

**Adjourned Meeting of the Board
Ferry County Commissioners
Monday May 22, 2017**

The meeting was opened at 9:00 a.m. by Commissioner Davis with Commissioner Exner and Commissioner Blankenship present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Changes and Additions to the Agenda

The meetings at 1:00, 1:30, and 2:00 were all combined into one Agenda item.

Board Reports

Commissioner Exner

Commissioner Exner attended the TriCounty Health in Pend Oreille on Wednesday at the Newport Hospital. TriCounty Health has changed the letters that they send out. TriCounty Health has two systems; Treatment and Disposal. The old system is the disposal system and no longer acceptable. Commissioner Exner attended the Tri County Forest Group Meeting on Thursday. The meeting was regarding forest recreation, not on forest restoration.

Commissioner Exner attended the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) Meeting on Thursday night. They discussed moving the meeting location to the TEDD office. They hope to utilize approved plans in other counties in order to streamline the plan for Ferry County. Hopefully it will be finalized by October. Commissioner Exner attended an emergency Rail Corridor Committee (RCC) Meeting on Friday. They had serious concerns about the Board of Commissioners dissolving the RCC. The RCC heard it is going to be turned motorized, Commissioner Exner reassured them that has never been the intention of the Board.

Commissioner Davis

Commissioner Davis attended a Department Head Meeting on Thursday morning. Commissioner Davis attended the Tri County Forest Group Meeting on Thursday. Commissioner Davis said that it is a very diverse group and everyone was being respectful. Commissioner Davis attended the SAR Conference on Saturday. There were a few hiccups, but otherwise it went well. Commissioner Davis said that some SAR Conference attendees are going to be looking for property in Ferry County. Commissioner Davis spoke with a few people regarding the Rail Corridor issue but no one called him directly to address their concerns.

Commissioner Blankenship

Commissioner Blankenship attended Pend Oreille Northeast Tri.County Health Meeting at the Newport Hospital on Wednesday. Discussion was held on the Solid Waste permitting process. The next meeting will be in Republic; they are going to do a workshop on Environmental Health. Commissioner Blankenship attended Tri County Forest Group Meeting on Thursday. They added a small group for Fire Planning and another for Recreation. Currently motorized and non-motorized are combined. They will be adding a group for Grazing and a group for Timber Harvest as well. Commissioner Blankenship attended a Leader's Council Meeting Thursday evening. They now have

a combined Leader's Council with the North and South half of the group. WSU will strive to make a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the southern half of the 4-H group.

Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for Personnel

Public Works Director Troy Reynolds and Human Resource Director Jill Gates were present. The Board went in to Executive Session at 10:00 a.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:30 a.m. No decisions were made.

WSU Extension Update

WSU Extension Director Trevor Lane came before the Board to give an update. Mr. Lane presented the Board with a printed copy of his update and a copy of a Farms & Recreation Map. Mr. Lane will be in California in June learn how to do soil assessments. Mr. Lane reported that the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP) is going well; they still have a few chapters to go to complete the plan. The Governors Summit will be May 31st; they have 8 people signed up for it. Mr. Lane reported that they have a few scholarships left.

Mr. Lane reported that there are Ag grants out. One is for funding for farmers and ranchers with disabilities, and the second is a food grant. The third grant is about composting and leftover food for the food banks. Mr. Lane reported that WSU gave the Curlew school soil and water supplies. Mr. Lane said that they are working things out with the 4-H by-Laws. The shooting sports jamboree was on Saturday, and they have a horse show on June 24th and 25th.

Commissioner Blankenship said that people don't know how to cook anymore because they took home economics out of the schools. He asked Mr. Lane to think about how to add it back in if he is ever in a position to do so.

A copy of the Printed Update is in the file. (Ex. #1)

A copy of the Farms & Recreation Map is in the file. (Ex. #2)

Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for Personnel

Lead Custodian Marty Padilla was present. The Board went in to Executive Session at 11:00 a.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:24 a.m. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Exner made a motion to approve a one year salary increase of \$500 for Lead Custodian Marty Padilla. Commissioner Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent & Vouchers

Commissioner Exner made a motion to approve Ferry County Warrant Register for payroll draws. Commissioner Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Funding in the amount of \$52, 637.71 has been approved for Warrant/Voucher No. 325508-325509 for the following: (Ex. #3)

Current Expense in the amount of \$20,259.77

County Road in the amount of \$26,527.15

Auditor's O&M in the amount of \$360.63

Enhanced 911 in the amount of \$753.55

Solid Waste in the amount of \$2,852.73

Management Information Systems in the amount of \$968.85

Insurance Fund in the amount of \$915.03

Commissioner Exner made a motion to approve Correction to Warrants Previously Approved in 2016-2017. Commissioner Blankenship seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Correction to Warrants Previously Approved in 2016-2017 are as follows: (Ex. #4)

Cancel Warrant No. 31654, 323578, 323738, 323338, & 324242 in the amount of \$1,109.08

Reissue Lost Warrant No. 325510-325512 in the amount of \$967.51

Cancel Lost Warrants No. 323338 & 324242 Do Not Reissue (-\$141.57)

Lunch

The Board recessed for Lunch at 11:37 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Recreation Discussion

Commissioner Davis addressed the audience. Commissioner Davis stated that there has been some confusion regarding the Rail Corridor Committee (RCC), Motorized Trail & Recreation Committee, and the Golden Tiger Pathway Committee dissolution. The County is trying to create a new recreation group that will cover all the recreation groups in the community. The Board asked for feedback from the community to get an idea of what would work for the County. Commissioner Davis stated that no decisions will be made today, this is just the start of the process to create a larger recreation group. Commissioner Davis said that it is not the intention of the Board to turn the Rail Trail into a motorized trail. The Board feels that there is room for both in the County, motorized and non-motorized.

Commissioner Davis stated that the current recreation groups will still be active, but the Board is looking at creating a larger recreation advisory group. Motorized, non-motorized, mountain bikes, horses, ect. will be included in the larger recreation group. Commissioner Exner stated that the Board is discussing dissolving the advisory portion of each recreation group, and to create a new group, nothing else. Commissioner Blankenship stated that at no time has the Board discussed that they want to make the Rail Trail motorized. Commissioner Blankenship reported that the tribe would like to have a joint recreation plan. Commissioner Blankenship also stated that he does not want the trail to be motorized. Ferry County needs to develop a recreation comprehensive plan.

Public Questions/Statements:

Nick Vaccaro asked the Board about the RCC grant, Commissioner Davis stated that the grant is signed by the County, and therefore County responsibility.

Alan Walker asked the Board to coordinate with the newspaper ahead of time so there is less confusion.

Neal Martin feels that the RCC should have full governance over the trail.

Bob Whittaker, President of Rail Trail Partners, stated that the Board signed a Resolution making a section of the Trail motorized. Mr. Whittaker feels that the Grant was denied due to it not being part of a plan.

Falcon Price feels there is a need for a grant review and auditing committee.

Michael Sternberg stated that the RCC is based on a master plan in improving the rail bank in Ferry County. He would like to see the RCC stay as a separate group and to create a separate recreation committee.

Rob Slagle stated that the RCC has established a baseline of excellence. He owns an ATV, but would like to keep them separate. He asked the Board to let the RCC continue doing what they are doing.

Stan Christie, from Motorized Trail and Recreation (MTR), Golden Tiger and Natural Resource Board, likes the idea of having one large Board. He stated that the Board of Commissioners have never wanted to motorize the trail. Mr. Christie said that as a disabled vet, he can legally ride on the Rail Trail, but doesn't want to.

Keith Bell said that they allowed Mr. Christie to speak, but shut down Mr. Whittaker when he tried to speak about the same thing.

Hap Waylon asked if the Board has a plan for the new committee yet. The Board stated that they don't have a plan yet.

Melissa Rose stated that she listened to the audio of the May 1st meeting of the Board of Commissioners when they discussed dissolving the RCC. She believes the Board should keep all the committees as they are.

Tim Coleman said that he has been here for 35 years. A lot of groups and ideas don't work out due to lack of funds, but the RCC has managed. He believes that the Tri County Forest Group is a good place to have these discussions.

Ciel Sander, from Canada, would like to be able to ride all the way to Republic from Canada.

Emily Burt stated that she likes the idea of a larger group sitting down and sharing ideas. She believes that the county should still have the smaller groups as well.

Dave Hedrick agreed with Emily, and with Stan Christie that motorized gets shut down, and they do like to ride on Forest Service land, but he wants to keep the groups as they are.

Joe Koffel stated that small groups work well together, and he believes that working in smaller groups will utilize all of the land.

Don Schroder went to a lot of meetings in the past. He stated that 60% of the vote was for non-motorized.

Nick Vaccaro stated that he feels that the Rail Trail needs to be completed all of the way to Canada to become the first international trail.

Donna Goochey, owner of Tiffany's Resort, stated that the Rail Trail cuts through her property right at her R.V. Park. Ms. Goochey and her guests don't want motorized going through.

John Foster Fanning urges the Board not to dissolve the smaller recreation groups. He believes dissolving the smaller groups will cause a bigger problem.

Commissioner Davis said that they Board is considering a hiring a Parks & Recreation Manager.

John Boyd said that he believes that dissolving the smaller boards are a mistake.

Patty Crane stated that she feels passionate about keeping the current committees in place.

Laurel Scott said that she agrees that the current committees need to stay in place.

Gerry Larson feels that there is an opportunity to start a larger group so that there isn't any further misconceptions like this meeting has caused. He likes the idea that the larger group reporting to the BOCC to be able to better communicate.

Melissa Rose said that some of the issues we are dealing with right now are due to not having a Parks & Recreation Manager. She said that she would work with the County about making a Taxing District to pay for it.

Steve Gorton isn't concerned with motorizing the Rail Trail, he is concerned with making all Board members equal.

Al Eveland said that he is bothered by 'fake news' and believing the lies. He believes we all need to work together equally.

Ron Krause stated that the RCC is doing a wonderful job and needs to be left in place to finish their job. He sees ATV's and dirt bikes going up and down Lambert Creek Road and the state highway and they are unlicensed. He said that law enforcement should be funded by ATV licensing and we need someone dedicated to ATV control.

Pat Regan stated that a lot of misinformation has been floating around. She said that on the Golden Tiger she walks with her walker and gets passed by ATV's frequently. Ms. Regan stated that she really likes the Golden Tiger Pathway.

Artie McRae is the Post Master in Republic and sees hikers, bikers, and backpackers come through. She believes tourism is helpful for our town. She said that the RCC is a small like-minded group that has had success and thinks it's a huge mistake to break them up.

Bobbie Weller, RCC Chair, didn't want a trail to begin with, but decided to make it the best trail there is. The RCC's plan is what gets them funds.

Nathan Miller has heard that the RCC is successful and we can use them as a model for other groups to make them successful.

Stan Christie said that the Golden Tiger is very successful also, and has been for 30 years. Mr. Christie says that there are a few ATV riders that misbehave, but most are responsible drivers. His groups is fighting to have a good name for all motorized.

Michael Sternberg said that he supported the change in the laws for the ATV's on the County Roads, but we do need to report offenders.

Dolly Watkins said that she does see ATV's on the road. Ms. Watkins is on the Back Country Horseman and would like to use the Rail Trail. She would like to see the committees work to resolve

the issues together. Ms. Watkins said that her daughter is visiting with her bike, and commented that sections of the trail are rough and un-ridable.

Ron Krause said that ATV's and dirt bikes went on to their property and tore it up.

Cynthia Bonneau-Green stated that she is not in favor of dissolving any of the smaller groups, but one benefit of a larger committee is to share information about grants available for the smaller groups.

Nils Larsen has a business in Curlew. He agrees the small groups get a lot done, but the larger groups will connect more groups together.

Cynthia Kidwell wanted more clarification on who is allowed on the Rail Trail. She needs more communication so that everyone knows what is allowed. She is a horseback rider, she would like a diversified trail.

Bob Whittaker stated that he is on the Tri County Forest Group and there is a need to promote our trails. He feels that Ferry County needs a recreation plan and maybe we can win a grant for it.

Katherine Mead invited representatives from each group to come to the Republic Visitors Convention Bureau.

Carly McGinley said that she had a group of bicyclists staying at Tiffany's Resort that heard about the Rail Trail through advertising.

Larry Beardslee said that everyone wants the trails, but nobody wants to do the work on them.

Donna Goochey said that she never hears discussions on noise abatement.

Michael Sternberg said that ATV's are bound by the state requirements for noise level.

A copy of the Attendance List is in the file. Not all attendees signed in. (Ex. #5)

Rail Trail Grant Match

Rail Corridor Committee Grant Administrator Keith Bell came before the Board to discuss the Rail Trail Grant Match. Mr. Bell presented the Board with several letters of support for the Grant Match, a list of his equipment qualifications, and a letter from Mr. Bell.

Vault toilet maintenance on the Rail Trail was discussed. The RCC will be taking care of toilet maintenance. Match Certification was discussed. Mr. Bell stated that he is a qualified equipment operator. Mr. Bell reported that they have already completed half of the rail surface that is in Phase 4. They completed it early. He doesn't see why they can't finish the trail all the way to Danville in Phase 4. Mr. Bell said that the entire Match will be met by donated labor, equipment and monetary donations. Mr. Bell read through several documents for the Board.

The Board asked Mr. Bell under what agreement allows Mr. Bell to charge \$43.00 an hour. Mr. Bell stated that he pays himself the state allotted amount. Mr. Bell said that he volunteers half of his time spent on the projects. The Board stated that the County is going to have problems with the State Auditors because of accounting issues. Mr. Bell stated that it feels like the Board is trying to put a stop to the completion of the Rail Trail. The Board said that the lack of back-up documentation on mileage is an issue. Mr. Bell said that he provides all of the back-up documentation to the state for the Grant. Mr. Bell stated that he will provide any documentation that the Board needs.

The Board said that they were not ready to sign off on Phase 4 until they have a chance to look through all of the information that Mr. Bell presented the Board with. They will meet again on May 30th at 10:30 a.m.

A copy of the Letters of Support for the Grant Match are in the file. (Ex. #6)

A copy of the List of Equipment Experience is in the file. (Ex. #7)

A copy of the Letter from Keith Bell is in the file. (Ex. #8)

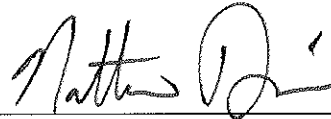
Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for Personnel

Attorney Dennis Morgan was present. The Board went in to Executive Session at 3:07 p.m. The Board came out of Executive Session at 3:27 p.m. No decisions were made.

Unfinished Business

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

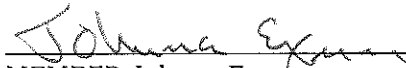
BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FERRY COUNTY, WASHINGTON



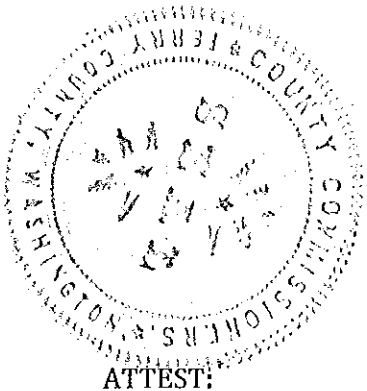
CHAIRMAN, Nathan Davis



VICE CHAIRMAN, Mike Blankenship



MEMBER, Johnna Exner



ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board, Amanda Rowton