

## COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

### Regular Meeting Adams County Public Services Building Othello, Washington

March 9, 2016  
(Wednesday)

**Call to Order @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Present:**

Chairman John N. Marshall  
Commissioner Roger L. Hartwig

**Absent:**

Vice-Chairman Jeffrey W. Stevens

**Integrated Health Care Services**

Commissioner Hartwig moved, Marshall seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign Contract #C17100, 2015-2017 Consolidated Contract, Amendment #5, between Washington State Department of Health and Adams County in the amount of \$7,400 for a total contract award of \$304,701. (Amends Statements for Work for the Office of Drinking Water Group A Program, effective 1/1/2015 – amends the number of surveys (3) to be completed for the period between January-December, 2016 due to the state providing the service in 2015; and, WIC Nutrition Program, effective 1/1/2015 – increase in funding in the amount of \$7,400 for training and travel expenses for WIC staff to attend WIC related training.)*

**Motion carried.**

**Emergency Management**

Director Weise provided updates on the following:

- notification program
- tower project
- EFSEC Evaluated Exercise set for March 31, 2016

**Economic Development**

Adams County Economic Development Director McFadden presented a letter received from Adams County Development Council Chairman Patrick Simmons, recommending the appointment of McFadden to represent economic development on the North Central Workforce Board.

Action was deferred pending the presence of a full Board.

### **Voluntary Stewardship Program**

Building and Planning Director Wiltse, along with Washington Farm Bureau representatives John Stuhmiller, Chief Executive Officer; and, Evan Sheffels, Associate Director of Government Relations met with the Board to discuss the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP). Adams County Farm Bureau President David Leatherman was also in attendance.

An overall view of VSP was presented by Stuhmiller with a brief summary of the program from the time a county accepts VSP funding through the development and implementation of a work plan. Stuhmiller emphasized the program is focused on voluntary actions by farmers and ranchers and is a non-regulatory alternative within the state Growth Management Act (GMA).

Key areas of the legislation approving VSP were reviewed by Stuhmiller, noting the purpose of the act is to establish the voluntary stewardship program as recommended in the report submitted by the William D Ruckelshaus Center as well as:

- Promote plans to protect and enhance critical areas within the area where agricultural activities are conducted, while maintaining and improving the long-term viability of agriculture in the state of Washington and reducing the conversion of farmland to other uses;
- Focus and maximize voluntary incentive programs to encourage good riparian and ecosystem stewardship as an alternative to historic approaches used to protect critical areas;
- Rely upon voluntary stewardship practices as the primary method of protecting critical areas and not require the cessation of agricultural activities; and,
- The program shall be designed to protect and enhance critical areas on lands used for agricultural activities through voluntary actions by agricultural operators.

A revised contract with the Washington State Conservation Commission will be forwarded by Stuhmiller for Board review.

Commissioner Hartwig commented that he will consider the information presented and in making his decision will do what he feels will best serve the agricultural needs of Adams County.

**Adjournment @ 12:00**

Submitted:  
s/Patricia J. Phillips  
Clerk of the Board

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
s/John N. Marshall, Chairman  
-absent-  
Jeffrey W. Stevens, Vice-Chairman  
s/Roger L. Hartwig, Commissioner