

## Minutes for October 20, 2008

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**068786 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, October 20, 2008 at 8:30 a.m.** Chairman Michael Largent, G.R. Finch and Greg Partch, Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

**8:30 a.m. - Call to Order/Board Business/Executive Session.**

Present: Kelli Campbell, Sharron Cunningham and Gary and Valerie Hunt.

**068787 1.** Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to go into executive session with the above individual(s) until 10:00 a.m. for negotiation matters.

**10:00 a.m. - Return to Open Session/Pledge of Allegiance.**

Present: Ted Maxwell.

**D068787A 2. Motion** by Commissioner Finch to accept the consent agenda. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried**.

**068788 3.** Claims/Payroll warrants numbered **220957-220971** and **221203-221356** for **\$495,537.59** approved.

FUND	FUND NAME	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
001	Current Expense	5,812.80	47,438.20	149,187.34
102	Building & Development		1,627.20	
103	Countywide Planning		2,552.40	286.54
104	Developmental Services			37,578.74
108	Veterans Relief			950.00
110	County Roads	1,1910.80	15,118.60	9,627.91
111	CETC Building			153.51
118	Inmate Welfare			231.31
123	Paths & Trails-123.310.000			152.13
126	Treasurer's M&O			1,013.32
127	Drug Enforcement-Quad City		400.00	11.00
128	Crime Victims/Witnesses		350.00	
129	House Bill 3900-CASA			316.75
135	Prosecutor's Stop Grant		150.00	
137	Web Site Development			578.68
141	Washington Housing SHB 2060			3,442.14
144	Emerg. Communic.-144.260.001		250.00	630.63
300	CIP Asset Acq.-300.010.001			22.64

**BOCC MINUTES-10/20/08**

300	CIP Klemgard Park-300.310.001			39.32
400	Solid Waste		1,250.00	161,950.03
501	Equipment Rental & Revolving	350.00	4,634.00	28,248.34
510	Photocopier Revolving			152.00
513	Communications Revolving			2,511.22
660	Whitcom-General-660.911.000			13,059.93
660	Whitcom-Grant-660.911.001			3,550.11

**068789** 4. Veterans Relief claim.

**068790** 5. October 13, 2008 minutes approved.

**068791-068795** 6. Personnel board orders approved.

**10:05 a.m.** - Kelli Campbell and Joe Smillie.

**068796** 7. Commissioner Finch **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to grant an extension to the City of Palouse 2007 public facilities grant award completion date to May 1, 2009.

**068797** Not used.

**068798** 8. Commissioner Finch **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to extend the E. Merrill Boyd lease agreement for 6 months (02/28/09).

**10:10 a.m.** - Adam Roberts, Bev Divine and Sharron Cunningham.

**068799** 9. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve writing off a \$32.35 uncollectible receivable.

**RESOLUTION NO. 068799**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, met on October 20, 2008 in regular session; and

WHEREAS, Jeffery Dail ended employment in January 2003; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dail used 4.00 hours of compensatory time beyond his accrual in January 2003; and

WHEREAS, the County's PPS400 report shows the value of Mr. Dail's 4.00 hours as \$32.35; and

WHEREAS, the Whitman County Human Resources Department has billed out compensatory accrual costs to Jeffrey Dail and not received payment; and

WHEREAS, this adjustment may be made through the payroll process;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the listed amount be declared not collectable and removed from the payroll accounting records of Whitman County.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Largent, Chairman

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

ATTEST:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
G.R. Finch, Commissioner

**068800** 10. Commissioner Finch **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a 2-year cooperative agreement with Palouse Conservation District for the local agricultural burn permitting program (12/31/10).

**068801** 11. Commissioner Finch **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a grant application data form for the Bill Chipman Palouse Trail with the Federal Highway Administration in the amount of \$76,300.

**068802** 12. Commissioner Finch **moved** Commissioner Partch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a resolution creating the Information Technology Department.

**RESOLUTION NO. 068802**  
**OF**  
**THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**FOR WHITMAN COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, met in regular session on Monday, October 20, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, recognizes the need to reorganize certain departments to improve the workings of county government; and

**BOCC MINUTES-10/20/08**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners creates a Director of Information Technology. The Director of Information Technology will be under direct supervision of the Board of County Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that a Director of Information Technology is hereby created.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Largent, Chairman

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

ATTEST:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
G.R. Finch, Commissioner

**068803** 13. Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner Finch **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to sign a resolution creating the Finance Department fund.

**RESOLUTION NO. 068803**  
**OF**  
**THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**FOR WHITMAN COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, met in regular session on Monday, October 20, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Whitman County, State of Washington, recognizes the need to create a Current Expense fund for the Finance Department while the new Information Technology Department retains the Information Services original fund number; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners believes that a separate fund is the proper procedure to account for the Finance Department expenditures.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that a Finance Department Fund numbered 001.360.000 is created.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Largent, Chairman

ATTEST:

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
G.R. Finch, Commissioner

**068804**     **14.** Ted Maxwell, Mayor of Malden thanked the commissioners for the community chipper program and for providing building inspections for the town. He asked the commissioners for their assistance in obtaining a faster response time from the Environmental Health Department. Mr. Maxwell was instructed to contact the Director of Public Health.

**068805**     **15.** A letter was received from the Corps of Engineers informing Whitman County that the September 11, 2008 inspection of the Elberton levee on the North Fork of the Palouse River was found to be acceptable.

**068806**     **16.** Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

**10:30 a.m. - Board Business Continued/BOCC Workshop.**

Present: Mark Storey, Alan Thomson and Byron Bedirian.

**068807**     **17.** Planning related issues discussed. No action taken.

**11:00 a.m. - Mark Storey, Public Works Director.**

Present: Alan Thomson, Byron Bedirian, Roger Whitten, Leslie Cloaninger, Mark Williams and Joe Smillie.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Planning Division:**

**068808**     **1.** Chairman Largent convened the hearing for a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance adding meteorological towers as a permitted use.

Alan Thompson provided a brief staff report noting the proposed amendment would allow meteorological towers as a conditional use in the agricultural district.

**11:05 a.m. - Ben Fairbanks.**

**BOCC MINUTES-10/20/08**

Byron Bedirian of the Prosecutor's Office indicated the changes have been reviewed, only apply to meteorological towers and are constitutional and legal.

The Chairman called for comments from those in attendance who wished to speak solely on adding meteorological towers as a permitted use and not wind towers. Comments were limited to 3 minutes.

**068809** Roger Whitten's written comments on file.

Ben Fairbanks of First Wind agreed with the proposed amendments and findings. Adding meteorological towers will clarify how wind developers assess need and he encouraged the Board to adopt the amendment. He fully understood wind farming is a completely separate issue. He pointed out he does not have a request for a permit before the county at this time. Alan Thomson interjected that First Wind does have a permit for the Naff Ridge area.

Roger Whitten asked the commissioners about the governmental objective of meteorological towers ordinance. The Chairman explained the Board would not be responding to questions, only receiving comments. Commissioner Partch stated the county was trying to clarify the existing ordinance and adding something that was inadvertently overlooked. Mr. Whitten wondered if the purpose of the tower is for research or for wind tower companies. If for research, the public does not receive the information. Once a meteorological tower goes up next to someone's home the next step is a wind tower which is a negative. He wondered what overrides the negative.

Attorney, Leslie Cloaninger was contacted by a landowner who has been approached about meteorological towers. Their prospective is to at least research the viability of a wind tower, multiple use of land that would fit in with farming. They asked her to attend and support the county's proposal. Very few locations where met towers are installed will have a wind tower. She disagreed with Mr. Whitten's comments noting any other source of energy is a good thing and as a country we should be working towards that end.

There being no other comments or rebuttals, the Chairman adjourned the hearing.

**068810** Commissioner Partch **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the amendment of the Whitman County Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 19.10) adding meteorological towers to the conditional uses in the Agricultural District.

**ORDINANCE NO. 068810**

**BOCC MINUTES-10/20/08**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WHITMAN COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE CHAPTER 19.10 AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT, relating to the permitting process of meteorological towers, 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 after hearing the 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 20th day of October 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Largent, Chairman

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

ATTEST:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
G.R. Finch, Commissioner

**Chapter 19.10 - AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT**

**Section 19.10.010 - Declaration of Intent.**

The Agricultural District provides minimum standards for areas of general agricultural land use including requirements for single-family dwellings and accessory dwelling units. It is intended that agriculture be the primary use in this district and that the goals of the County Comprehensive Plan be pursued where reasonably possible.

**Section 19.10.020 - Permitted Uses.**

1. Agriculture, including cropping, grazing of livestock, dairying, horticulture and floriculture, but not commercial horse-boarding which shall be instead considered to be a home-based business and allowed and governed, or regulated by the provisions related to home-based businesses. (Revised April 21, 2008; Resolution No. 068024).
2. One (1) single-family dwelling per parcel conforming to provisions of Section 19.10.060 and not located within the CRD Opportunity Area. For the protection of resource lands, new residence(s) shall be located more than 1,000 feet from any permitted or grandfathered

quarry, mine and/or other similar natural resource operations; or if it will be located within 1,000 feet of a any permitted or grandfathered quarry, mine and/or other similar natural resource operations, an affidavit acknowledging adjacent mining activities, signed by the landowner, notarized and filed with the Whitman County Auditor, is required. This information will be attached to the Short Plat. The 1,000-foot distance is measured from the applicant's residential footprint to the designated mineral resource area, as described and/or defined in the Administrative Use Permit or Conditional Use Permit.

3. Temporary stands for the sale of agricultural non-livestock products produced on the premises.
4. Accessory uses and structures common or incidental to agricultural and residential use, including but not limited to garages, barns, tack rooms, equipment sheds, home storage elevators, fences and corrals, provided that such accessory uses and structures conform to the yard requirements of this chapter. An accessory use or structure may be constructed prior to the construction of the principal use on a site that has been reviewed for compliance and has been approved as a rural residential site, pursuant to Section 19.10.060.
5. Home-based businesses utilizing only those accessory buildings and structures permitted under this chapter and which from the premises' property line cannot be seen or heard or felt or smelled and will not have customer visits. (For more information on home-based businesses permitting, see Chapter 19.56.) (Revised April 21, 2008; Resolution No. 068024).
6. Small-Antenna facilities, Antenna Support Structures and Wind Energy Research and/or Generating Facilities up to forty (40) feet in height in conformance with the requirements of Chapter 19.58 - Communication and Utility Facilities. (Revised 12/10/01 Ordinance #058999).
7. Inert fill (earth only) of under 2,000 cubic yards of material removed from ditch cleaning may be placed in active quarries and/or mines in compliance with approved reclamation or placed on adjacent land. Under 2,000 cubic yards of aggregate stockpile materials may be placed on a separate parcel from the mining operation. Agencies must provide a courtesy notice to landowners within 300 feet of the fill site.
8. Private quarries under three (3) acres for uses related to agricultural activities by the land owner, for example farm access construction and maintenance.
9. Accessory Dwelling Units conforming to provisions of Section 19.10.065.

**Section 19.10.030 - Lot Size Requirements.**

1. There shall be no minimum lot size for non-residential permitted uses in this district.

2. The minimum lot size for residential uses permitted in this district shall be as determined per Section 19.10.060 (2) (b) (ii).

**Section 19.10.040 - Setback Requirements.**

1. The minimum setback for all non-residential ~~and~~ structures shall be twenty (20) feet on all sides, provided that a minimum setback of thirty-five (35) feet shall be required adjacent to the right-of-way of any state or county roadway designated as a primary or secondary arterial in the Comprehensive Plan.
2. In the case of antenna support structures or wind energy research and/or generating facilities, the front setback shall be thirty-five (35) feet from the right-of-way of any State or County road; side and rear setbacks shall be twenty (20) feet.
3. Accessories to the antenna support structures shall have a minimum setback of five (5) feet. (Revised 5/14/01 Ordinance #058050, Revised 12/10/01 Ordinance #058999).
4. To facilitate road setback location, measurement may be made from the centerline of the adjacent road. The front setback shall be half the distance of that specific right-of-way width, plus the required setback, as measured from the road centerline.

**Section 19.10.050 - Height of Buildings.**

1. The maximum height of non-residential buildings and related accessory structures in this district shall be fifty (50) feet.
2. The maximum height of rural residences and related accessory structures in this district shall be thirty-five (35) feet.
3. Antenna support structures shall not exceed 350 feet in height.
4. Maximum height for research and wind energy generating facilities shall be 350 feet. (Revised 5/14/01 Ordinance #058050, Revised 12/10/01 Ordinance #058999).

**Section 19.10.060 - Rural Residential Use.**

One single-family dwelling per parcel shall be a permitted use whenever the requirements of this Title are fulfilled. The Planning Director shall certify through the Rural Housing Certificate (RHC) process that all requirements of this Title have been met.

1. Development requiring Certification
  - a. Issuance of a Rural Housing Certificate shall be required for:
    - i) Creation of a new residential parcel
      - (1) On which will be located an existing residence, except that such new parcel with an existing residence, need not comply with the provisions of 19.10.060 (2)(a)(ii) viewshed, (2)(b)(vi) development buffer where the available land to be used as a buffer is not owner by the applicant, (2)(b)(vii) setbacks where the available land to be used as a buffer is not owner by the applicant, and (2)(b)(ix) highly visible locations; or

- ii) Alteration of an existing residential parcel via a boundary line adjustment except when additional land is added to a parcel for which a CZC, RRSR or RHC has been filed; or
  - iii) Construction of a residence on an existing parcel which has not been certified.
- b. Issuance of a Rural Housing Certificate shall not be required for expansion, replacement, or alteration of an existing residence and/or an existing accessory structure on an existing rural residential parcel for which no parcel enlargement, reduction or division is requested. The parcel shall be reviewed for compliance with all applicable ordinances, including those which regulate setbacks, road access, preservation or expansion of the septic system, drainfield and replacement drainfield area, flood hazard, wetlands, aquifer recharge, and habitat conservation areas. However, no notice to adjacent landowners is required, and the size and other constraints of the parcel may prevent full compliance with hilltop prohibitions, road setback distances, and buffer or setback distances required from other property; in which case these requirements do not apply. This review shall be termed Rural Residential Site Review (RRSR) and files shall be kept as proof of review and for future reference.
2. Certification Approval - Issuance of a Rural Housing Certificate shall be granted when a proposal meets all of the following conditions:
- a. Approval of Residence Location
    - i) New rural residences may be sited in locations which meet requirements for a viewshed site or meet requirements for a residential group.
    - ii) Viewshed Site
      - (1) Definition: A proposed residential building footprint which is located at least 1,500 feet horizontally from the nearest residence or certified residential site; or is located within 1,500 feet of one or more existing residences or certified residential sites but not visible from any of said residences or certified residential sites.
        - (a) Definition of Not Visible: a proposed residential site is considered to be not visible if an observer standing at the corners of the footprint of the proposed residence and with their eye level at five (5) feet above existing grade cannot see any part of an existing residence or the footprint of another proposed residence due to the interposition of natural landforms.
        - (b) Exception for Highly Visible Residences: an existing residence within a viewshed under consideration and located on a hilltop or ridge, or whose highest point is higher than the slope on which it is located, shall be ignored due to its highly visible location.
    - iii) Residential Group

- (1) Definition: A residential group is defined as a collection of two to nine certified, residential parcels which are located such that at least some portion of each of the included residences is within 300 feet of some portion of another included residence. (Limited to nine or less residences to avoid the potential consequences of WAC 16-231-510.)
  - (2) Creation of a residential group: The owner of any residence constructed prior to January 1, 2007 may apply for review to create a residential group by submitting an application for a Rural Housing Certificate to obtain permission to construct a new residence which must be located within 300 feet of the existing residence.
  - (3) An existing residential group may be expanded to a maximum of nine houses.
- iv) Agricultural Notification: In the case of any application for a Rural Housing Certificate, all owners of property within 1,500 feet of the proposed residential building footprint shall be notified by mail. Any owner of a commercial agricultural operation within 1,500 feet of the proposed new site may appeal the decision to the Board of Adjustment within 20 days after the date of the notice, to show that a significant negative effect on their farming operation would be created. If the owners sign a waiver from this requirement, such notice is not required.
- b. Approval of Parcel Configuration
- i) In General: For the purpose of meeting the minimum building lot requirements of this section, public and private easements or rights-of-way for roads, railroads or utilities shall be ignored.
  - ii) Minimum lot size: The area of the subject lot shall be no less than the minimum area required by the Whitman County Department of Environmental Health to safely accommodate approved water supply and on-site sewage disposal systems.
  - iii) Access to an improved road: All residential parcels shall be accessible from an improved County road or State highway.
  - iv) Frontage/easement requirement: Lots without frontage on an improved public road shall be permitted if access to such a road has been obtained via an easement across adjacent property and if said access has been approved by the appropriate agency.
  - v) Driveways
    - (1) Any driveway that serves more than two residences shall be designed and constructed to Fire Code minimums, under oversight by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Washington.
    - (2) Driveways shall be designed to fit existing land contours.
    - (3) Access to an improved public road must be approved and issued by the Whitman County Public Works or the Washington State Department of Transportation. Shared driveways are

encouraged to enhance safety of traffic flow entering and leaving improved roads.

vi) Development Buffers

- (1) Residential development other than of the types listed in (4)(a) through (k), below, shall not be allowed within 200 feet of property being used for commercial agricultural production at the time of development, or within 100 feet if written permission of the owner of property in production is secured. This area between residential development and commercial agricultural production shall be referred to as the "development buffer."
- (2) Development buffers shall appear on the short plat of the parcel and any other surveys subsequently produced.
- (3) The width of an adjacent road's right-of-way may be included as part of the development buffer.
- (4) Structures and activities related to residential living shall not be allowed within the development. Such structures and activity areas include residences, decks, play areas, home occupation areas, greenhouse, garden, orchard, ornamental trees and so forth. Structures and uses that shall be allowed within the development buffer include, but are not limited to:
  - (a) Garages
  - (b) Storage sheds
  - (c) Equipment sheds
  - (d) Driveways
  - (e) Wells, if not part of a Group A or B water system
  - (f) Septic system drain fields
  - (g) Stables
  - (h) Livestock pens and corrals
  - (i) Hay storage
  - (j) Vegetation compatible with adjacent agricultural uses, including pasture, wildlife areas, hay land and native plants.
- (k) Windbreaks and shelterbelts
- (5) The residential owner may lease the development buffer for agricultural uses such as farming, grazing and so forth.

vii) Setbacks

- (1) The minimum setback for all non-residential structures shall be twenty (20) feet on all sides, provided that a minimum setback of thirty-five (35) feet shall be required adjacent to the right-of-way of any State or County improved road.
- (2) For all residential structures the minimum setback from roads shall be 100 feet and the minimum setbacks on all other sides of the residence shall be twenty (20) feet except where the development buffer requires a greater distance.

viii) Water and Sanitation

- (1) The applicant shall provide proof of adequate and potable water, as required by Whitman County Environmental Health for a rural residence and shall meet all other requirements of Whitman County Public Health, the Washington State Department of Health and any other agencies regarding the permitting of wells and domestic waste disposal.
- ix) Highly visible locations
- (1) Buildings and structures located on hills or ridges shall be sited and/or constructed to minimize the appearance of a silhouette against the sky as measured this way:
    - (a) No part of the living space of a structure shall be higher than the highest part of the landform on which it will be built. A landform is described for the purpose of this chapter as the natural topographic high point separated from other topographic high points by a drop of at least 40 feet. All accessory structures built or placed after the approval of the application for the RHC for the proposed residence must have roof lines no higher in elevation than the principal residential structure.
    - (2) Construction of residences on unusual and highly visible geological features is not allowed within what shall be known as the Butte Protection areas. This restriction shall apply to areas above specified elevations above sea level, or within 750 horizontal feet of the centerline of improved roads, whichever is least restrictive, as follows:
      - (a) Angel Butte elevation 2,660 feet;
      - (b) Parker Butte elevation 2,660 feet;
      - (c) Bald Butte elevation 2,800 feet;
      - (d) Granite Butte elevation 2,600 feet;
      - (e) Kamiak Butte elevation 2,600 feet;
      - (f) Ladow Butte elevation 2,660 feet;
      - (g) Naff Ridge elevation 2,600 feet;
      - (h) Ringo Butte elevation 2,660 feet;
      - (i) Smoot Hill elevation 2,500 feet;
      - (j) Steam Shovel Hill elevation 2,600 feet;
      - (k) Steptoe Butte elevation 2,600 feet;
      - (l) Stratton Butte elevation 2,700 feet;
      - (m) Tekoa Mountain elevation 2,700 feet;
      - (n) Unnamed butte, east-northeast of Naff Ridge, the summit of which is within the N  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 4, Township 19 N., Range 44 E., W.M., elevation 2,600 feet;
      - (o) Unnamed butte southeast of Seltice, the summit of which is within the NE  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 24, Township 19 N., Range 45 E., W.M., elevation 2,700 feet.

c. Approval of Lighting

New lighting fixtures shall be designed and installed so as to control the direction and intensity of light which affects

neighboring properties or roadways, so that direct rays of light don't shine onto neighboring properties or serve as a source of light pollution.

- (1) New lighting fixtures must be shielded, hooded and oriented towards the ground;
- (2) Use of motion-sensing devices and/or timers is encouraged;
- (3) No new lighting shall blink, flash or be of an usually high intensity or brightness; and
- (4) All new lighting fixtures shall be appropriate in scale, intensity and height to their use.

d. Weed Control

- i) It is the responsibility of the owner(s) of rural land to control weeds.
- ii) Uncontrolled weeds that are a source of further weed dispersion across property boundaries constitute a significant threat to agricultural production. Therefore, a statement asserting this responsibility shall appear on any plat that creates a lot for the purpose of a residential site. However, this ordinance is not intended to, and does not, restrict any rights or remedies available to an owner or lessor of land affected by uncontrolled or inadequately controlled weeds, whether the statement is included in the plat or not.

e. Receipt of Affidavit of Acknowledgement of Agricultural Practices

The deed restriction and/or easement sample as stated below shall be used when rural residential parcels are created, and when there is a residential building permit and/or conveyance of a rural residential property:

**COUNTY OF WHITMAN, STATE OF WASHINGTON  
CERTIFICATION OF ADJACENT AGRICULTURAL USE**

The undersigned do hereby certify to be the owner(s) of the hereinafter legally described real property and do hereby acknowledge that the proposed development is within the vicinity of property utilized for commercial agricultural purposes. Persons who may reside or work in any of the proposed structures may be subjected to inconvenience or discomfort arising from the pursuit of agricultural operations, including but not limited to plowing, seeding, application of agricultural chemicals (herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizer), cultivation, harvesting, the keeping of livestock, employment and use of labor, the operation of machinery, the transport or relocation of farm machinery or farm products, the storage of crops, and other accepted and customary agricultural activities conducted in accordance with federal and state laws. These normal agricultural practices that occur any time of day and any day of the week generate dust, fumes, smoke, noise and odor, and may slow traffic, or otherwise conflict with residential property uses. Whitman County has established agriculture as a priority use on agricultural lands



Residing at \_\_\_\_\_

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_.

The following steps are required for this compliance:

1. \_\_\_\_ Completing and signing this Certification.
2. \_\_\_\_ Obtaining Planning Office review
3. \_\_\_\_ Filing this Certification with the County Auditor
4. \_\_\_\_ Providing proof from the County Auditor for the Planning and/or Building Inspection office(s) that this Certification has been filed.

The existence of this Certification must be conveyed to each future owner of this property.

3. Vesting

- a. Upon receipt of fees and a complete application, the Planning Director shall grant to the applicant a temporary development right. The Planning Office shall not accept any additional Rural Housing Certificate applications for residences within the viewshed of the proposed residence until the Planning Director has either granted or denied a Rural Housing Certificate for the proposed residence.
- b. If granted a Rural Housing Certificate, the applicant shall have 270 days during which to complete construction of an approved well and to file a short plat. Failure to complete these steps within this time period shall result in voiding of the Rural Housing Certificate except when an approved water supply has been established and a building permit for a residence has been issued, a short plat is not required.

**Section 19.10.065 - Accessory Dwelling Units.**

1. Purpose.

- a. An Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) is an additional smaller, subordinate dwelling unit on a lot with, or in, an existing or new house. These units are intended to provide for a greater range of choices of housing types in the Agricultural District. Accessory Dwelling Units are intended to enhance options for families by providing opportunities for older or younger relatives to live in proximity while maintaining a degree of privacy.

2. Applicability.

- a. A property with a primary residence and an Accessory Dwelling Unit is different from a property with two residences because the intensity of use is less due to the limitations of size and number of bedrooms. An Accessory Dwelling Unit that meets the requirements of this subsection may be allowed on any lot

developed with an existing single-family dwelling, except as noted herein.

b. Development Standards.

i) No more than one Accessory Dwelling Unit per legal lot is permitted and it must be accessory to a single-family residence. If a short plat is approved, an Accessory Dwelling Unit for each lot is permitted only if all other provisions of this Chapter are met.

c. Whenever the requirements of this Section are at variance with the requirements of any of the lawfully-adopted ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards to be met prior to a land use being permitted, shall govern.

d. The applicant must apply for a building permit for an Accessory Dwelling Unit. An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall comply with applicable building, fire, and health and safety codes. An Accessory Dwelling Unit cannot be occupied until a certificate of occupancy is issued by the building department.

e. An Accessory Dwelling Unit may be created through:

i) Internal conversion within an existing dwelling;

ii) The addition of new square footage to the existing house or to a garage and any addition thereto;

iii) Conversion of an existing structure;

iv) Inclusion in the development plans for, or as part of, the construction of a new single-family detached dwelling unit; or

v) A separate detached dwelling unit on the same lot as the primary dwelling unit.

f. An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall conform to existing zoning requirements, including, but not limited to setbacks. The addition of an Accessory Dwelling Unit shall not make any lot, structure or use nonconforming within the development site.

g. Building height is limited to twenty-five (25) feet for a detached Accessory Dwelling Unit. Building height requirements of the underlying zone do apply to the Accessory Dwelling Unit for internal conversion or structural addition to the existing primary dwelling.

h. The total gross floor area of an Accessory Dwelling Unit shall not exceed either 1,100 square feet or 50% of the total gross floor area of the primary residence, whichever is less.

i. An Accessory Dwelling Unit shall not contain more than two (2) bedrooms.

j. For an Accessory Dwelling Unit created by internal conversion or by an addition to an existing primary dwelling, only one (1) entrance may be located on the front of the house, unless the house contained additional front doors before the conversion. Secondary entrances should be located on the side or rear of the primary residence to the extent possible.

3. Historic Structures.

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- a. If an Accessory Dwelling Unit is on the same lot as or within a historic structure which has been designated on the national, state or local historic register, the following design guidelines are applicable:
- b. Exterior materials should be of the same type, size and placement as those of the primary dwelling structure.
- c. Trim on edges of elements of accessory structures and additions should be the same as those of the primary structure in type, size and placement.
- d. Windows in any elevation which faces a street should match those in the primary structure in proportion, i.e., same height, width and orientation (horizontal or vertical).
- e. Pediments and Dormers. Each Accessory Dwelling Unit over twenty (20) feet in height should have either a roof pediment or dormer if one or the other of these architectural features are present on the primary dwelling.

### **Section 19.10.080 - Short Plat and Subdivision.**

No short plat or subdivision for residential use shall be accepted by the Planning Office unless such plat complies with this chapter:

1. No short plat creating more than three (3) lots, including the remainder of the original parcel of land, shall be approved within the Agricultural District.
2. No long subdivision plat shall be approved within the Agricultural District.
3. A short plat may be used to separate out a parcel on which is located a residence in existence prior to the adoption of this ordinance. This home site must meet the requirements of Section 19.10.060. It will then be considered a conforming rural residential use, and shall be issued a Rural Housing Certificate.
4. The creation of parcels of less than twenty (20) acres in area is permitted for agricultural, conservation and/or habitat purposes.
  - a. No structures other than fences, a well, and livestock watering and feeding containers are allowed on parcels created for this purpose.
  - b. Language describing the use limitations shall be placed on the plat.
  - c. If, in the future, there is a desire to change the use of this parcel, such as enlarging it to be part of a future residential or other use, the properties will have to be reviewed again to see if such proposed use can comply with land use regulations. If such approvals can be obtained, a revised plat containing language reflecting changes must be filed with the County Auditor.

### **Section 19.10.090 - Conditional Uses and Administrative Permits.**

1. Because of considerations of traffic, noise, lighting, hazards, health and environmental issues, the following uses shall not be permitted in the Agricultural District unless a conditional use permit authorizing such use has been granted by the Board of Adjustment; provided, however,

that in situations described herein where an Administrative Use Permit may be granted in lieu of a Conditional Use Permit, the use of the land shall not be permitted until such time as an Administrative Use Permit has been granted by the County Planning Office. (Revised 11/18/91, Ord. #45331)

- a. Utility substations or generating facilities. Wind Energy Generating Facilities greater than forty (40) feet in height are subject to the requirements of Section 19.58 - Communication and Utility Facilities. Wind Energy Generating Facilities greater than 130 feet are allowed in this District by Conditional Use as long as the site is located more than 1/2 mile from any incorporated city or town or Rural Community District (Revised 12/10/01, Ordinance # 058999).
- b. Utility storage and transportation facilities.
- c. Private and public recreational facilities such as campgrounds, golf courses, rifle ranges, and similar uses.
- d. Churches.
- e. Airstrips.
- f. Solid waste site or transfer station.
- g. Feedlots.
- h. Commercial grain elevators.
- i. Veterinary clinics, boarding kennels, and similar uses.
- j. Surface mining and crushing subject to the minimum standards listed in Sections 19.59 and 19.60.
- k. Home-based businesses that exceed the threshold of a permitted use may be allowed as an administrative use or a conditional use. (For more information on home-based businesses permitting, see Chapter 19.56.) (Revised April 21, 2008; Resolution No. 068024)
- l. Gun clubs and fraternal organizations.
- m. Support Structure facilities, (towers and accessories) for antennae, meteorological (anemometer) research and other similar uses greater than forty (40) feet in height subject to the requirements of Section 19.58 - Communication and Utility Facilities. Such support structures greater than 130 feet are allowed in this District by Conditional Use as long as the site is located more than 1/2 mile from any incorporated city or town or Rural Community District. A shelter or cabinet used to house radio electronic equipment and its associated connecting cables greater than 120 square feet of base area, or more than one shelter or cabinet applies also to Small-Antenna facilities and Antenna Support Structures up to forty (40) feet in height.
- n. On-site hazardous waste treatment and storage facilities, provided that such facilities are accessory to a permitted or conditional use, and provided that such facilities meet the state siting criteria adopted pursuant to RCW 70.105.210.
- o. Landfill for inert materials (earth, concrete and asphalt) of more than 2,000 cubic yards of material (including over 2,000 cubic yards of aggregate stockpile materials on a separate parcel from the mining

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operation) [For earth fills less than 2,000 cubic yards, see Section 19.05.020(4)].

- p. Recycling Facility, provided, however, that hazardous material, infectious material and/or radioactive material which federal or state regulations would allow to be recycled but which the County may deem to be unsafe or detrimental to public welfare, shall not be allowed without a Conditional Use Permit issued by the Board of Adjustment and a Special Permit issued by the Whitman County Health Department. Said permits shall establish specific conditions for the processing/handling of the hazardous material, infectious material and/or radioactive material, where the State of Washington or the Federal Government has not otherwise preempted all control and regulation of said materials. (Revised 11/18/91, Ord. #45331 )
  - q. Temporary asphalt and/or concrete batch plant.
  - r. Agricultural Research Facility, such as but not limited to greenhouses, laboratories, machine sheds, arboretum, animal science facilities, farm equipment service and maintenance operations associated with a principal conditional use listed herein, and a care-taker residence. (Revised 4/26/95, Ord. #048077).
  - s. Mining, quarry, and/or other similar natural resource operations located within 1,000 feet of any residence or within one mile from any incorporated community or designated unincorporated rural community, subject to the minimum standards in Section 19.59 and Section 19.60.
  - t. Accessory structures necessary for farm or ranch production that are or should be separated from the agricultural production land or farmsteads on their own parcel, including shops, machine sheds, grain bins and similar agricultural production structures that are intended to continue to be used in conjunction with agricultural operations. The short plat survey shall include the following statement: "This parcel and its structures are limited to agricultural use only. This parcel has not been evaluated as a building site for any other use. If there is a future intent to try to use this parcel and its structures for any uses other than agriculture, further review for compliance with Whitman County code is required, and it is possible that this parcel will not be able to comply and be approved for different uses."
2. An Administrative Use Permit shall be required for:
- a. Surface mining and crushing subject to the minimum standards listed in Section 19.59 and Section 19.60.
  - b. Mining located more than one mile from an incorporated community or designated unincorporated rural community.
  - c. Landfill for inert materials (earth, concrete and asphalt) of less than 2,000 cubic yards of materials.

**Section 19.10.110 Special Conditional Use for Planned Residential Development, (PRD).**

A. PURPOSE: This section establishes a location for and allows for the creation of a Planned Residential Development, (PRD), designed to foster creative, efficient, and comprehensive site development, intended for special site locations, conditions and circumstances, in concert with WCO Chapter 18.50, Subdivision Ordinance - Planned Residential Development, and:

1. Create a development form which allows for preservation of important sites within the County, containing significant natural shoreline areas, geology, habitat and/or ecosystems, and the goals of which are compatible with Whitman County's Comprehensive Plan;
2. Produce a development which would be better than traditional lot-by-lot development, on either consolidated lots or unsubdivided property, through variety in design, placement of buildings, and use of undeveloped natural areas, in order to capitalize on the special features of the individual site;
3. Permit flexibility that will encourage a more creative approach in the development of land and will result in a more efficient, aesthetic, and desirable use of undeveloped areas, while at the same time harmonizing with adjoining development;
4. Ensure preservation of important natural habitat, and important ecosystems;
5. Preserve and enhance special site features including areas of cultural significance and, habitat, wetlands and; compliance with the County's critical areas ordinances.
6. Maximize use of alternative energy sources and energy-efficient structures, while employing strategies for conservation of water and other resources.

B. There is created a special conditional use for Planned Residential Developments within specific areas of the Agricultural District.

1. The general areas within the Agricultural District in which a special conditional use for Planned Residential Developments shall be allowed are as follows:

Township 20 N.	Ranges E.	39, 40, 41, 42, and 43;
Township 19 N.	Ranges E.	39, 40 and 41;
Township 18 N.	Ranges E.	39 and 40;
Township 17 N.	Ranges E.	39 and 40;
Township 16 N.	Ranges E.	38, 39 and 40;
Township 15 N.	Ranges E.	37, 38, 39 (except sections 24, 25 and 36), 41, 42, and 43;
Township 14 N.	Ranges E.	36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43;
Township 13 N.	Ranges E.	37, 38, 39, 40, 43 and 44;
Township 12 N.	Ranges E.	44, 45 and 46; or,
Township 11 N.	Ranges E.	45 and 46.

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2. Within the above described general areas only a proposed PRD parcel meeting the following criteria shall be allowed a special conditional use permit.
    - a. Not more than 25% of the proposed PRD parcel, shall contain prime farm land, defined as land used for the production of a crop on which the average yield for the preceding three years exceeded the Whitman County average by 20%.
    - b. The proposed PRD parcel contains at least 51% of any, or any combination, of the following soil associations: Ander-Benge-Kuhl Association; Bakeoven Tucannon-Cheney Association; Kuhl-Alpowa Association; Starbuck-Alpowa Association, or, land that can be described as non-tillable.
    - c. The "General Soil Map, Whitman County, Washington" published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, edition 1979, as now or hereafter amended, shall be recognized as illustrative of the general locations of the designated soil associations and aid in determining non-tillable land. A copy of this map or its current version shall be retained in the Planning Department office for public access.
    - d. Should a question occur during the Conceptual Plan Review for a PRD, as set forth in WCO Chapter 18.50, the applicant shall, by proof acceptable to the County Planner, establish compliance with this section.
  3. No special conditional use for a PRD shall be granted, for any reason without exception, to any PRD proposed parcel wherein any portion of the proposed PRD parcel is within two miles of the boundary of any state park.
- C. Except for the provisions of this section, an applicant for a special conditional use for a PRD shall not be required to meet any other provisions of WCO 19.10 or any section of WCO Chapter 19 which is inconsistent with the provisions of WCO Chapter 18.50, Subdivision Ordinance - Planned Residential Development, as now or hereafter amended.
- D. The Planning Commission shall be the sole agency to review and approve, modify or deny a special conditional use for a PRD. A denial by the Planning Commission may be appealed to the Board of County Commissioners within 30 days of the denial.
- E. A special conditional use for a PRD shall be granted by the Planning Commission with at least the following minimum conditions.
1. Full compliance with the provisions of WCO Chapter 18.50, Subdivision Ordinance- Planned Residential Development; and,

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2. Full compliance with the County's critical areas ordinances, as now or hereafter amended, as well as any and all State Environmental Policy Act determinations, and,
3. Approval of the Planned Residential Development by the Whitman County Board.

**Maintenance Division:**

**068811** 2. A copy of the annual winter snow and ice control letter was received from the Director.

**11:30 a.m. - Sharron Cunningham, Administrative Services.**

Present: Adam Roberts, Bev Divine, Bob Lothspeich, Bob Reynolds, Brett Myers, Eunice Coker, Janet Schmidt, Joe Reynolds, Kelli Campbell, Kim Kopf, Kristina Cooper, Mark Storey, Marlynn Markley, Peggy Wright, Pete Martin, Tim Myers and Joe Smillie.

Excused: Denis Tracy, Fran Martin, Dave Frazier, Doug Robinson and Shirley Bafus.

**068812** The September 2008 ending financial report provided by Ms. Cunningham.

September 2008 Cash Balance - \$2,182,545  
September 2007 Cash Balance - \$2,764,265

September 2008 Revenue - \$7,910,729 - 64.92% of budget.  
September 2007 Revenue - \$8,151,451 - 62.09% of budget.

September 2008 Expenditures \$8,779,119 - 71.37% of budget.  
September 2007 Expenditures \$8,084,963 - 61.24% of budget.

**12:00 p.m. - Recess.**

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

Present: Joe Reynolds (1:00 p.m.) and Tim Myers (1:30 p.m.).

**D068812A** 17. Items discussed included open space fees and parks and developmental services updates. No action taken.

**2:00 p.m. Recess.**

**068812B** THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, October**

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**20, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.** Chairman Michael Largent and G.R. Finch Commissioners and Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board attended.

**3:00 p.m. - Call to Order/Board Business/BOCC Workshop.**

Present: Alan Thomson.

**D068812C 18.** Planning related issues discussed. No action taken.

**4:00 p.m. - Adjournment.**

**D068812D** Commissioner Finch **moved** to adjourn the **October 20 and 21, 2008** meeting. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Partch and **carried**. The Board will meet in regular session, in their Chambers', in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington, on **October 27, 2008**. The foregoing action made this **21st** day of **October 2008**.

ss/ GREG PARTCH, COMMISSIONER  
ss/ G.R. FINCH, COMMISSIONER

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MARIBETH BECKER, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

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MICHAEL LARGENT, CHAIRMAN  
Board of County Commissioners