

**ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE BOARD
Of Ferry County Commissioners
February 7, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Miller with Commissioners Dansel and Heath present.

Also present was Michael Sternberg.

Additions & Corrections to the Agenda: Lobbyist Jim Potts was added to the agenda at 8:15 a.m., EMS Board Member Alex Wirt was added to the agenda at 12:15 p.m., and the Executive Session at 1:00 p.m. was cancelled.

Lobbyist Jim Potts: Lobbyist Jim Potts telephoned the Board to give a legislative update. Mr. Potts advised that all the bills are still in committee. If they don't make it to the rules committee by the 21st they most likely will not get a hearing. Mr. Potts reported that the bill for opting out of GMA lowered the population count to 25,000 and are working on an amendment to include Ferry County in the bill. Representative Kretz is negotiating with the Humane Society on the cougar bill. In response to Commissioner Miller's inquiry, Mr. Potts advised that there is a possibility that the Airport property could be surplus to the county.

Hiring Freeze: Sheriff Pete Warner met with the Board to discuss the hiring freeze. Sheriff Warner advised that one of the corrections officers has had a serious medical condition and another is out on medical leave. Mr. Warner requested to hire temporary emergency corrections personell. The Board approved the temporary emergency hire.

Board Reports: Commissioner Heath reported that he attended the Tri County Economic Development (TEDD). Commissioner Dansel was also present at that meeting and advised that the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) policy board and the TEDD board may combine. Commissioner Heath attended the Martin Hall meeting in Medical Lake. Commissioner Dansel met with Deana Zakar of Kinross. Kinross has offered to do additional work to the exhibit barn at the fairgrounds that will save the county money on utilities. Commissioner Dansel reported that he attended the fair board meeting. Commissioner Dansel attended the Rail Corridor Committee (RCC) meeting where the Representative from National Parks, Michael Lindy. Commissioner Dansel reported that he attended the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting on the 24th January where Couse's Sanitation submitted the proposal for running the transfer station and recycling. The SWAC board unanimously voted for more time to make a decision. They called a special meeting on the 31st of January and at that

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meeting made a motion to “look at a more cost effective way to run the transfer station and recycling”. Commissioner Miller reported that he attended the Washington Rural County Insurance Pool (WRCIP) meeting by teleconference. WRCIP had a finding from the state auditor and are working on correcting the situation to comply with the state auditor. Commissioner Miller traveled to Olympia and attended the Legislative Steering Committee’s first meeting of the year. Commissioner Miller took the opportunity to meet with all our representatives while in Olympia. Commissioner Miller met with the E911 Coordinator and MIS Director and worked on the E911 & MIS contract.

Correspondence Review:

After review and discussion Commissioner Dansel made a motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2011 as corrected. Commissioner Heath seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.

Commissioner’s Staff Update: Clerk of the Board Debbie Bechtol, Maintenance Director Erin McBride, Deputy Clerk of the Board Teri Kinney, and Fairgrounds Business Manager Cathy Lindsey met with the Board to give updates. Ms. Bechtol advised the Board that the Geo Thermal grant has been closed out. Ms. Bechtol reported that with the Geo Thermal system running the county is saving approximately 75% on propane bills. The Board inquired if we could get a grant for a Geo Thermal system for the courthouse. Ms. Bechtol is unsure if there is enough land available for a Geo Thermal system. Ms. Bechtol advised the Board that Otis Elevator’s contract requested a down payment. Ms. Bechtol explained to that the county is unable to pay for services until they are received. Otis Elevator updated the contract and removed that requirement. Ms. Bechtol reported that she contacted WSU Extension Educator Emily Burt regarding the fire wise community project. Ms. Burt is hoping to have everything in place to start the process for the fire wise community by the 16th of February. Ms. Bechtol inquired about the county inventory. Each year each department takes inventory of their department and gives it to the Commissioner’s office. After it is certified by the Board it is given to the Risk Manager for county insurance purposes. Ms. Bechtol would like to streamline the process and have the Risk Manager handle the inventory. The Board approved the Risk Manager handling the inventory. Ms. McBride reported that the inmates have been shoveling the sidewalks of the courthouse. Ms. McBride reported that the new audio system in the courtroom has been installed. Ms. McBride requested authorization to purchase urinal mats for the men’s room. The Board approved \$200 a year for restroom maintenance. Ms. McBride advised the Board that the Solid Waste Coordinator inquired about how much our paper weighs with the shredding company. Ms. McBride will investigate this matter further. The Board inquired about fixing the entry way into the courtroom. Ms. McBride will investigate repairing the entry way and

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will report back to the Board. Ms. Kinney advised the Board that she has received a letter from the Department of Revenue (DOR) regarding the Board of Equalization (BOE). The DOR will be expanding their training as they have plans to review the practices and procedures of all county BOE's. Once the reviews are completed a written report will be sent to the county BOE and the state auditor. Ms. Kinney reported that she will be testing applicants for E911 and Civil Service. Ms. Lindsey reported that she met with Kinross regarding the exhibit barn. The Board advised Ms. Lindsey that Public Works will be hauling the gravel and sand out of the fairgrounds pit after the fair.

Consent:

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$5,000.00 to E911 for a portion of the Sheriff's E911 calls for 2011. (Exhibit 1)

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$5,000.00 to E911 for a portion of the Sheriff's E911 calls for 2011. (Exhibit 2)

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$4,498.00 to the Insurance Fund for the Elected Officials Bonds for 2011. (Exhibit 3)

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$2,000.00 to the Insurance Fund for claim numbers 29339 & 29395, hitting deer claims. (Exhibit 4)

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$20,000.00 to MIS for a portion of the 2011 CE contribution. (Exhibit 5)

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$952.79 to Law Library for a portion of the CE contribution for 2011. (Exhibit 6)

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$523.69 to Insurance Fund for 2011 Ford F350 added to the insurance. (Exhibit 7)

Misc. Non-Department Funds Transfer in the amount of \$381.04 to the Insurance Fund for 1995 Jeep Cherokee added to insurance for Sheriff's Office. (Exhibit 8)

Resolution No. 2011-04 Countywide HMA Paving for county road projects #502, 111, and 113. After review and discussion Commissioner Dansel made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2011-04 Countywide HMA Paving. Commissioner Heath seconded the motion and the motion carried with all in favor. (Exhibit 9)

Lease agreement between Ferry County Connections and Kathryn Ciais. (Exhibit 10)

Roadside Noxious Weed Control Agreement between Ferry County Public Works and Ferry County Weed Control Board to control noxious weeds along county roads. (Exhibit 11)

Contract between Ferry County and Otis Elevator to provide labor and materials to furnish and install an upgrade wheelchair lift. (Exhibit 12)

Summary of work-related injuries and illnesses. (Exhibit 16)

Board of Equalization appointment letter from Margo Locke requesting reappointment to the Board of Equalization. After review and discussion Commissioner Dansel made a motion to reappoint Margo Locke to the Board of Equalization. Commissioner Heath seconded the motion and the motion carried with all in favor. (Exhibit 17)

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Vouchers/Warrants: Funding in the amount of \$420,364.33 has been approved for transfer to the clearing fund for warrant #19151-19211 and direct deposit payment advice #106467-106589 for the following:

Current Expense in the amount of \$203,184.40.

County Road in the amount of \$125,759.84.

Fair Association in the amount of \$722.62.

Auditor's O&M in the amount of \$1,348.46.

Enhanced 911 in the amount of \$33,265.91.

Grant Fund in the amount of \$866.43.

Recreation in the amount of \$1,274.31.

Weed in the amount of \$4,608.67.

Fairgrounds Management in the amount of \$864.17.

Connections in the amount of \$27,287.34.

Management Info Systems in the amount of \$6,787.12.

Insurance Fund in the amount of \$3,120.92.

Fire District #13 in the amount of \$1,811.76.

Fire District #14 in the amount of \$1,803.14.

Fire District #3 in the amount of \$1,049.59.

Curlew Water in the amount of \$226.07.

Inchelium Water District in the amount of \$2,384.46.

EMS District #1 in the amount of \$3,999.12. (Exhibit 13)

Vouchers/Warrants: Funding in the amount of \$120,573.87 has been approved for transfer to the clearing fund for warrant #240217-240320 for the following:

Current Expense in the amount of \$58,314.32.

Drug Abuse in the amount of \$420.97.

Auditor's O&M in the amount of \$276.93.

Enhanced 911 in the amount of \$7,775.40.

Grant Fund in the amount of \$97.41.

Inmate Welfare in the amount of \$2,371.82.

Title III in the amount of \$606.43.

Recreation Fund in the amount of \$1,022.29.

Law Library in the amount of \$952.79.

Weed Control in the amount of \$1,080.60.

Trial Court Improvement in the amount of \$4,804.85.

Connections in the amount of \$2,123.40.

County Capital Improvement in the amount of \$16,384.18.

Management Info Systems in the amount of \$8,481.17.

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Insurance Fund in the amount of \$6,549.73.

Medical Trust in the amount of \$90.63.

Inchelium Water District in the amount of \$4,861.72.

EMS District in the amount of \$4,320.23. (Exhibit 14)

Vouchers/Warrants: Funding in the amount of \$12,791.09 has been approved for transfer to the clearing fund for warrant #240214-240216 for the following:

Current Expense in the amount of \$12,791.09. (Exhibit 15)

EMS District: Board Member Alex Wirt requested a support letter from the Board regarding the grant for the new EMS building. The Board agreed to writing and signing a support letter.

County Website: Assessor Rachel Siracuse met with the Board to discuss the county website. Also present was MIS Director Darrell Dirks. Ms. Siracuse advised the Board that she has been doing the edits and updates on the county website. She currently makes a list of what she is doing and then emails the list to MIS for them to upload. Ms. Siracuse would like to offer her time for uploading information to the web site. The Board would like to make use of Ms. Siracuse offer to handle the updates along with the upload of changes to the county website. The Board approved Ms. Siracuse proceeding with the uploads.

Okanogan Valley Lands Council: Board member John Magoteaux and Board President Walter Henze met with the Board. A sign in sheet is on file. Mr. Magoteaux introduced President Walter Henze to the Board. Mr. Magoteaux advised the Board that he has been on the board of the Okanogan Valley Lands Council since July of 2010 and wanted to let the Board of County Commissioners know what the Okanogan Valley Lands Council does. The Okanogan Valley Lands Council is expanding the outlook of the organization from the Kettle Crest to the Cascades. The Okanogan Valley Lands Council offers land owners with volunteer conservation easements. The land owners place restrictions on their property for the future use of their property. The Board inquired about how this might affect property taxes. Mr. Henze feels that it will not have a negative effect. Mr. Magoteaux provided the Board with a booklet that provides information about the lands council. It explains the tax deductions available to the public. The goal is to help landowners that want to enter into the program. The Board inquired if they focused on keeping the land productive for farming and ranching. The Board inquired if the property owners have some flexibility in the plan. Mr. Magoteaux advised that an easement that is given is pretty flexible. The Board inquired if the land is

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sold what happens to the easement. Mr. Magoteaux advised that if the land is sold the easement goes with the sale.

Risk Management Resolution: Risk Manager Jill Gates met with the Board regarding a draft resolution for risk management and human resource programs. After review and discussion the Board requested Ms. Gates to schedule more time on next week's agenda to finish working on the draft resolution.

Couse's Sanitation Proposal: Cliff and Shirley Couse of Couse's Sanitation and Recycling met with the Board to discuss Couse's Sanitation's proposal to run the transfer station. Also present were Solid Waste Coordinator Kristy Cromwell, Public Works Director Troy Reynolds, Public Works Office Manager/Controller Shelene Brown, Solid Waste Advisory Committee member Alex Wirt and Melissa Rose. Mr. Couse advised that he is here for any questions regarding the proposal he submitted a couple weeks ago. Mr. Couse believes that it will save his customers money and the taxpayers' money. The Board advised that they have many questions. The Board advised that the county would still be the overseer of the transfer station. Mr. Couse advised that it would be a land lease and the county would not need to oversee the operation of the transfer station. The Board advised that it needs to go out for bid as a contract. Mr. Couse understands that it may need to go out to bid but feels that he can make it run more cost effectively. Mr. Couse believes that this will allow him to accommodate his customers better. Mr. Wirt advised that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee recommended that the Board look at a more cost effective way to run the transfer station. The Board advised that they will be looking at the proposal. Mr. Couse would like to have an answer in the near future not 6 months to a year from now.

Donated Leave-Public Works: Public Works Director Troy Reynolds, Office Manager/Controller Shelene Brown met with the Board to discuss donated leave and give an update. Mr. Reynolds would like to purchase two large metal containers. These containers will be used to storage. The price is the same as the last ones purchased. The Board approved. Mr. Reynolds advised the Board that the Golden Tiger Pathway funds will be paid back to the Federal Government by the state local programs. The trail does not have to change its classification. Mr. Reynolds inquired about the hiring freeze. Mr. Reynolds would like to hire part time personnel for summer work as they did last year. It would consist of 4 flaggers and 3 laborers. The Board approved the summer hires. Mr. Reynolds advised the Board that he will be attending training in March. This is the Con Ex training that happens every other year. Mr. Reynolds will provide his own transportation there but would like to have his room paid for. The Board approved. Ms. Brown advised that one of Public Works employee's has used up

all of their FMLA time but still has donated leave. Ms. Brown requested that the Board approve one more day of FMLA and then the rest of the time the employee has requested will be regular leave. The employee is tentatively coming back March 1. The Board approved one leave with no FMLA extension using the donated leave that has already been offered.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned until February 14, 2011.

BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ROBERT L. "BOB" HEATH, Vice Chairman

BRIAN DANSEL, Member

Approved 2/14/11

ATTEST: _____
Debbie Bechtol, Clerk of the Board