

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
Regular Meeting
Adams County Services Building, Othello

September 12, 2001

Call to Order @ 9:00 a.m.

Present:

Chairman Jeffrey W. Stevens
Vice-Chairman Rudy Plager
Commissioner Richard Johnson

Project Alert

Commissioner Plager moved, Stevens seconded, to *authorize the chairman to sign the contract between Adams County Community Counseling Services and the Washtucna School District for provision of staffing services and funding in the amount of \$300 for Project Alert effective 7/01/01 through 6/30/02.* Motion carried.

D.A.R.E.

Commissioner Plager moved, Stevens seconded, to *authorize the chairman to sign the contract between Adams County Community Counseling Services and the Ritzville Police Department providing funding in the amount of \$1,000 for D.A.R.E. services in the Ritzville School District effective 7/01/01 through 6/30/02.* Motion carried.

Commissioner Plager moved, Stevens seconded, to *authorize the chairman to sign the contract between Adams County Community Counseling Services and the Othello Police Department providing funding in the amount of \$5,495.00 for D.A.R.E. services effective 7/01/01 through 6/30/02.* Motion carried.

Commissioner Plager moved, Stevens seconded, to *authorize the chairman to sign the contract between Adams County Community Counseling Services and the Adams County Sheriff's Department providing in the amount of \$5,496.00 for D.A.R.E. services effective 7/01/01 through 6/30/02.* Motion carried.

Speed Limit Reduction on Bench Road and Taylor Road

Engineer Johns issued a memo recommending a speed limit reduction from 50 mph to 40 mph for road segments on Bench Road and Taylor Road. Urbanization in these areas causing congestion was cited as the reason for the speed limit reduction.

Commissioner Johnson moved, Plager seconded, to *reduce the speed limit from 50 mph to 40 mph on the following road segments: 1) Bench Road from State Road 24 to 700 feet west of the centerline of Meadowlark Lane; and, 2) Taylor Road from the centerline of Bench Road to the north right-of-way line of Hampton Road.* Motion carried.

Adams County Weed District

Maxine Taylor and Ed McKay, Othello, expressed concerns with the Weed District and their lack of action with weed control issues within the district. The Board was requested to appoint individuals to the Weed District Board that would be sensitive to enforcement of weed control requirements. The Board indicated willingness to appoint citizens recommended to them provided there were vacancies on the board.

May Road

The Board left the meeting chambers to go on-site to a section of May Road with Bob Killian to review and discuss road issues relevant to development in that area. No decision was expected following the review.

Recess @ 12:05 p.m.

Reconvened @ 7:00 p.m.

*0-835

Ground Water Management Plan (GWMA)

Chairman Stevens convened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m. for the purpose of receiving comments on the *Draft* Ground Water Management Plan.

Kirk Cook, Department of Ecology, made opening comments stating that this was a joint hearing for Adams County and the Department of Ecology as required under WAC173-100. Completion of the hearing would fulfill the requirements necessary prior to the Plan being submitted to the Department of Ecology for certification.

Paul Stoker gave a PowerPoint presentation on the GWMA concept. Ground Water Management Committees, goals, organizational structure, and priorities were identified. Stoker noted that the Plan was based on “voluntary implementation” NOT “regulatory implementation” and would be evaluated by December 31, 2005.

Stoker presented one (1) recommended amendment to the GWMA Plan for *Section 6.4.4.5 Groundwater Treatment to add “The committee recognizes that the application of groundwater which contains high levels of nitrate onto crops may be utilized as a method of nitrate uptake, and in certain situations, considers that the use of crops for nitrate reduction in aquifer zones can provide a benefit to public health and the environment.*

There was one (1) member of the public present. No comments were heard from that individual.

Chairman Stevens noted letters of support from the following entities:

- Washington State Potato Commission
- City of Pasco
- City of Connell
- City of Moses Lake
- City of Ritzville
- City of Mesa
- Town of Mattawa
- City of Royal City
- City of Ephrata
- City of Othello
- City of Quincy
- City of Warden
- Adams Conservation District
- Conservation District Partnership (Ephrata/Othello)
- Franklin Conservation District
- Othello Conservation District
- Moses Lake Conservation District
- Upper Grant Conservation District
- Warden Conservation District

Per requirement the SEPA/Final DNS, a joint Adams County, Franklin County, and Grant County review completed by the Planning Department of each county, was submitted as Attachment B6 of the Plan.

Commissioner Plager commented on his involvement with process noting the time and cooperation of the staff and the committees; and, the insightful goal of the group to let agriculture and the citizens prosper and not regulate them out of business.

Commissioner Johnson commented on his review and personal approval of the work.

Commissioner Stevens commented on the amount of volunteer hours spent on the project by citizens of the county in view of the continuing difficulty finding volunteers these days to fill positions. He commended the management team as well as those commissioners who served prior to this board for their insight in implementing a Ground Water Management Area.

Kirk Cook, Department of Ecology made final comments noting that the six (6) agencies that were signators to the Memorandum of Understanding deemed that progress exceeded their expectations and extended congratulations to the Board of Commissioners, staff, and volunteers. The Department of Ecology considered the public hearing requirements met for purposes of the Plan.

Chairman Stevens closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

Commissioner Plager moved, Johnson seconded, to *accept and approve the Draft Ground Water Management Plan as amended in Section 6.4.4.5.* Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment @ 7:27 p.m.

Submitted:
s/Linda Reimer, CMC/AAE
Clerk of the Board

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
s/Jeffrey W. Stevens, Chairman
s/Rudy Plager, Vice-Chairman

s/Richard Johnson, Commissioner