

**FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
August 22, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 with Commissioners Miller, Dandel and Heath present. Also present was Citizen Mike Sternberg.

Additions and Corrections to the Agenda: There were no additions or corrections.

Board Reports:

Commissioner Miller – District #1

Airport Property Commissioner Miller is working with Public Works on getting the survey done so we can move forward with the purchase. Once the purchase is complete the County will fully own the property the Airport is situated on.

Commissioner Dandel – District #2

Ruckelshaus Bill 1886 Commissioner Dandel met with citizens from Barstow regarding the Ruckelshaus Bill which is an alternative to the Critical Areas portion of the Growth Management Act (GMA).

NEW Alliance Counseling Service Commissioner Dandel met with Executive Director David Neilson, PhD in Colville to discuss the North Central Washington Regional Support Network (NCWRSN) program and if there has been any more discussion/decisions regarding merging with the Spokane RSN.

Department Heads – Elected Officials Commissioner Dandel performed his weekly visit to the Courthouse to communicate with the other Elected Officials and Department Heads. There were no pressing issues discussed however the Department Heads/Elected Officials have requested to review the Personnel Policy the Board has been up-dating. Commissioner Dandel assured them they would have the opportunity to review and comment on the policy before it is approved and adopted.

Commissioner Heath – District #3

Aging and Long Term Care Commissioner Heath attended the meeting and the 2012-2015 Service Plan was reviewed. They also conducted the annual performance evaluation for the Executive Director.

Elected Officials & Department Heads: Various Elected Officials & Department Heads met with the Board for their monthly update. Attendance sheet is on file.

Courthouse Steps & ADA Ramp: The re-construction of the Courthouse steps and ADA ramp has been completed. The Board has requested a quote from the Construction Company (Beaver Built) to extend the exposed aggregate finish to the bottom of the ramp and out to the City sidewalk.

Employee Parking Areas: The employee parking area in back of the courthouse had fog seal applied to it. The fog seal has not set up properly so Public Works has put sand on to help it to cure.

ADA Chair Lift: There was discussion regarding training the Correction Officers on how to use the ADA Chair Lift to get handicapped inmates to court safely. The remote for the ADA Chair Lift is being kept in the Auditor's Office and the Courts or Jail Staff will need to notify them if the remote is needed after hours so proper arrangements can be made.

Blood Borne Pathogens Training: Ms. Gates reported that the August 30th, 2011 scheduled training has been canceled. She is working with the Hospital to re-schedule in September and all Departments will be notified of the new date.

Prosecutors Annex: The Prosecutors Office is scheduled to be moved on September 12, 2011. There was discussion regarding who will be moving into the current Prosecutor's Office. No decisions were made.

County Cell Phone Policy: Planning Director Irene Whipple has requested that the Cell Phone Policy be updated to allow her department and other departments that may need to take pictures or send texts for county business.

Jail Update: Sergeant Judy Gard reported on the inmate count and the number of inmates who currently need medications provided. Ms. Gard will be checking into other options for purchasing prescription. Ms. Gard announced that she intends to retire next May.

Martin Hall: Commissioner Heath reported that at the Martin Hall facility tour they had a discussion regarding a program that will provide a flat fee for transporting Juvenile's to Martin Hall and to Court. Juvenile Probation Officer Cleve Ives stated this is good news that a program like this will help with the budget and that he will converse the Tri-County Juvenile Department Supervisor regarding this issue.

County Picnic: The Board reported that even though the attendance was low the weather was good and everyone had a good time. This was the first annual county picnic.

Insurance: Commissioner Miller reported that our health insurance will be increasing 9.75% for next fiscal year. The Board will do all they can to cover the cost for employees.

Preliminary Budget Reviews: Ms. Siracuse inquired about when the review process for next year's budget will begin. We will start scheduling individual preliminary budget reviews after the first of September.

Courthouse Heating: Mr. Fagerlie stated he is working getting quotes on boiler systems that use different fuel than what we have now hoping to find options for energy savings.

"Stronger Economies Together" (SET) Program WSU Extension Agent Dan Fagerlie reported that USDA Rural Development in conjunction with WSU Extension and other state and local partners have selected two rural multi-county regions within Washington to participate in the program. The Tri-County Economic Development District encompassing Ferry, Stevens and Pend Oreille Counties was one of the teams that were selected for the project. SET is a program designed to help regional teams develop new approaches to strengthen and enhance regional economic development activities.

Commissioner Staff Updates: Clerk of the Board Debbie Bechtol and Maintenance Director Erin McBride met with the Board to give updates.

Employee Parking Ms. McBride reported that Public Works is putting sand on the parking lot to help cure it. The striping probably won't get done this year it will depend on how long it takes for the parking lot to get to a point that it can be done. Commissioner Miller inquired if the Sheriff's parking area is scheduled to be done as well. Ms. McBride stated she had not thought of that but will seal the cracks.

Prosecutor's Annex There was discussion regarding the grounds at the Prosecutor's Annex and if it is being taken care of. Ms. McBride along with inmates have done the work. The Board directed Ms. McBride to make sure the Annex grounds are not overlooked and kept looking nice.

Swan Lake Fishing Dock Ms. Bechtol received a request from the Sullivan Lake Ranger Station to use a gas powered boat to remove and install a new fishing dock on Swan Lake. The Board approved the request.

PILT Fly-In Washington State Association of Counties has announced that they will be sponsoring a Commissioner to attend the PILT Fly-In in Washington DC. The PILT Fly-In is to lobby for the re-authorization of Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) on forest land which is crucial to our County budget. Commissioner Miller will sign up to possibly receive the sponsorship to attend this very important event at no cost to the County.

Fairgrounds Maintenance Supervisor Larry Maxwell is requesting that during non fair times he use booth #12 as a make-shift office. This will provide a central location that employees or citizens can find him or leave a message when needed. The Board approved the request.

Consent: The Board reviewed and approved the following:

1. Boating Safety Transfer to CE Sheriff in the amount of \$5,219.77 for July 2011 Salary and Benefits. (Exhibit 1)
2. Sheriff, Assessor and Planning Transfer to Cumulative Reserve in the amount of \$71,823.34 for future vehicle replacement. (Exhibit 2)
3. Ferry County Notice of Public Hearing **IN THE MATTER OF:** Ferry County Rail Trail ADA Rules & Regulations Ordinance. **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that at the hour of 1:00 pm, September 19, 2011 in the Commissioners Office located at 290 E. Tessie Ave., Republic, WA a public hearing will be held to receive comments regarding Ferry County's Rail Trail ADA Rules & Regulation Ordinance. Copies of the proposed Ordinance can be obtained by contacting the Ferry County Commissioners Office at (509) 775-5225 ext. 2508 or by e-mail at commissioners@co.ferry.wa.us. This is an open public meeting and all citizens are invited to attend. (Exhibit 3)
4. Local Agency Agreement #LA 7483 Supplement for the Bridge Creek 4 Guardrail project in the amount of \$6,000.00 for construction. (Exhibit 4)
5. Special Use Permit between Ferry County and the Forest Service for use and maintenance of sewage transmission pipeline for the Prosecutors Annex. (Exhibit 5)
6. Ferry County Order to Refund Property Taxes under the provisions of RCW 84.69.020 for the years 2009 & 2010. (Exhibit 6)
7. Letter to the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife requesting that the Gray Wolf be de-listed from the endangered species list which would be consistent with the Federal Department Fish & Wildlife's earlier decision. (Exhibit 7)
8. Authorization Letter to the Recreation Program Manager / Republic & Three Rivers Ranger District giving authorization for Knight EZ Dock Contractor to use a gas powered boat for the removal and installation of a new fishing dock at Swan Lake located in Ferry County. (Exhibit 8)
9. General Release Agreement between Ferry County and the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs for conducting thinning and pruning operations to construct a fire fuel break. (Exhibit 9)
10. Signature and Local Government Certification Form for the Housing and Essential Needs Grant Application between Ferry County Connections and the Department of Commerce. (Exhibit 10)

11. Community Development Block Grant Contract #11-64100-020 between Ferry County Planning and the Department of Commerce for the New Wastewater Treatment Facility and Collection System for the Curlew Sewer and Water District. (Exhibit 11)
12. Homeland Security / Operation Stonegarden Program Contract #E11-292 between Ferry County Department of Emergency Management and the Washington State Military Department providing funds to enhance the capability of state, local and tribal units of government to prevent, respond and recover from catastrophic events. (Exhibit 12)

Public Works Update: Public Works Director Troy Reynolds and Engineer Bob Breshears met with the Board to give updates.

Parking Areas The Board inquired about the back parking area and Mr. Reynolds stated they have applied sand to help the fog seal cure. They will be doing the other parking areas with a more diluted mixture.

Bridge Creek 4 Mr. Reynolds inquired if the supplement for the Bridge Creek 4 project had been signed and it had.

Cell Phone Policy there was discussion regarding the policy and if Public Works has a need to take and send pictures and texts for work purposes. Mr. Breshears and Mr. Reynolds stated that they are doing this now when crews are out on jobs. The policy will need to be amended to reflect these uses.

Complaint Letter Response Public Works had received a complaint letter from a citizen regarding the Customs Road. Public Works drafted a response letter and asked the Board to review it before sending. The Board stated it was well composed and they are pleased with it. Customs Road has been graded and is very smooth at this point.

Fairgrounds Gravel Pit the Board wanted to thank the Republic Shop crew and the Crusher crew for the good clean up job that was done at the Fairgrounds. They also thanked Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Breshears for everything they do and a job well done.

Citizen Thank You Citizen Mike Sternberg thanked Mr. Breshears and Mr. Reynolds for grading Barrett Creek Road.

Warrant Payroll Draw Transfers: Funding in the amount of \$10,615.24 has been approved for transfer to the clearing fund for payment of warrant #19527-19531 and funding in the amount of \$41,042.00 has been approved for direct deposit advice for payment of warrant #107693-107750 for the following:

Current Expense in the amount of \$22,315.24

County Road in the amount of \$22,567.00

Auditor's O&M in the amount of \$275.00

Enhanced 911 in the amount of \$1,700.00

Connections in the amount of \$2,550.00

Management Info Systems in the amount of \$1,550.00

Insurance in the amount of \$700.00

(Exhibit 13)

Commissioners' Working Session: The Board drafted and approved a letter to the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife regarding de-listing the Gray Wolf from the endangered species list.

NEW Trends Website Presentation: Tri-County Economic Development Specialist Julie Abernethy and Eastern Washington University Dr. Patrick Jones, PhD met with the Board to give a power point presentation. Attendance sheet is on file. Ms. Abernethy provided handouts that show the monthly tracking of tourism trends for the years 2010-2011.

Commissioners' Working Session: The Board discussed various comment letters that need to be drafted. There were no letters complete at this time.

With no further business, the Board adjourned until August 29, 2011.

BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FERRY COUNTY, WASHINGTON

BRAD L. MILLER, Chairman

ATTEST: **Approved 9-6-11**

Debbie Bechtol, Clerk of the Board