

## Minutes for August 14, 2006

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**065760 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **August 14, 2006** at **9:00 a.m.** G.R. 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/BOCC Workshop.**

**065761 1.** The item discussed was the Alex McGregor letter. No action taken.

**9:30 a.m. - Recess.**

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

Present: Thinkh Nguyen.

**D065761A 2. Motion** by Commissioner Wigen to approve the consent agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried**.

**065762 3.** Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **193807-193989** for **\$508,160.29** approved.

FUND	FUND NAME	AMOUNT
001	Current Expense	57,755.08
102	Building & Development	339.96
103	Countywide Planning	994.48
104	Developmental Services	28.31
110	County Roads	103,682.32
123	Paths & Trails	293.13
126	Treasurer's M&O	160.08
135	Prosecutor's Stop Grant	800.00
300	Capital Projects CIP-300.010.005	11,829.77
400	Solid Waste	3,533.28
501	Equipment Rental & Revolving	147,762.53
510	Photocopier Revolving	1,153.71
513	Communications Revolving	2,182.03
660	Whitcom-General-660.911.000	686.79
660	Whitcom-Grant Funding-660.911.001	4,539.90
690	Clearing Fund 690.005.000	150,605.08
690	CAC Agency Svc.-690.026.001	21,813.84

**065763 4.** August 7, 2006 minutes approved.

**065764-065767 5.** Personnel board orders approved.

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**065768** 6. Commissioner Wigen **moved**, Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to authorize notice of a public hearing for proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Ordinance as they relate to rural residential housing.

**065769** 7. Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to reappoint Suzanne Schmick and Dennis Cartwright to 6-year terms on the Park Board.

**065770** 8. Commissioner Wigen **moved**, Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a Sheriff's grant application data form for Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression in the amount of \$1,000.

**065771** 9. Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to forward a letter to all members of the WSAC Board of Directors regarding I-747. Commissioner Wigen **nay**.

**065772** 10. A copy of a letter was received from Alex McGregor regarding safety concerns on SR 270.

**065773** 11. The Washington State Liquor Control Board sent a listing of liquor licensees whose licenses will expire November 30, 2006.

**065774** 12. An executed copy of the Spokesman-Review contract for 2006-07 was received.

**D065774A** 13. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

**10:20 a.m. - Recess.**

**10:30 a.m. - Whitman County Code, Title 1.**

Present: Thinkh Nguyen, Ryan Bentley.

**065775** The Chairman convened the hearing for proposed revisions to Whitman County Code, Title 1. Maribeth Becker noted the Prosecutor has reviewed the proposal. Most changes are housekeeping in nature, updating outdated information and making corrections. No comments made from those in attendance either for or against the revisions. Hearing adjourned. Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to adopt the changes to Whitman County Code Title 1.

**ORDINANCE NO. 065775**

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, the Whitman County Board of Commissioners met in their Chambers on this 14th day of August, 2006; and,

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WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted this day to consider amendments to the Whitman County Code, Title 1 as attached:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED that the Whitman County Board of Commissioners duly approves the attached amendments to the Whitman County Code, Title 1 as described herein.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 14TH DAY OF AUGUST 2006.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Denis Tracy, Prosecutor

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

ATTEST:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maribeth Becker, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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

**DUE TO THE LENGTH OF THIS ATTACHMENT IT WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN FULL CONTEXT BUT IS AVAILABLE IN THE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE.**

**10:40 a.m. - Recess.**

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

Present: Mark Storey, Think Nguyen and Ryan Bentley.

**Engineering Division:**

**D065775A 1.** The Engineer gave a report on the status of the Almota Road project. As the project proceeds, the possibility for short delays increases. When completed, visibility and safety should be improved greatly.

**Maintenance Division:**

**D065775B 2.** The Engineer explained the county's orders for two small span bridge decks (Wilhelm and Little Alkali Road bridges) were delayed 4-6 weeks due to the providers' extremely busy schedule. It is anticipated the decks will be shipped next week.

**11:10 a.m. - Recess.**

**11:30 a.m. - Kathy Lemon, Revenue Officer.**

Present: Bob Lothspeich, Think Nguyen and Ryan Bentley.

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**065776** Kathy Lemon presented a tax title petition for the eastern 10' of Lot 5 in Block 2 of McCroskey's addition in Garfield submitted by Christopher Besa for a minimum bid of \$510. Ms. Lemon stated the county could not guarantee the exact location of the 10' strip. The new owner would have to hire a surveyor to determine the actual boundary lines. Neither the Town of Garfield nor Whitman County Public Works has a use for this property. Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to authorize publishing the sale of this property.

**11:42 a.m. - Recess.**

**1:00 p.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.**

Present: Adam Roberts, Josh Powers, Brandon Burch, Fran Martin, Robin Cocking, Polly Anderson, Bob Lothspeich, Eunice Coker and Maribeth Becker.

**065777 14.** LaserFiche document preservation software discussed. No action taken.

**2:00 p.m. - One New, Mid-Size, 4-Door Sedan.**

Present: Dane Dunford, Mark Storey, Holly Heaton and Think Nguyen.

Commissioner Wigen was temporarily away from the meeting.

**065778** The following bids for the above item were received, opened and read aloud. Public Works will review the bids and make a recommendation for award on August 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

<b>BIDDER</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Paradise Ford, Moscow, Idaho	\$13,439.50
Jess Ford, Pullman, WA	\$20,588.60
Chipman & Taylor, Pullman, WA	\$17,209.40

**2:15 p.m. - Board Business Continued/Executive Session.**

Present: Kelli Campbell and Gary and Valerie Hunt.

**D065778A 15.** Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to go into executive session with the above individual(s) until 3:00 p.m. for negotiation matters.

**3:00 p.m. - Return to Open Session/BOCC Workshop.**

Present: Kelli Campbell, Bob Reynolds (3:00 p.m.) and Brett Myers (3:30 p.m.).

**D065778B 16.** Items discussed included employees working at the fair and medical insurance. No action taken.

4:30 p.m. - Recess.

**D065778C THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **August 15, 2006** at **2:00 p.m.** G.R. Finch, Chairman, Greg Partch and Les Wigen, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

**2:00 p.m. - Reconvened/Board of Health.**

Present: Fran Martin, John Skyles, Michael Baker, Evan Ellis, Joe Smillie and Corrine Sloom.

**D065778D 1.** John Skyles indicated Environmental Health has been very busy with land use issues in the corridor.

**D065778E 2.** Mr. Skyles had not heard back from DOE regarding Mr. Kopf's inert landfill application, but the department is proceeding and forwarding additional information to DOE.

**D065778F 3.** The solid waste issue in Thornton is status quo. The Health Department has gone as far as it can. The issue is now before the Prosecutor. Any assistance by the Board of Health would be greatly appreciated.

**D065778G 4.** Ben Tarbutton has accepted a position in Kootenay County and will be leaving Whitman County's employ.

**065779 5.** All local media was invited to today's meeting for an update on the West Nile Virus.

**065780** According to Michael Baker, Ada County, Idaho is the hot spot in the nation for human and animal West Nile Virus cases. August to October is prime mosquito season. Up until this time, the department has been limiting its surveillance and trapping to citizens requesting traps on their property. They were concentrating in areas with animals, schools, hospitals and nursing homes. Time permitting they hope to put out one trap each week in locations determined suitable by the department.

Last year the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Environmental Health promoted the 5 D's: Deet, dust, dawn, dress and drain as a way to avoid mosquitoes. This year they are continuing the same message. Based on CDC's recommendation, they continue to distribute Deet mosquito handouts. For the past 2 years, the department has been pushing for Deet Botanical formulas and the CDC recently approved it as an effective mosquito prevention method.

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With the bike rally in Rosalia and the Lentil Festival in Pullman this weekend the hope is to distribute mosquito repellent packets should the climate warrant it.

Mr. Baker spoke with Jack Bennett, Director of the Mosquito Abatement District in Ada County, Idaho who estimated Idaho has 188 West Nile virus human exposures cases. Their epidemiologist believes this is only 20% of the actual number of cases since very few cases show any symptoms outside of general fatigue and headaches. Other than increased sprayings, Ada County has not taken any additional steps. They were expecting it, monitored it and now that it has arrived they feel well prepared.

Washington is expecting the virus. As an Idaho border county, it hints that Whitman County may experience some of the first cases.

None of the mosquitoes or birds submitted for sampling in Whitman County has tested positive for the virus. Songbirds and robins have been added to the samplings list.

Along with the increased testing of birds for the West Nile Virus, they are also testing wildlife long birds, waterfowl and shoreline birds migrating to this area for Avian Influenza pandemic flu.

In Michigan yesterday, two swans tested positive for H5N1. They are not sure if they tested H5N1 because it was one virus that had infected both birds or two viruses one with H5 and the other with N1. They are doing further testing. Michigan is 100% confident it is not the highly pathogenic Asian strain that has killed 139 people to date outside of the United States. The concern is maybe this could mutate and turn into the Asian strain. Since 1975 H5N1 has been recorded in ducks somewhere in the United States and Canada. Therefore, Avian Influenza is always present in the wildlife population.

Mr. Baker contacted Christine Mansfield, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife veterinarian. She agrees with the report that this is not a concern as yet, but is a good dry run for many plans in the area to see how the entities would respond.

He also spoke with an epidemiologist for Region 9 (Spokane). They are currently in talks with USDA veterinarians. Dr. Bill Raub, Science Advisor to the Secretary of Health and Human Services says "there is no cause for public health and medical authority to take any special action at this time."

Mr. Baker thought Whitman County was ahead of most counties in that it already has a large partnership base with local hospitals, business leaders and city councils.

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**D065780A 6.** Fran Martin is putting together an emergency display and information for the upcoming county fair about Emergency Awareness for any type of emergency, i.e. terrorism, disasters or illnesses. The emphasis is being able to take care of yourself for up to 72 hours in the event emergency personnel cannot immediately assist you. The display will include a family preparedness kit that will be given away at the Fair.

**D065780B 7.** Ms. Martin noted that the Whitman County Health Department website has the latest information on Pandemic flu and other types of emergencies.

**D065780C 8.** Mr. Baker is also working on strategic plan for bioterrorism.

**D065780D 9.** According to Ms. Martin, 47 individuals participated in a tabletop exercise for the Emergency Management Plan. She felt confident everyone understands his or her responsibilities.

**D065780E 10.** Many nurses will be back in the schools later this month when school begins.

**D065780F 11.** Public Health is exploring its options for tobacco enforcement.

**2:30 p.m.** - Dr. Moody.

**D065780G 12.** In response to Commissioner Partch's inquiry, Dr. Moody said health-wise, the only requirement by WSU in preparing students for college is to prove immunity to measles or have a measles booster. This vaccine also includes mumps. A recommendation for entering students is the meningococcal meningitis vaccine that covers 3 of the 4 varieties of meningitis.

**D065780H 13.** A vaccine recently released called "Gardicil" is intended for young women, age teen-25. It targets against human papillomavirus, a wart-causing virus including genital warts. It appears that four types of this virus are responsible for the majority of cervical cancer. Vaccinating people against human papillomavirus inturn vaccinates them against certain types of cancer. Dr. Moody contacted WSU to ask if they would be stocking or promoting the vaccine but he has not yet heard from them. He surmised that most colleges would try to have this vaccine available at a reduced rate. Ms. Martin said this issue will be discussed with Dr. Moody at the next Communicable Disease meeting along with the next phase of the Pandemic Flu Plan on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**D065780I 14.** Dr. Moody also mentioned the availability of a new vaccine that prevents "Shingles." It is indicated for age 60+.

**D065780J 15.** A new vaccine for infant diarrhea is also on the market again.

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**D065780K 16.** Ms. Martin is rewriting the statement of work for the dental program grant from the Rural Health Foundation for a dental clinic and hiring a dentist for the Palouse Rural Health Clinic. There has been some interest, but to date no dentist has agreed to relocate. She is incorporating renting the dental space in Rosalia two days/week. The dentist could see patients who use medical coupons the other two days.

**D065780L 17.** Another grant was written to assist with indigent dental care. The grantor has asked to make a pre-award site visit.

**D065780M 18.** Ms. Martin talked about the prescription drug program through the National Association of Counties for individuals that have no insurance.

**D065780N 19.** The next Board of Health meeting is September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Present: Kelli Campbell (2:50 p.m.).

**D065780O 20.** Commissioner Partch **moved**, Commissioner Wigen **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to go into executive session with the above individual until 3:00 p.m. for personnel matters.

**3:00 p.m. - Return to Open Session/Adjournment.**

**D065780P** Commissioner Partch **moved** to adjourn the **August 14 and 15, 2006** 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 **August 21, 2006**. The foregoing action made this 15<sup>th</sup> day of **August 2006**.

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