

BOCC MINUTES-08/02/2021

084632 THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, August 2, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.** Arthur D Swannack, Chairman, Michael Largent and Tom Handy (remotely) Commissioners, Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board (remotely) and Corey Mitzimberg, Deputy Clerk of the Board attended.

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

Present: Brandy Dean, Wraylee Flodin and Chris Nelson.

Remotely: Bailey Wiedmer, Chris Skidmore, Cynthia Hayward, Fletcher Aukerman, Jessica Jensema, Kelli Campbell, Mark Storey, Sandy Jamison and Sharron Cunningham.

Guests: Anthony Kuipers, Jacob Jones, Robert Morrison and WC Gazette.

084633 1. The following items were discussed but no action was taken.

- Courthouse Relocation/Windows
- Washington Association of County Officials Dues
- Employee Medical Insurance Rate Increases
- Employee Long Term Care Insurance Options
- L&I Smoke and Heat Rules
- Tear Gas Use
- Voters Pamphlet Explanatory and Pro/Con Statements

10:00 a.m. - Recess.

10:15 a.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued/Flag Salute.

Remote Attendance:

Staff: Fletcher Aukerman and Kelli Campbell.

Guests: Evan Ellis.

D084633A 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

084634 2A. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to amend the agenda to add item 15A.

Consent Agenda:

084635 3. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to accept the consent agenda as presented.

084636 4. Treasurer's Wire Transfers and Check Report in the amount of **\$373,510.08**, Payroll warrants numbered **355885-355897** for **\$486,737.48** and General Claims/Veterans' Relief warrants numbered **356029-356093** for **\$276,154.51** approved.

084637 5. July 19, 2021 minutes approved.

084638-084646 6. Personnel change orders approved.

084647 7. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to approve the County Clerk's revised signature delegation authorization.

084648 8. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to purchase the Gordon Quarry.

084649 9. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to approve the 2022 Capital Improvement Program rankings by Capital Improvement Committee.

084650 10. The regular meeting was recessed and the hearing convened by the Chairman for proposed Camping ordinance on or near Wawawai Road.

Staff report provided by Mark Storey as follows:

The Public Works Department was notified several months ago of camping along the river on Wawawai Road causing safety and access issues. Sheriff Brett Myers and Prosecutor Denis Tracy met with Public Works to discuss creating an ordinance prohibiting camping on or near Wawawai Road. Public Works supports such an ordinance.

The hearing was opened to public comment. There being no further comments the hearing was adjourned and the regular meeting reconvened.

0844651 11. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to adopt Whitman County Code Chapter 8.40, Camping Prohibited Ordinance.

**ORDINANCE NO. 084651
BEFORE THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

IN THE MATTER OF PROHIBITING CAMPING ON OR NEAR WAWAWAI ROAD.

WHEREAS, the portion of the Snake River and the Snake River Canyon which borders part of the southern edge of Whitman County is a very significant natural resource, draw for tourism, and recreational area for all residents and visitors; and,

WHEREAS, the County owns and maintains Wawawai Road as a County Road that runs along the edge of the Snake River, and serves as an important means of access to the many people who want to see or use the area for tourism and recreation. For decades, residents and visitors have used the road and have stopped along the side of the road for short periods of time while accessing the river and surrounding area. The road and its adjacent areas owned by the County are intended and maintained for such access, and are not intended to be used as a camping area; and,

WHEREAS, a significant number of people have recently begun camping on the side of Wawawai Rd and on County property adjacent to the road, despite the lack of designated parking spots or any services such as water or restroom facilities. The use of the roadside and immediately adjacent areas as camping spots significantly infringes on the safe access to and use of the area for recreation and tourism; and,

WHEREAS, in the general area there are a number of designated camping areas owned and maintained by the US Army Corps of Engineers and a County Park where camping may legally occur; and,

WHEREAS, the Whitman County Board of County Commissioners has determined that it is necessary to adopt this ordinance to protect and preserve the ability of all residents and visitors to be able to safely use Wawawai Road to view and to access the Snake River and the Snake River Canyon; and so that the road may be safely used by all, rather than only those who would camp along the road and immediately adjacent to the road.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED by the Whitman County Board of County Commissioners camping is prohibited on or near Wawawai Road, more specifically described **as attached**.

Dated at Colfax, WA this 2nd day of August, 2021 and effective as of this date.

ATTEST:

Arthur D Swannack, Chairman

Maribeth Becker, CMC
Clerk of the Board
BY: Corey Mitzimberg
Deputy Clerk of the Board

Tom Handy, Commissioner

Michael Largent, Commissioner

CAMPING PROHIBITED

Sections:

- 8.40.010 Definitions.
- 8.40.020 Camping Prohibited.
- 8.40.030 Violation - Crime of Trespassing.

8.40.010 Definitions.

For purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions apply:

- A. "Camp" means erecting a tent or shelter or arranging bedding or both, for the purpose of, or in such a way that permits, remaining overnight, or parking a trailer, camper, or other vehicle for the purpose of remaining overnight.
- B. "Vehicle" means every device capable of being moved upon a public highway and in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a public highway. Bicycles shall not be considered vehicles for purposes of this Chapter.

8.40.020 Camping Prohibited Near Wawawai Road.

It shall be unlawful for any person to camp on or along Wawawai Road in Whitman County, or on County property within 500 feet from the centerline of that road, from the Eastern border of the County at the Idaho State line and then West along Wawawai Road to Wawawai County Park (approximately 27 miles), except in areas specifically designated and posted for those purposes.

8.40.030 Violation - Crime of Trespassing.

Any person intentionally camping in the above-described areas of Wawawai Road, or on County property within 500 feet of the road's centerline, will be trespassing and may be criminally prosecuted for trespassing in violation of RCW 9A.52.080.

CORRESPONDENCE:

D084651A 12. The following correspondence was received:

0848652 12A. The Land Lease agreement for Bald Butte Ranch was received, and signed by the Board as previously authorized.

0848653 12B. Attorney Kelly Brown sent a certified copy of Resolution No. 579 by the Board of Commissioners of Public Hospital District No. 1-A annexing land to Public Hospital District No. 1-A.

084654 12C. An executed copy of the Rural Arterial Program Project Agreement for Construction Proposal, amendment #1, was received.

084655 12D. An executed copy of the Rural Arterial Program Project Agreement for Construction Proposal, amendment #2, was received.

BOCC MINUTES-08/02/2021

084656 13. Commissioners' pending list reviewed.

D084656A 14. Approved documents signed.

12:00 p.m. - Recess.

3:00 p.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued (Port of Whitman Office).

Present: Debbie Snell, Tom Kammerzell, Kristina Meyer and Kara Riebold.

Remotely: Karl Webber.

Guest: Anthony Kuipers.

084657 15. The following items were discussed but no action was taken.

- Malden/Pine City Fiber Project
- WSU Steam Plant
- SR 270 Fiber Project
- ARPA Funds
- Quarterly Breakfast
- Courthouse Offices Relocation

3:15 p.m. - Recess.

4:00 p.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued.

Remotely: Dr. Brad Bowman and Kelli Campbell.

084658 15A. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to go into executive session with the above individuals until 5:00 p.m. in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(f) for matters related to complaints against a county employee or elected official.

5:00 p.m. - Return to Open Session/Recess.

D084658A **THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** met in their Chambers in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington for **Monday, August 9, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.** Arthur D Swannack, Chairman, Michael Largent and Tom Handy Commissioners, Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board (remotely) and Corey Mitzimberg, Deputy Clerk of the Board attended.

9:00 a.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued/Executive Session.

D08458B 16. Approved consent agenda items signed.

084659 17. Treasurers Wire Transfers and Check Report in the amount of **\$603,528.61** and General/Veterans' Relief/Payroll warrants numbered **356108-356209** for **\$429,925.88** approved.

084660-084663 18. Personnel change orders approved.

084664 18A. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to amend the agenda to add item #19A.

9:05 a.m. - BOCC Workshop.

Present: Brandy Dean, Chris Skidmore, Sandy Jamison and Brad Johnson.

Remotely: Bailey Wiedmer, Chris Nelson, Craig Wines, Crystn Guentner, Jessica Jensema, Kelli Campbell, Lance Bishop, Sharron Cunningham and Wraylee Flodin.

Guests: David Hall, Anthony Kuipers, Jacob Jones and WC Gazette.

BOCC MINUTES-08/02/2021

084665-084667 19. The following items were discussed but no action was taken.

- Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP)
- Courthouse Move
- COVID-19 Update
- WSU Vaccine Rate
- Employee Medical Insurance Premiums
- Alternative Phone Services

10:30 a.m. - Recess.

4:00 p.m. - Reconvene/Board Business Continued/Executive Session.

Present: Maribeth Becker.

Remotely: Dr. Brad Bowman and Kelli Campbell.

084668 19A. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and **carried** to go into executive session with the above individuals until 5:00 p.m. in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(f) for matters related to complaints against a county employee or elected official.

5:00 p.m. - Return to Open Session/Recess.

D084668A THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS met at the Latah County Fairgrounds for a joint meeting with the Latah County Commissioners on **Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 10:10 a.m.** Arthur D Swannack, Chairman, Michael Largent and Tom Handy Commissioners, Maribeth Becker, CMC, Clerk of the Board and Corey Mitzimberg, Deputy Clerk of the Board attended.

Present: Brian Kraft, Jennifer Piper, Dave McGraw, Kathie LaFortune, Tom Lamar, David Hall and Toni Broyles.

084669 20. The following items were discussed but no action was taken.

- Regional coordination on economic development

11:45 a.m. - Adjournment.

D084669A Commissioner Largent **moved** to adjourn the **August 2, 9 and 10, 2021** meeting. Motion **seconded** by Commissioner Handy and **carried**. The Board will meet in regular session, in their Chambers', in the Whitman County Courthouse, Colfax, Washington, on **August 16, 2021**. The foregoing action made this 10th day of **August 2021**.

ss/ TOM HANDY, COMMISSIONER
ss/ MICHAEL LARGENT, COMMISSIONER

MARIBETH BECKER, CMC
Clerk of the Board
By: Corey Mitzimberg
Deputy Clerk of the Board

ARTHUR D SWANNACK, CHAIRMAN
Board of County Commissioners