

## Minutes for June 23<sup>th</sup>, 2003

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**061292 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **June 23, 2003 at 9:00 a.m.** G.R. "Jerry" 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/Workshop.**

**061292A 1.** Items discussed included a 2004 budget strategies meeting and State Examiner's entrance conference. No action taken.

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

Present: Kelli Campbell, Brett Bosse, and Tammy Lewis.

**D061293A 2. Motion** by Commissioner Wigen to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried**.

**061294 3.** Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **150234-150258, 150418-150421,** and **150424-150555** for **\$481,511.17** approved.

| FUND | FUND NAME                    | AMOUNT    | AMOUNT     | AMOUNT    |
|------|------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 001  | Current Expense              | 7,993.48  | 44,569.70  | 34,010.00 |
| 102  | Building & Development       | 200.00    | 150.26     | 1,000.00  |
| 103  | Countywide Planning          | 200.00    | 261.26     | 1,021.20  |
| 104  | Developmental Services       |           | 30,009.52  |           |
| 110  | County Roads                 | 4,050.00  | 21,077.40  | 15,967.00 |
| 123  | Paths & Trails               |           | 1,499.54   |           |
| 126  | Treasurer's M&O              |           | 132.00     |           |
| 127  | Drug Enforcement             |           | 161.06     | 400.00    |
| 135  | Prosecutor's Stop Grant      |           | 10.44      |           |
| 142  | Whitcom-911                  |           | 135.26     |           |
| 400  | Solid Waste                  |           | 85,239.76  | 2,659.60  |
| 501  | Equipment Rental & Revolving | 55,096.20 | 37,589.85  | 4,039.60  |
| 510  | Photocopier Revolving        |           | 44.65      |           |
| 690  | Clearing & Suspense          | 8,008.11  | 122,985.28 |           |

**061295 4.** June 16, 2003 minutes approved.

**061296-061300 5.** Personnel board orders approved.

**061301 6. Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to appoint G.R. "Jerry" Finch as Whitman County's Risk Pool Safety Officer.

**061302 7. Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to sign a resolution returning the June 9, 2003 cash advance of

\$60,000.00 to the 911 Emergency Services Fund 139.010.001 from the Whitcom Fund.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 061302**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, met on June 23, 2003; and,

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2003 a cash advance of \$60,000.00 was authorized from the Current Expense Fund to the Whitcom Fund #142.010.001; and,

WHEREAS, it is now deemed necessary that the Whitcom Fund return the \$60,000 cash advance to the 911 Emergency Services Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Whitman County Commissioners that the June 9, 2003 cash advance of \$60,000.00 be returned to the 911 Emergency Services Fund 139.010.001 from the Whitcom Fund.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of June 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
G.R. Finch, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Partch, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Maribeth Becker, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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Les Wigen, Commissioner

**061303**     **8. Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** to sign a resolution authorizing a cash advance of \$60,000.00 be transferred to the Whitcom Fund 142.010.001 from the Current Expense Fund.

**RESOLUTION NO. 061303  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, met on June 23, 2003; and,

WHEREAS, the Whitcom Fund provides the appropriate services as authorized; and,

WHEREAS, the Whitcom Fund needs a cash advance of \$60,000.00 to meet its financial obligations in the course of conducting its operations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Whitman County Commissioners that a cash advance of \$60,000.00 be transferred to the Whitcom Fund 142.010.001 from the Current Expense Fund.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of June 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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G.R. Finch, Chairman

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Greg Partch, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Maribeth Becker, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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Les Wigen, Commissioner

**061304 9. Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to finalize the Developmental Services contract.

**D061304A 10.** Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

**10:15 a.m. - Recess.**

**10:30 a.m. - Scenic Byways Committee.**

Present: Mitch Chandler, Michelle Posey, Tim Myers, Brett Bosse, and Tammy Lewis.

**D061304B** Mitch Chandler reported on the Whitman County Heritage and Scenic Byway designation, a process that began 2 years previous. Countywide representatives usually net 20-25 residents in attendance at each board meeting.

Michelle Posey provided the following updates:

- The logo design is completed and will be used on brochures, letterhead, trailblazers along the highway, and portal signage at the gateway areas.
- Final draft of marketing strategic plan is completed and will be presented to the Committee June 25<sup>th</sup>. This plan will be incorporated into the Corridor Management Plan and used to obtain grant funding for projects.
- Meeting scheduled with architect to discuss site assessments for the different communities wishing to have visitor centers and public facilities.

- Met with an interpretation company to assist with interpretive planning. After which, the Committee will work with local students to perform the research along the byways at parks, turnouts, and visitor centers to tell the story about Whitman County in the different areas.

Tim Myers said throughout this process they have developed a great relationship with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and this is critical to their success.

At present, Whitman County is designated by the state. The Committee is still moving towards a national designation, which opens up more funding possibilities.

Michelle Posey mentioned the first round of grants are due in August for submission to the federal government in September. Whitman County Scenic Byways is hoping for \$250,000.

Mr. Myers commented the Committee has discussed the continued management of this project. The project doesn't actually belong to any one organization or agency because it involves primarily state highways. Without the dedication of the citizens, the Pullman Chamber of Commerce, the City of Pullman, and county staff, the project would have ceased to exist.

The granting processes require a granting agency that the state has already approved for other grants. The Chamber is not one of those agencies but Whitman County is through Public Works and the Parks Department as well as the City of Pullman, and many of the smaller cities.

Mr. Myers said since this is a countywide project the county seems to be the most logical agency. He asked the Board's authorization to allow the Whitman County Parks Department to be the holder of the grants for the overall Scenic Byways. Individual city/town byway project grants would be the responsibility of those cities/towns. Administrative fees ranging from 5%-10% are available. The state and Byway Committee recommend the County Parks Department as the most logical home for this type of countywide project.

Commissioner Wigen commended Michelle Posey for all of her hard work associated with this project.

Michelle Posey said the Pullman Chamber voted 2 months ago to continue to house the Scenic Byways. Therefore, they will continue to be the administrative lead on the project.

Commissioner Partch asked if Mr. Myers would be able to separately track all time and expenses spent on Scenic Byways. Mr. Myers replied he has used a percentage in the past for different projects rather than tracking it hourly. He would also keep a totally separate budget for any Scenic Byways money. Commissioner Partch said 2004 is looking to be a very ugly year and there is a need to know where every dollar is being spent and the reason why this money cannot be co-mingled.

Other areas talked about included repairing, replacing, and relocating signage, installing crop signage, and using the north side of the Public Service Building for a Scenic Byway mural.

Mayor Chandler advised the Board other than a \$10,000 grant to get the project moving, the City of Pullman contributed \$30,000 from the 2% hotel/motel tax received from the state for Scenic Byways. They hope to contribute another \$25,000 in 2004.

**Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to enter into an agreement to allow the Whitman County Parks Department to provide this service provided it is carefully monitored.

**10:55 a.m. - Dane Dunford, Public Works Director.**

Present: Mark Storey and Tammy Lewis.

**Action Items:**

**061305** 1. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** that the resolution of intent to change the road name of Tekoa-Idaho Road to Cove Road be signed as presented.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

|   |   |                                     |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>In the Matter of the Intent to Change</b>  | ) |                                     |
| <b>the Name of County Road No. 0300, the</b>  | ) | <b>RESOLUTION NO. <u>061305</u></b> |
| <b>Tekoa-Idaho Road located in Sections</b>   | ) |                                     |
| <b>12 and 13, Township 19 North, Range 45</b> | ) | <b>INTENT TO CHANGE ROAD</b>        |
| <b>East W.M. and Sections 6 and 7, Town-</b>  | ) | <b>AND DIRECTIVE TO COUNTY</b>      |
| <b>ship 19 North, Range 46 East W.M., in</b>  | ) | <b>ENGINEER FOR REPORT</b>          |
| <b>Whitman County, Washington</b>             | ) |                                     |

WHEREAS, a request to Change the Name of County Road No. 0300, the Tekoa-Idaho Road has been received by the Whitman County Board of County Commissioners, it is hereby declared the intention of the Whitman County Board of County Commissioners to change the name of said Tekoa-Idaho Road as follows:

County Road No. 0300, the Tekoa-Idaho Road shall be changed to County Road No. 0300, the Cove Road. Mileposts for County Road No. 0300, the Cove Road shall commence at the intersection of State Route 27.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that before a final decision can be reached on said name change, the Whitman County Engineer shall investigate and prepare a report on the proposed name change.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be entered upon the minutes of this Board.

DONE at Colfax, Washington, this 23rd day of June 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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G.R. Finch, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Greg Partch, Commissioner

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Maribeth Becker, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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Les Wigen, Commissioner

**061306**     **2. Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** that the notice of hearing for the road name change of Tekoa-Idaho Road to Cove Road be signed as presented.

**061307**     **3. Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** that the resolution to close the Woods Road for the Snow Bridge project be signed as presented.

**RESOLUTION NO. 061307**

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS of Whitman County, Washington in the matter of closing certain county road/bridge pursuant to R.C.W. 47.48.010.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the following road/bridge will be closed to vehicular traffic: County Road No. 9150, the Woods Road at milepost 0.06, beginning July 7, 2003 until completion of the replacement of the Snow Bridge, which is estimated to be July 10, 2003.

ADOPTED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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G.R. Finch, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Partch, Commissioner

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Maribeth Becker, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Les Wigen, Commissioner

**061308**     **4. Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to publish the notice of road closure for Woods Road for the Snow Bridge project.

**061309**     **5. Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** that the contract between S.A. Gonzales for the Endicott Road project be signed as presented.

**061310** 6. **Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** that the contract between S.A. Gonzales for the Albion slide project be signed as presented.

**061311** 7. **Motion** by Commissioner Wigen **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried** to authorize advertising (submission of the conditional use permit application) for a gazebo and possible upgrading of the RV Park at the Palouse Empire Fairgrounds.

**D061311A** 8. Commissioner Partch suggested the "Storm Ready County" signs not be installed on the highway as previously planned because the print is too small to read the sign. Instead, he suggested one sign be installed at the Public Service Building and one in the Courthouse. Mr. Dunford will discuss this matter with Ms. Fran Martin.

**11:05 a.m. - Recess.**

**11:15 a.m. - Bob Olson of R.B. Olson Construction.**

Present: Bev Welch.

**061312** Draw request #2 was received from Mr. Olson in the amount of \$36,292.00. The project is now approximately 25% complete.

Mr. Olson also distributed copies of Fulcrum Environmental Consulting's final report based on the June 17<sup>th</sup> inspection. According to Mr. Travis Trent's findings, no areas of visible mold or excessive moisture necessary to support mold growth were identified. Therefore, Mr. Olson requested R.B. Olson Construction be released from any existing and future mold responsibility at the new Information Services building.

**Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** to honor the request for draw #2 for \$36,292.00.

**Motion** by Commissioner Partch **seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried** that based on the information from Fulcrum Environmental Consulting, Inc. the Board accepts their findings on potential mold problems in the Information Services building and releases any existing and future mold responsibilities.

Commissioner Wigen thanked Mr. Olson for going the extra mile with respect to the insulation.

**11:25 a.m. - Bob Hassoldt, Resident of Latah County.**

**D061312A** Mr. Hassoldt, a resident of Latah County was present speaking strictly as a private citizen regarding the issue of cluster development proposed around the City of Pullman.

For the past 13 years Mr. Hassoldt has served on the Latah County Planning & Zoning Commission. He is currently Vice-Chair of the Zoning Commission. In 1995, the Commission was split in order to deal with rural development, rezoning, and ordinances while also dealing with requests for rezones, variances, and conditional use permits.

Neither the Latah County Zoning Commission nor Latah County Commissioners necessarily endorse his position. He has read about Whitman County's proposed cluster development issue around Pullman and the opposition it is receiving. It was Mr. Hassoldt's opinion that the reason Whitman County has been able to get away with not having to address this issue in a meaningful way for the last 20 years is because Latah County has been carrying the load for Whitman County.

Whitman County has had a very strict ordinance about allowing development in the rural areas. During that time, there was a great demand for rural development. People crossed the state line into Latah County to take care of the problem. Latah County had to rezone their rural areas and deal with the issue because of the enormous pressure. In the 1990's Latah County developed a subdivision ordinance for rural areas that encouraged development to occur on non-productive ground based on soil types. Or, if a property owner owned 160 acres they are entitled to a certain amount of splits. This system has worked quite well but they have once again received a rash of request for 5-acre lots in the county. It has now gotten to the point that the Latah County Commissioners have been requested to enact a moratorium until the Planning Commission can take another look at the ordinance.

For these reasons, Mr. Hassoldt was in favor of Whitman County's cluster development around Pullman. It will actually provide the product for the people in Whitman County and will also take some of the pressure off Latah County.

Commissioner Wigen talked about the Planned Residential Development authorized in the Rock Lake area, but no development has occurred as yet. The County also authorized the Highway-Byway zones and no development has occurred in those areas.

Commissioner Partch explained Whitman County is working with the City of Pullman about this issue. Pullman does have urban growth boundaries that stretch out, but it isn't like Idaho; Pullman doesn't have the say over that area but they are looking at areas that would make sense for annexing and those areas will be protected. Beyond that is where the county is looking at cluster development. Whitman County does not want any buffer in between as preferred by Pullman because this would put agricultural land on two sides of the buffer. Whitman County prefers a 200' buffer on the outside to protect farming. This is a high priority issue for the Planning Commission. After this issue is completed, Whitman County will look at rural residential development. Commissioner Partch asked Mr. Hassoldt for copies of similar Latah County ordinances.

Chairman Finch thanked Mr. Hassoldt for his input.

**11:50 a.m. - Recess.**

**1:45 p.m. - Denis Tracy, County Prosecutor.**

**D061312B Motion** by Commissioner Partch to go into Executive Session with Prosecutor Tracy for discussion of litigation matters until 2:00 p.m. **Seconded** by Commissioner Wigen and **carried**.

**2:00 p.m. - Return to Open Session/Adjournment.**

**D061312C** Commissioner Partch **moved** to adjourn the **June 23, 2003** 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 30, 2003**. The foregoing action made this **23rd** day of **June 2003**.

ss/ GREG PARTCH, Commissioner  
ss/ LES WIGEN, Commissioner

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MARIBETH BECKER, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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G.R. FINCH, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners