

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Adams County Courthouse Ritzville, Washington Regular Meeting

May 17, 2021
(Monday)

The meeting was held virtually via GoToMeeting.

Call to Order @ 8:30 a.m.

Present:

Chairman Dan C. Blankenship
Vice-Chairman Terrance J. Thompson
Commissioner Jay R. Weise

Juvenile Department

Juvenile Department Administrator Garza provided updates on the following:

- graffiti – 95% of graffiti has been removed;
- the Aggression Replacement Training (ART) class has been completed with 100% of the attendees graduating and, to date, have not reoffended;
- the JDAI implementation plan is being developed;
- efforts in the schools to educate students on juvenile justice and ways to stay out of trouble; and,
- community truancy boards have been halted until the start of the next school year.

Garza requested an update on the progress of the placement of permanent dividers/security screens in the juvenile department; and, requested consideration of replacement vehicles in his department.

Additionally, Garza presented a written request for the Board to consider making the part-time secretary position in the juvenile department a full-time position, funded with JDAI grant funds; and, the JDAI Coordinator position, previously funded by JDAI grant funds, be fully funded within current expense. The information presented will be forwarded to Human Resource Manager Perez to provide an assessment of the monetary impact the suggested modifications will have.

Liquid Asphalt Products 2021

Bids were opened from:

Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions 3152 Selph Landing Road Pasco, WA 99301	\$399.00 per ton \$120.00 Demurrage Charge
Idaho Asphalt Supply, Inc. 16425 W. Prairie Avenue Hauser, ID 83854	\$355.02 per ton \$125.00 Demurrage Charge

Engineer's Estimate: \$450.00 per ton.

Certificate of Good Practice

Chairman Blankenship presented the County Road Administration Board "Certificate of Good Practice" to Engineer Scott Yaeger. This certificate was transmitted to the State Treasurer on behalf of the county pursuant to RCW 36.78.090 and assures the continued distribution of the county's monthly state gas tax allotment from the Office of the State Treasurer.

Public Works

Public Works Director O'Brien provided the weekly update on road maintenance noting crackseal is commencing in the Othello area; on-going tasks include gravel road maintenance, vegetation control; and, soil stabilization.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Director O'Brien reported a Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) meeting was held Wednesday, May 12, 2021, noting a recommendation was made for the Board of Commissioners to consider a rate for handling of special waste to include oversize materials. O'Brien will prepare a proposal and bring the same before the Board for consideration.

Bruce Transfer Station Recycling Building

Based on the recommendation of Architect Paul R. Coppock, The DOH Associates, Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to *approve Application for Payment #6 (Retainage), in the amount of \$20,032.00 (includes state sales tax) to Dug Excavation, LLC, Othello, Washington, on the Bruce Transfer Station Recycling Building project, for the period May 5, 2020 to May 11, 2021. **Motion carried.***

Engineering

Engineer Yaeger provided updates on the following projects:

- Lind-Hatton #5 – project is underway with completion planned for June 14, 2021. The contractor will apply the base with the county providing paving.
- Booker Road/SR 26 Intersection Safety – a preconstruction meeting will be held this week with a preliminary schedule set for June 7 through July 19, 2021.
- Booker Road Overlay – preparing to go to bid on the project with construction planned between August and September, 2021.
- Cunningham Road #2 – project is scheduled for construction in 2022 with the engineering department well into the design phase.
- Town of Lind – a request has been received from the Town of Lind for the county to prep and paint four (4) railroad crossings in Lind, on a reimbursable basis, through an Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Lind and Adams County. The county will prepare an estimate for the work, submit the same to the Lind Mayor, and the Public Works department will then bring it before the Board for approval. An additional estimate is being prepared for pavement repair on three (3) streets within the Town of Lind.

Booker Road Overlay #1 Project

Commissioner Thompson moved, Weise seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign Updated Local Agency Federal Aid Project Prospectus; and, the Local Agency Agreement, Supplement No. 1, between Adams County and Washington State Department of Transportation for the purpose of requesting construction funding for the Booker Road Overlay #1 Project, Federal Aid Project Number STPR-A013 (008).* **Motion carried.**

McKinney Road Project #1 (CRP-192)

Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to *approve Contract Amendment #1 for RAP Project 0119-01 on the McKinney Road Project #1 (CRP-192) for the total RATA funding of \$814,700.* **Motion carried.**

Lind-Hatton Road Project #3 (CRP-191)

Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to *approve Contract Amendment #1 for RAP Project 0119-02 on the Lind-Hatton Road Project #3 (CRP-191) for the total RATA funding of \$2,309,400.* **Motion carried.**

Declaration of Hazardous Fire Conditions

Adams County Fire Marshall Andie Lorenz appeared virtually to request consideration of a resolution to implement a burn ban in Adams County, effective June 1, 2021.

Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to *approve*
Resolution No. R-024-2021 In the Matter of Declaration of Hazardous Fire Conditions. Motion carried.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meeting was called to order at 11:04 a.m. Present in addition to Treasurer Meise were Auditor Hunt; Chairman Blankenship; Vice-Chairman Thompson; Commissioner Weise; and, Prosecutor Flyckt.

Treasurer Meise reviewed 2021 Property Tax Collection activity.

Auditor Hunt reviewed the 2020 Annual Report.

Treasurer Meise reported she was contacted by the Department of Revenue regarding renewable energy projects in Adams County and was advised that an application has been made for a refund of the state and local sales tax paid on one of the projects. The amount of the refund is calculated pursuant to RCW 82.08.962 with a request of \$455,383.83 payable by the county.

The sales and use tax exemption has been modified and extended for certain solar and other renewable energy systems purchased or installed after January 1, 2020 and expires January 1, 2030. Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill (E2SSB) 5116 provides for a partial refund of the sales and use tax paid on machinery and equipment, and labor and services related to their installation of certain renewable energy systems.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

The Finance Committee adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Recess @ 12:03 p.m.

Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.

Leave Policies

The Board met to continue the discussion regarding county leave policies.

Present were Prosecutor Flyckt; Civil Deputy Prosecutor Barden, Public Works Director O'Brien; Human Resource Manager Perez; and, Payroll Deputy Bowman.

O'Brien reviewed past discussions with the Board regarding a move toward a Paid Time Off (PTO) program, for non-represented employees, to replace the current county annual leave and sick leave programs. The annual and sick leave benefits would be looped together into a PTO bucket with the Washington State Paid Leave in a separate bucket within payroll. It was noted that, should the Board implement a policy change, said change will not be imposed on represented employees and will need to be addressed during bargaining unit negotiations.

Additionally noted was the implementation of a PTO program will impact various current county policies. O'Brien reviewed the accrual and use of sick leave within his department, noting policies have been implemented to encourage employees to bank sick leave for appropriate use, further noting a PTO program will produce a more manageable amount of productive worktime within his department.

The Board, noting the issue at the forefront is the separation of Washington State Paid Leave and county provided sick leave, requested recommendations on the best process to move forward with implementation of two separate buckets of sick leave within the payroll system. The capping of sick leave and the amount of sick leave an employee is allowed to accumulate will need to be addressed. A PTO policy may be considered at a later date.

Adams County Development Council (ACDC)

Adams County Development Council Manager Janis Rountree, along with ACDC Board members Dave Baumann and Ken Caylor, submitted a *draft* proposal of a Public Sector Service Contract between ACDC and Adams County for the purpose of continuing economic development work on behalf of Adams County and its cities and towns. Outlined in the draft contract were deliverables on the part of ACDC and requested funding from the county. Prosecutor Flyckt will review the document. No action was taken pending further discussion.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Thompson moved, Weise seconded, to *approve the Consent Agenda*. **Motion carried.**

Preliminary minutes of May 10 and 12, 2021

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	1419 – 1430	\$ 9,246.27
103	1431 – 1434	\$ 4,451.74
112	1435 – 1436	\$ 165.71
131	1437	\$ 1,903.82
502	1438	\$ 254.02
108	698	\$ 318.68
115	699 – 707	\$262,994.22
401	708 – 714	\$ 22,660.12
501	715 – 719	\$ 3,676.41
590	720 – 738	\$ 54,197.19
	TOTAL	\$359,868.18

Permanent Minutes Signed

April 24 and 26, 2021

May 3 and 5, 2021

Correspondence Sent:

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers re: Support for the Congressionally directed funding request submitted by the Columbia Basin Development League

Adjournment @ 3:12 p.m.

Submitted:

s/Patricia J. Phillips, CMC

Clerk of the Board

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Chairman
s/Terrance J. Thompson, Vice-Chairman
s/Jay R. Weise, Commissioner

**RESOLUTION NO. R-024-2021
ORDER OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

IN THE MATTER OF DECLARATION OF HAZARDOUS FIRE CONDITIONS

WHEREAS, Adams County is experiencing weather conditions that are contributing to unusual fire conditions, and the potential for large and catastrophic fires exists that may be a threat to life and cause damage or destruction to homes, businesses, orchards/farmlands and natural resources.

WHEREAS, the potential for damage to homes and businesses, orchards/farmland and natural resources is high.

WHEREAS, the Adams County Fire Marshal, due to prior history within Adams County, has determined and hereby declares, that hazardous situations exist between June and September.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Section #1: It is hereby declared that a hazardous situation exists and that actions involving various county and other local agencies must be taken to help alleviate threats and damages.

Section #2: Due to hazardous fire conditions existing in Adams County there is established a burn ban by the Commissioners on outdoor burning of combustible materials in the county.

Combustible materials may include, but are not limited to, outdoor burning of yard waste and non-emergent agricultural burning.

Section #3: The Adams County burn restriction does not affect fires at State or Federal campgrounds in approved devices (check for state or federal bans); agricultural burning such as the burning of field crop residue and orchard tear out residue; and, weed abatement by state or federal irrigation districts, provided the burning is permitted and conducted in accordance with the Washington Department of Ecology. (For more information on agricultural burning, contact the Adams County Fire Marshal's office, local Adams County Fire Districts and the Department of Ecology directly.)

Section #4: Exempt Recreational Fires:

The use of gas or charcoal fired barbecues is allowed.

The Adams County Commissioners, Adams County Fire Marshal and/or the Fire District Chief may allow a recreational fire exemption during times when outdoor burning fires are prohibited providing:

This exemption will only apply to those improved private recreational areas located within Adams County.

Recreational fires shall not be conducted within twenty five (25) feet of a structure or combustible material. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within twenty five (25) feet of a structure or combustible material shall be eliminated prior to ignition. Recreational fires shall be no larger than three feet in diameter and shall not be associated with any debris, yard, or garden clean-up.

Attendance:

Open burning, camp fires, or recreational fires shall be constantly attended until the fire is completely extinguished. The attendant shall have some form of fire-extinguishing equipment such as a shovel and dirt, sand, class A fire extinguisher, water barrel, garden hose, or water truck sufficient to extinguish the fire and available for immediate use.

Section #5: Definitions:

Open Burning: The burning of materials wherein the products of combustion are emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from an enclosed chamber. Open burning does not include road flares, smudge pots and similar devices associated with safety or occupational uses typically considered open flames or recreational fires. For the purpose of this definition, a chamber shall be regarded as enclosed when, during the time combustion occurs, only apertures, ducts, stacks, flues or chimneys necessary to provide combustion air and permit the escape of exhaust gas are open.

Recreational Fire: An outdoor fire burning material, other than rubbish, where the fuel being burned is not contained in an incinerator; outdoor fireplace; or barbecue grill and is contained within a three (3) feet or less diameter concrete or steel ring no less than eight (8) inches in height and has a total fuel area of three (3) feet or less in diameter and two (2) feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

Section #6: The Adams County Fire Marshal may grant campgrounds or special events an exemption to a burn ban upon application to the Adams County Fire Marshal and the payment of a processing fee in the amount of sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) per hour with a minimum of one (1) hour. Any exemption shall contain such conditions as the Fire Marshal and applicable Fire District deem necessary to mitigate the concerns for extreme fire hazard. Such exemptions and conditions shall be in writing and included in the exemption permit issued by the Fire Marshal's Office. A copy of the permit shall be prominently posted at the burning site. An exemption permit issued by the Fire Marshal shall satisfy the requirements for the applicable Fire District where the property is located.

Section #7: Violations:

The performance of any act prohibited by this resolution shall be considered a violation subject to the provisions of Adams County Code Title 1.16 "**General Penalty**".

1.16.010 Designated.

A. Any person violating the provisions of or failing to comply with the mandatory requirements of any ordinance of Adams County is guilty of a misdemeanor. Except in cases where a different punishment is prescribed by ordinance, any person convicted of a misdemeanor under the ordinances of Adams County shall be punished by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars or by imprisonment not to exceed ninety days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

B. A person is guilty of a separate offense for each and every day that a violation of any provision of the ordinances of Adams County is committed, continued or permitted by the person, and he may be punished accordingly. (Ord. O-2-91 § 1)

Section #8: This burn ban is effective June 1, 2021 and will continue to be enforced until official notice is made rescinding the burn ban by the Board of Commissioners for Adams County, Washington.

Dated this 17th day of May, 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Chairman
s/Terrance J. Thompson, Vice Chairman
s/Jay R. Weise, Commissioner

ATTEST:
s/Patricia J. Phillips, CMC
Clerk of the Board