m. **Seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**.

12:00 p.m. - Return to Open Session/Recess.

2:00 p.m. - Darden Bridge Project Bids.

Present: Dane Dunford, Mark Storey, Phil Meyer and Julie Banks.

059618 The following bids were received for the Darden Bridge project.

A&R Construction, Inc.	\$294,472.45
KSC, Inc.	\$323,566.00
KLM Construction, Inc.	\$391,149.95

Staff will make a recommendation for award May 6, 2002.

2:15 p.m. - Fran Martin, Public Health.

D059618A Motion by Commissioner Finch to go into Executive Session with Ms. Martin for discussion of personnel matters until 2:30p.m. **Seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**.

2:30 p.m. - Return to Open Session.

2:30 p.m. - Kelli Shrope, Human Resources Director.

D059618B Motion by Commissioner Finch to go into Executive Session with Ms. Shrope for discussion of personnel matters until 2:55 p.m. **Seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**.

2:55 p.m. - Return to Open Session/Recess.

3:00 p.m. - Chad Connors, Juvenile Court Administrator.

Present: Bob Lothspeich.

D059618C Mr. Connors wanted to visit with the Board about an exploration in parallel and in tandem with the Space Allocation Committee (SAC). He has spoken with Judge Frazier who has given him authorization to explore an option for long-range juvenile office and jail space.

The juvenile offices are scattered on the second floor of the Courthouse and the jail is overcrowded. The Sheriff and he are working on a memorandum of understanding that will allow the Sheriff to use juvenile jail space when not being used by juvenile offenders.

Mr. Connors is looking at moving the juvenile offices and juvenile jail cells to the Harrison Building for a consolidated justice center. In doing so, it would solve the Courthouse space issues, jail overcrowding issues, while at the same time, consolidating the juvenile offices.

The question is funding. About 3-5 years prior, Mr. Connors said the county previously looked into the 1/10 of 1% juvenile justice tax. Had it passed by the voters, it would have generated \$300,000-\$350,000/year in revenue. Mr. Connors believed if the idea was packaged differently, the issue might pass now.

Many other issues are involved including federal and state standards when considering moving jail cells.

Commissioner Finch thought it was an idea worth investigating because Whitman County is experiencing an exploding juvenile crime problem. If packaged correctly and the residents educated about the need, he thought the juvenile justice issue if passed would help some of the county's funding problems.

Chairman Partch had no objections with Mr. Connors researching this issue further, but he did have some concerns. 1) Having all criminal justice offices on the 2nd floor of the Courthouse for containment purposes thereby needing only one security system; and, 2) the county has one time money to make repairs to county buildings via bonding.

Commissioner Wigen was also in favor of Mr. Connors looking into this further and providing SAC with more options.

Mr. Connors agreed to make some calls and look into grant possibilities.

3:20 p.m. - Recess.

D059618D THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **April 30, 2002 at 9:00 a.m.** Greg Partch, Chairman, Jerry Finch and Les Wigen, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

9:00 a.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.

D059618E Items discussed included ADO position, rabies, Bill Vogler's visit, planning position, Clerk of the Board position, County Administrator position, Developmental Services budget, Public Disclosure, Commissioners' signs, WSAC summer conference, bonding, Auditor's budget, Turner/Harrington response, EAT/BOCC retreat, Electrical Inspector, and City of Colfax parking lease. No action taken.

10:00 a.m. - Gary Hunt, Attorney.

D059618F Motion by Commissioner Finch to go into Executive Session with Mr. Hunt for discussion of personnel matters until 12:00 a.m. **Seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**.

10:45 a.m. - Return to Open Session/Recess.

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

Present: Dane Dunford.

Commissioner Wigen was unavailable.

D059618G Items discussed included the vacant planner position, Electrical Inspector and Stand Pfaff/Milt Nelson Road. No action taken.

3:15 p.m. - Adjournment.

D059618H Commissioner Finch **moved** to adjourn the **April 29** and **30, 2002** 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 **May 6, 2002**. The foregoing action made this **30th** day of **April 2002**.

ss/ JERRY FINCH, Commissioner
ss/ LES WIGEN, Commissioner

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board

GREG PARTCH, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners