

## **COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

### **Regular Meeting Adams County Courthouse, Ritzville**

**May 2, 2005**  
(Monday)

#### **Call to Order @ 8:30 a.m.**

#### **Present:**

Chairman Jeffrey W. Stevens  
Vice-Chairman Roger L. Hartwig  
Commissioner Rudy Plager

#### **Public Works**

Update reports were heard from Public Works Director O'Brien, Engineer Johns, Building and Planning Director Wiltse, and Economic Development Analyst Krug.

#### **Public Defenders**

Public Defender Szott and Morgan, along with Subcontractor Felice met with the board to discuss their concerns with the case load and with insufficient staff to adequately fulfill the requirements of the public defender office. Statistics were provided for felony cases appointed to the public defenders for the years 1999-2004; along with preliminary figures for misdemeanor cases for 1999-2003. Szott noted that additional figures and further clarifications were forthcoming; and that they would make an appointment within a few weeks to present a proposal for consideration to assist with the conclusion of this contractual year as well as one for contract renewal.

Special Deputy Prosecutor Strohmaier was present for the discussion.

#### **Recess @ 12:00**

#### **Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.**

#### **Gallagher Reppond**

Nancy Kokenge of Gallagher Reppond met to discuss broker fees and agreed that the firm would disclose commissions as individual products/services were implemented. Three meetings of the Medical

Benefits Advisory Committee will be held between May and July to facilitate employee education and prepare for an insurance bid. Initial focus will be on “pre-tax planning” for the employee.

Chairman Stevens left the meeting at 2:00 p.m. to participate in the Medical Benefits Advisory Committee meeting rejoining the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

**Vote-By-Mail County**

Commissioner Hartwig moved, Plager seconded, to *approve **Resolution No. R-34-05 In the Matter of Authorization to Conduct all Adams County Elections Vote-By-Mail.** Motion carried.*

**Meeting Relocation**

The regular May 18, 2005, Wednesday meeting scheduled for Ritzville, will be held at the Town Hall of Lind, Washington.

**Ritzville Library District #2**

Commissioner Plager moved, Hartwig seconded, to *appoint retroactive Tom Pulliam to the Ritzville Library District #2 Board filling the unexpired term of Maureen Harder effective January 1, 2005 through December 13, 2008. Motion carried.*

Commissioner Hartwig moved, Stevens seconded, to *appoint retroactive Joan Plager to the Ritzville Library District #2 Board effective December 14, 2004 through December 13, 2009. Motion carried.* Commissioner Plager abstained from the vote.

**Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Plager moved, Hartwig seconded, to *approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.*

Preliminary minutes of April 25 and 27, 2005

Vouchers audited and certified by the Adams County Auditor as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 and recorded on a listing, which was made available to the board. These vouchers were listed as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Control Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
001	052101-052137	\$ 50,225.80

001	Hand Pay	\$	621.95
103	052138-052140	\$	760.50
104	052141-052151	\$	5,205.18
106	052152	\$	444.69
108	052153-052156	\$	1,146.76
112	052157-052158	\$	797.00
115	052159	\$	190,936.77
117	052160-052162	\$	3,964.58
166	052163-052166	\$	603.27
166	Hand Pay	\$	1,943.55
401	052167	\$	611.56
502	052168-052172	\$	1,720.58
	TOTAL		\$258,982.19

**Steve Heeb**

Steve Heeb, Othello, filed a verbal complaint against the Sheriff's Office regarding some recent actions concerning his property.

**2004 Annual Report**

Auditor McBroom filed a copy of the 2004 Adams County Annual Report with the Board of Commissioners.

**Permanent Minutes Signed**

April 18 and 20, 2005

**Correspondence Received**

Ritzville Library District #2, Rebecca Cramer, Secretary re: recommendation for appointment of Tom Pulliam to fill un-expired term of Maureen Harder

Copy of letter to All Support Staff (of Prosecutor's Office) from Prosecutor Flyckt

Department of Ecology Janet L. Carlson re: Certification of Completion of Water Conservancy Board Training for Rudy Plager

**Adjournment @ 4:30 p.m.**

Submitted:  
s/Linda Reimer, MMC  
Clerk of the Board

Edited and Approved:

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

**RESOLUTION NO. R-34-05**

**ORDER OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT ALL ADAMS COUNTY  
ELECTIONS VOTE-BY-MAIL**

**WHEREAS**, 88% of the registered voters in Adams County currently vote by mail and that percentage continues to grow; and,

**WHEREAS**, elections conducted by mail in Adams County have historically resulted in significantly higher voter participation; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 requires the acquisition of Direct Recording Electronics (DRE) in every polling location; and,

**WHEREAS**, converting Adams County to all vote-by-mail would create a permanent, voter-verifiable paper record of each voter's ballot in every election and that paper record does not currently exist with DREs; and,

**WHEREAS**, the small number of poll site voters creates a disproportionate expense on polling places, ballot production, and related expenses; and,

**WHEREAS**, approximately \$50,000 in federal funds allocated through the Office of the Washington State Secretary of State to Adams County allows the purchase of new election equipment; and,

**WHEREAS**, by implementing the Help America Vote Act as a vote-by-mail county, the allocated federal funds would cover most implementation expenses, thus significantly reducing the burden on the taxpayers of Adams County;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVE** that the Adams County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Adams County Auditor to undertake any and all actions required to conduct all Adams County Elections by mail in accordance with State law.

**DATED** this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2005.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
s/Jeffrey W. Stevens, Chairman  
s/Roger L. Hartwig, Vice-Chairman  
s/Rudy Plager, Commissioner

ATTEST:  
s/Linda Reimer, MMC  
Clerk of the Board