

Minutes for June 17th, 2002

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059770 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **June 17, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.** Greg Partch, Chairman, Jerry Finch and Les Wigen, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

10:00 a.m. - Board Business.

D059770A 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jack McLaughlin, Jeff Nave, Chris Anderson, and Bob Lothspeich.

D059770B 2. Motion by Commissioner Wigen to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Finch and **carried**.

10:05 a.m. - Jennifer Snead.

059771 3. Claims/Payroll warrants numbered 135915-136201 for \$235,923.21 approved.

FUND #	FUND NAME	AMOUNT
001	Current Expense	\$ 97,538.62
104	Developmental Services	3,909.79
105	Mental Health	28,508.82
107	Chemical Dependency	5,760.79
110	County Roads	47,549.55
112	Public Facilities Improvement	6,262.99
113	Ergonomics	138.39
118	Inmate Welfare	456.62
123	Paths & Trails	1,229.35
129	HB 3900	18.26
132	Auditor's Document Preserv.	243.77
135	Prosecutor's Stop Grant	784.54
136	Electronic Monitoring	555.75
137	Web Site Development	59.82
139	"911" Emergency Service	18,486.41
501	Equipment Rental & Revolving	14,571.63
510	Photocopier Revolving	701.58
513	Communications Revolving	4,769.54
521	Family Svc. Ctr. Revolving	1,330.85
690	Clearing & Suspense	3,046.41

059771 4. Three questioned claims for the Sheriff's Office and one for the Counseling Center received. Two Sheriff's claims were reduced by \$10 each and approved, one returned for more information. The Counseling Center claim was also approved.

059772 5. June 10, 2002 minutes approved.

059772A-059772E 6. Personnel board orders approved.

0597773 7. Pursuant to County Code regarding delegation of purchase orders, claims and payroll responsibilities, an authorization from was received from the Web Committee, signed by the Board and forwarded to the Auditor's office.

059774 8. **Motion** by Commissioner Finch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to sign the agreement for Pullman-Moscow Airport Law Enforcement services.

059775 9. Information was received from the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the proposed Lewis and Clark related park name changes.

059776 10. A copy of a letter sent to the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission was received from Representative Don Cox regarding the closure of lease parks by the state.

059777 11. Chairman Partch wrote a letter to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission concerning the Avista electricity rate proposals.

10:10 a.m. - **Jack McLaughlin, Vice President of D.A. Davidson & Co. Investment Banking and Jeff Nave, Attorney for Foster Pepper & Shefelman PLLC.**

Present: Chris Anderson, Bob Lothspeich, and Jennifer Snead.

059778 12. Mr. McLaughlin reviewed all pertinent documentation associated with the proposed bonding. He pointed out Whitman County received an excellent rating of "A+" from Standard & Poors and the county should be very proud. This rating is based on the county's financial performance, economic diversification, and the low debt burden. The interest rate obtained came in lower than anticipated. The average interest rate is slightly above 4%.

Mr. Nave reiterated Mr. McLaughlin's comments praising the county for receiving an A+ rating. He went on to review additional documentation associated with the bonding.

Motion by Commissioner Finch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen to sign the \$1.5 million bond resolution. Commissioner Wigen commented that the Board has a responsibility and he thought they made the right decision. This is a people's county and they are going to fix up the Courthouse and move this county into the 21st century. He took his hat off to Jack, Jeff, and the Board for moving forward at the right time. The A+ rating is a real credit to this county. He took his hat off to the elected officials and department heads over the past years whose hard work reflects this good rating. This is being done at the suggestion of the State Legislators. Of the potential

\$7.5 million anticipated over 25 years, the county is only obligating \$1.5 million. Motion **carried**

The meeting was opened to questions/comments from the audience.

059779 13. Notice of a request for renewal of a liquor license for the Wheel Inn in Steptoe was received, approved, and returned to the Washington State Liquor Control Board.

059780 14. Notice of a proposal to dredge the Lower Snake River received from the US Corps of Engineers.

D059780A 15. Commissioners' pending items reviewed.

10:50 a.m. - Recess.

11:10 a.m. - Dane Dunford, Public Works Director.

Present: Mark Storey.

Action Items:

059781 1. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Finch and **carried** to publish the notice of call for bids for crushing at the Wilbur Ellis Quarry.

059782 2. **Motion** by Commissioner Finch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to execute the resolution for prelevel and sealcoat 28 miles of county roads.

RESOLUTION NO. 059782

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Whitman County, Washington

In the matter of initiating an agency forces county road project designated as 2002 Sealcoating, C.R.P. No. 3000 ET AL, Project No. XFL02.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the selected countywide roads be improved as follows:

Preleveling and Sealcoating approximately 28 miles of county roads using CMS-2P Emulsified Asphalt and 1/2"-1/4" crushed screenings.

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 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	\$ 500.00

Maintenance	\$280,000.00
TOTAL (Road Fund)	\$280,500.00

ESTIMATED date of commencing work: July 1, 2002
ESTIMATED date of completing work: September 15, 2002

ADOPTED this 17th day of June 2002.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Greg Partch, Chairman

ATTEST:

G. R. Finch, Commissioner

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Les Wigen, Commissioner

Engineering Division:

D059782A 3. Mr. Storey updated the Board on the status of the King Change Bridge, Warner Bridge, Darden Bridge, Fitzgerald Bridge, and Green Hollow Road projects.

Maintenance Division:

D059782B 4. Mr. Dunford reported that the countywide sealcoating on 28 miles of county roads is scheduled to begin July 8th and should conclude July 31st.

D059782C 5. The State will also be sealcoating portions of Highway 23 and 194.

11:30 a.m. - Bob Lothspeich, County Treasurer.

Present: Dane Dunford, Marlynn Markley, Joe Reynolds, Peggy Wright, Tim Myers, Tom Miller, Fran Martin, Randy Baldree, Mike Werner, Chad Connors, Don Anderson, Steve Tomson, Bev Welch, Bob Reynolds, and Kelli Shrope.

The following individuals contacted the Treasurer/Commissioners' Office regarding their absence from today's meeting: Ron Shirley, Dave Frazier, and Eileen Roe.

059783 The May 2002 ending financial report provided by Lothspeich.

May 2002 Cash Balance - \$1,877,669
May 2001 Cash Balance - \$2,041,749

May 2002 Revenue - \$3,503,275 - 40.75% of budget.
May 2001 Revenue - \$3,617,618 - 43.31% of budget.

May 2002 Expenditures \$3,322,848 - 36.69% of budget.

May 2001 Expenditures \$3,163,579 - 36.00% of budget.

12:00 p.m. - Recess.

1:30 p.m. - Mike Werner, Developmental Services.

059784 1. Mr. Werner presented a budget amendment for Developmental Services amending the spending plan for the second year of the biennium (July 1, 2002-July 30, 2003). When the state originally passed the biennial budget one year earlier, they included a second year increase of 2.3% for all vendors/providers of services, i.e. Palouse Industries and CARES. At the supplemental budget process meeting this past spring, the state reduced the 2.3% increase to 1.5%. As Whitman County developed its biennial contract last year, the increase was incorporated into the budget. Subsequent to the supplemental budget being passed. Mr. Werner must now reduce the budget by .8% to reflect this reduction.

At the Whitman County Developmental Services Advisory Board meeting, the Board recommended to the County Commissioners, and Mr. Werner concurs, not to decrease the provider rate increase but rather, transfer the difference of approximately \$3,200 from the training category. This would keep the provider rate increase in tact. The Advisory Board's reasoned a 2.3% increase at a time when all costs incurred by providers is escalating, is the best way to keep direct services in place and reasonably compensated.

Motion by Commissioner Finch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to reduce the Developmental Services biennial budget from \$824,362 to \$821,148 beginning July 1, 2002.

D059784A 2. Mr. Werner will meet with the Board again in the next week to increase the budget by \$7,100 a new residential placement in Whitman County.

D059784B 3. Last week Mr. Werner toured the two residential homes owned by the county in Pullman, Epton House and Hughes House to get an idea of what maintenance projects might be necessary. He explained \$100 of the monthly rent received from each resident is set aside for maintenance purposes.

The roof at the Hughes House needs to be replaced in the next 2 years, which he will begin budgeting for and the storage/utility room used by the Epton House has a flat roof and needs to be pitched. Mr. Werner will look into this matter further. Overall, CARES and the residents are doing a wonderful job of taking care of these facilities.

D059784C 4. The Director suggested a tour of the 2 residential facilities and the Human Services building for sometime in July.

D059784D 5. Mr. Werner advised the commissioners that the new Human Services building sign is now installed.

059785 6. A copy of a letter sent to the Regional Developmental Disabilities Office in Spokane was received from Mr. Werner concerning the

placement of an individual transferring from Cheney to Whitman County's residential and day programs.

1:55 p.m. - Joe Reynolds, County Assessor.

D059785A The Assessor visited with the Board about hiring a temporary position in his office to work on the Microsolve program. This expense will be accomplished with the Assessor's existing budget. The Board voiced no objections.

2:10 p.m. - Recess.

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

D059785B Items discussed included the EAT Committee agenda, the Airport transfer to the Port, and the upcoming WSAC summer conference. No action taken.

3:00 p.m. - Adjournment.

D059785C Commissioner Finch **moved** to adjourn the **June 17, 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 **June 24, 2002**. The foregoing action made this **17th** day of **June 2002**.

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

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board

GREG PARTCH, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners