

Minutes for July 5, 2011

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072999 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, July 5, 2011** at **9:00 a.m.** Chairman Greg Partch, Patrick J. O'Neill and Michael Largent, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

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

Present: Gary Petrovich, Esther Wilson, Joe Smillie and Kelly Hadley.

072000 1. Items discussed included 2010 audit commences July 18th, call for 2012 budget/goals and priorities, June payroll to be included in July financial report, refining revenues, Auditor's financial director, New World flow charts and SEWEDA. No action taken.

9:20 a.m. - Recess.

10:00 a.m. - Board Business Continued/Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Evan Ellis and Kelly Hadley.

D072000A 2. Motion by Commissioner O'Neill to accept the consent agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Largent and **carried**.

10:05 a.m. - Gary Petrovich.

072001 3. Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **256490, 256441-256549 and 256562-256671** for **\$537,686.56** approved.

072002 4. June 20, 2011 minutes approved.

072003-072009 5. Personnel change orders approved.

072010 6. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to adopt the 2012 budget calendar.

072011 7. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to adopt the 2012 goals and priorities when available.

072012 8. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the 2nd quarter lobbying report.

072013 9. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve Washington Office of the Courts interagency agreement #1AA12052 for BECCA funding (06/30/12).

10:10 a.m. - Joe Smillie.

072014 10. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to authorize a credit card for Information Technology.

072015 11. Notice was received from the Washington State Auditor advising that as of July 1, 2011 the state audit rate will increase by 6.5%.

072016 12. Notice was received from the Department of Ecology that David Tysz has successfully completed the required Water Conservancy Board training.

072017 13. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

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

10:30 a.m. - **Board Business Continued.**

Present: Bob Reynolds, Mark Storey, Joe Smillie and Kelly Hadley.

072018 14. The Community Education Training Center (CETC) insurance claim was discussed. Mark Storey recapped in late December/early January 2009 the CETC building sustained damage due to the snow load. Emergency bracing was constructed and an insurance claim was submitted as well as registering the damage with FEMA who offered the county \$1,000. When the weather permitted, engineering studies were conducted for cause, extent of the damage and costs. Two fundamental problems were revealed: 1) settlement of the back portion of the building prior to the snow loads and not normally covered by insurance and 2) damages as a result of the snow and purpose of primary claim. The studies concluded full repair to the structure would be \$120,000-\$150,000. The insurance company, through their engineering firm will not cover any damages as a result of the settlement and lack of meeting proper codes for today's standards for the trusses themselves. The loss covered by insurance is for a new roof on top of the building, not including any damage to the trusses or settlement problems. The insurance company is now requiring a decision from the county to accept or reject the offer.

Bob Reynolds pointed out the county's engineering firm has informed them that just repairing the roof won't resolve the problem; the support structure must be modified so the elevations are correct. Mr. Storey

explained, because of settlement, the support system is warped and a new roof cannot be installed on the warped surface.

Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion to accept the insurance company's settlement offer for the CETC building damages in the amount of \$14,759.47.

Mr. Reynolds clarified if the county does not replace the roof the settlement offer is \$14,759.47; if the roof is replaced, the county would receive just under \$19,000. He reiterated, according to the county's engineer, it would be an effort in futility to install a new roof over the existing roof without making the other needed repairs.

There being no further discussion the motion passed **unanimously**.

D072018A 15. Commissioner Largent asked Mr. Reynolds if he had clear thoughts on what he would like to see done with the CETC building based on the options presented several months prior. Mr. Reynolds responded the way they are operating now, the building is typically closed from October-March/April as weather permits to reduce exposure of risk in the winter months. There have been minimal skin repairs to a portion of the roof. The county's current options include:

- Dispose of building
- Continue the use of the building as is utilizing loss control measures
- Mothball the project
- Invest \$120,000-\$150,000 for the necessary repairs

Mr. Reynolds said another conversation that has taken place is the cost to operate the building annually. Mr. O'Neill noted the county is losing approximately \$5,000/year to operate the building due to its limited availability. Commissioner Partch thought the office portion of the building could operate year-round. It was Commissioner O'Neill's opinion spending \$5,000/year for something the county is not receiving any return on doesn't make good sense. Commissioner Partch felt the building has a lot of merit and he preferred to continue as is for another year while looking at the possibility of partnering as a viable solution. However, he understood this cannot continue indefinitely.

Commissioner O'Neill read the following statement concerning the future of the CETC building.

"There is every indication that the building is costing the county approximately \$5,000 yearly. With the insurance settlement of \$14,000 without fixing the roof and \$19,000 if we replace the roof, that is not a good long term investment.

The total building was built sub-standard and will need considerable upgrade to structure, along with requirements to bring the building up today's code specifications it will be another \$100,000 investment. If we do this we will need to make the building ADA compliant that is an additional \$40,000 to \$60,000. Can the county justify the need to spend this amount of money on this building? I can't justify this outlay of money when several of our facilities are in dire need of upgrades to stay in operating condition.

I believe we have three options 1. Sell the building on the open market for pennies on the dollar. 2. Have a demolition company come in tear it down for scrap prices. 3. Decommission the building, turn off water and electricity so we have zero costs and leave it stand.

I can't spend hard earning taxpayer dollars and get zero in return. Times have changed and we can no longer sit on our hands and do nothing."

Mr. Storey clarified the building is not in good condition and continues to worsen with time. He too reminded the Board the building does have ADA issues.

It was agreed to continue operations allowing Mr. Reynolds to manage the building as he sees fit until such time as the Board makes a commitment. This issue will be re-addressed this fall at which time, Mr. Reynolds will present a status report to the Board. In the interim, all possibilities will be explored.

10:55 a.m. - Recess.

11:00 a.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.

Present: Mark Storey, Joe Smillie, Kelly Hadley and Dick Watters (11:15 a.m.).

D072018A 16. The item discussed was Whitman County's future participation in the Southeast Washington Economic Development Association/ADO contract. No action taken.

11:30 a.m. - Recess.

1:30 p.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.

Present: Mike Berney, Greater Columbia Behavioral Health (GCBH).

072019 17. Report from the special GCBH Board meeting held on Wednesday June 29th and the briefing for the July 7, 2011 regular Board meeting.

D072019A 18. Recommendations from the Funding and Fiscal Operations Committee (FFOC).

- Commissioner Largent and Mr. Berney attended the Special Board meeting via conference call. Commissioner Largent voted on behalf of Whitman County.
- Without dissension the Committee recommended the Board Directors pass the proposed 2011-2013 GCBH biennial budget. Discussion on this motion turned almost immediately to the funding formula. No one from the public commented on the proposed budget when asked.
- Without dissension the Committee recommended that the Board of Directors adopt the proposed funding formula for the upcoming biennium. The actual motion is below:

D072019B 19. The FFOC recommended to the Board of Directors adoption of the GCBH Funding Formula Policy for the 2011-2013 biennium that distributes funding as follows:

- That Medicaid funding is distributed to the network based on the number of Medicaid eligibles in each of the funding cells generated by the State of Washington's Provider One Information System multiplied by the rate associated with that cell;
- That State-only funding is distributed to the network based on general population except for a net maximum of \$26,353 per month in FY2012 and \$11,024 net per month in FY2013 for two specialized residential programs in Yakima County. Yakima County may use this additional funding only for these residential programs. Any State-only reserves currently held by Yakima County would be used first to fund the specialized programs. This additional State-only funding is for the sole purpose of maintaining these two specialized residential programs, as per State prioritization, while transitioning to a State-only formula that will distribute this funding based on general population. Increases in State-only funding during this transition period, if any, would be distributed to the rest of the provider network and not Yakima County until they reach the level of State-only funding they would have received if all funds were distributed based only on general population;
- That Federal Block Grant Funding be distributed based on general population (as it was last biennium); and
- That Jail Funding is distributed in the same way the State determines how much of this funding is to come to GCBH.

Utilization of this funding by the GCBH Provider Network must continue to prioritize those elements of the mental health service system identified in the contract between GCBH and the State of Washington.

- The Commissioners from Garfield and Skamania Counties spoke against the motion as being unfair to their Counties. The main focus of this discussion seemed to be the new positions for the authorization center. The Skamania Commissioner moved to table the motion from the FFOC but it died for lack of a second. The Commissioner from Yakima County asked that the part of the motion requiring Yakima County to use any State-only reserves, if any, be stricken from the motion and after some discussion that request failed.
- A little more than a week before the end of the biennium the State sent GCBH an inpatient bill that was 3 times the average monthly bill. In order to be able to study the reasons for this the FFOC is recommending that the Board authorize the use of the GCBH Inpatient Reserve (which is its function) in order to close out FY '11 and task the FFOC with researching the issue(s) and reporting back to the Board.
- - ❖ The motion to approve the proposed GCBH 2011 - 2013 Biennial budget passed unanimously on a roll call vote.
 - ❖ The motion to approve the proposed GCBH Funding Policy for the 2011-2013 Biennium passed. Initially there were 3 no votes but in the final count only 2 Counties (Garfield and Yakima) voted no. (Note: I anticipate that this issue will come before the GCBH Board again in the near future).
 - ❖ Vote in favor of authorizing the use of the GCBH Inpatient Reserve to close out FY '11.

D072019C 20. The State has always required that Regional Support Networks contract only with licensed (by the State) mental health agencies. Until recently they have not indicated that they would enforce this provision for non-service providing entities. In GCBH's case this issue applies most specifically to Yakima County which holds the contract with GCBH and then subcontracts all service provision to licensed mental health agencies. A special work group continues working with the GCBH Regional Office to implement direct contracting. A draft policy on this issue is still being developed. The Special Workgroup is requesting a letter seeking clarification on this issue be sent to the Attorney General's Office regarding the parameters for having to contract with only licensed Mental Health Agencies. The GCBH Board reluctantly voted in favor

D072019D 21. Authorize the Board Chair to sign new amendments to the PHIP and State-Only contracts between the State/GCBH and sign a contract renewal between GCBH and Two Rivers Landing. These two amendments are new since the amendments the Chair was authorized to sign last month. Two Rivers Landing is an inpatient psychiatric facility for youth in Yakima County. A new contract is needed since it is the start in a new biennium. Mr. Berney recommended Whitman County vote in favor of authorizing the Chair to sign all three documents.

D072019E 22. Mr. Berney will provide the commissioners with a copy of the independent financial audit conducted for Palouse River Counseling.

D072019F 23. A brief Regional Health Authority update provided.

2:00 p.m. - BOCC Workshop.

Present: Gary Petrovich, Fran Martin, Bob Reynolds and Esther Wilson.

072020 24. The 2011/2012 budgets discussed. No action taken.

3:15 p.m. - Recess.

D072020B THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Wednesday, July 6, 2011** at **10:00 a.m.** Chairman Greg Partch, Patrick J. O'Neill and Michael Largent, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

10:00 a.m. - Meeting Reconvened/BOCC Workshop.

Present: Gary Petrovich, Eunice Coker, David Ledbetter, Esther Wilson, Fran Martin and Joe Smillie.

072020A 25. The 2011/2012 budgets discussed. No action taken.

11:30 p.m. - Recess.

D072020B THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, July 11, 2011** at **9:00 a.m.** Chairman Greg Partch, Patrick J. O'Neill and Michael Largent Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

9:00 a.m. - Meeting Reconvened/Board Business Continued/Workshop.

Present: Gary Petrovich, Mark Storey and Joe Smillie.

072021 26. Items discussed included 2011 budget amendment #1, 2012 budget, SEWEDA/RTPO options, WRIA 35, parking lots striped and 2011 chip sealing program. No action taken.

9:20 a.m. - Recess.

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

Present: Gary Petrovich and Bob Reynolds.

072022 27. Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **256572, 256580-256689** and **256692-256725** for **\$147,293.94** approved.

072023 28. Personnel change order approved.

072024 29. Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to enter into contract #11-64100-011 for the 2011 CDBG-PS grant (12/31/11).

D072024A 30. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner O'Neill **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a letter to the Department of Ecology asking them to be more committed to WRIA 35's grant.

072025 31. A letter was received from Craig H. VanTine of COAST advising that COAST has received the following grants for the 2011-2013 biennium:

- State Paratransit/Special Needs Non-Profit for \$251,000 + match;
- Federal 5311 Non-Urban Transportation for \$251,000 + match; and,
- Federal 5310 Elderly and Disabled Persons for \$35,200 + match.

072026 32. A letter of appreciation was received from Guy Williams, Evangelical Free Church of the Palouse expressing his sincere appreciation to the Building, Planning and Health staff for their assistance with the new church project.

072027 33. Mr. Reynolds discussed the 2011 Capital Improvement Program requests. He presented the proposed 2011 CIP project rankings on an as funds become available basis. In 2010 the county planned for \$1,118,673 worth of projects and completed only \$372,000 worth of projects not including the HAVA grant of \$360,000. Part of the success of the projects completed in 2010 was a result of the favorable bidding climate. That enabled the county to amend its original project list and increase the number of less expensive projects. Depending upon the county's cash position in 2011, he hoped to see a similar situation. Mr. Reynolds asked the Board for their consideration of the below listed projects for 2011. All approved projects will be brought back to the Board for final approval individually.

PROJECT	ESTIMATE	FUND	CASH NEED ESTIMATES
ADA Courthouse	\$ 800,000	CIP (GO BOND)	\$ 560,000
Martin Hall Debt	33,673	CIP (REET)	33,673
Jail/PSB Energy Upgrades	1,500,000	CIP (REET/GEN. 1/10)	500,000
PSB Door Lock Upgrades	1,500	CIP (GENERAL)	15,000
Parking Lot Striping (Done)	<u>5,000</u>	CIP (GENERAL)	<u>5,000</u>

Estimate Totals	\$2,353,673	\$1,113,673
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Commissioner O'Neill **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the 2011 CIP prioritization list as presented.

10:20 a.m. - Recess.

2:00 p.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.

Present: Gary Petrovich, Fran Martin and Bob Reynolds.

072028 34. The 2011/2012 budgets discussed. No action taken.

3:05 p.m. - Adjournment.

D072028A Commissioner O'Neill **moved** to adjourn the **July 5, 6 and 11, 2011** meeting. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Largent and **carried**. The Board will meet in regular session, in their Chambers', in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington, on **July 18, 2011**. The foregoing action made this **11th** day of **July 2011**.

ss/ PATRICK J. O'NEILL, COMMISSIONER

ss/ MICHAEL LARGENT, COMMISSIONER

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board

GREG PARTCH, CHAIRMAN
Board of County Commissioners