

## **COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

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

**October 12, 2011  
(Wednesday)**

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

**Present:**

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

**Building Inspector Services for City of Ritzville**

The Board and Loren Wiltse, Building and Planning Director, as well as Building Inspector Andy Lorenz, reviewed the *proposed* Interlocal Agreement received from the City of Ritzville for that entity to use the professional services of the county's building inspector. The proposal reflected a reduction in fees for the county from that differed from prior agreements with the City of Ritzville. Following discussions, Wiltse was asked to negotiate terms that will have the additional duties, at a minimum, be cost effective for the department/County.

**Adams County Fairgrounds Plat No. 1 (Pet Rescue)**

Final signatures were placed on the Adams County Fairgrounds Plat No. 1 (Pet Rescue). Recording fees and additional copies of the Plat will be paid from Fund #111.

**Budget Workshop – Othello District Court**

Judge Gary Brueher and Jessica Melo, staff, reviewed the departmental proposed 2012 budget. Judge Brueher noted that a capital outlay item for a filing cabinet in the amount of \$2,500 was included.

Discussion was held on the proposed "Adult Probation" position for the court. The Board pointed out that this program/position would, if implemented, be a "pilot" program.

**Voluntary Stewardship Program**

John Stuhlmiller, State Farm Bureau, along with members of the local Farm Bureau, addressed the Board regarding the “Voluntary Stewardship Program”.

Stuhlmiller noted that The Ruckelshaus Center facilitated four (4) years of negotiations on the program to create an alternative to new regulations on agriculture under the Growth Management Act.

Counties that opt in to the VSP are provided the opportunity to have stakeholders create voluntary programs that protect critical areas associated with agricultural activities while maintaining and enhancing the viability of agriculture. Counties would have three (3) years to complete the local process to identify goals and create local plans beginning **after** the county accepts funding from the state. The decision to opt into the VSP and the subsequent plans are not subject to legal challenge. A series of tasks must be completed to enable a county to opt into the program.

For counties that do not opt into the VSP by January 22, 2012, the county must review and, if necessary, revise its Critical Areas Ordinance related to agriculture. This update must be completed by July, 2013.

Following questions and further discussion, the Program Proposal was accepted for further review and consideration.

**Adjournment @ 12:15 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/Rudy Plager, Vice-Chairman  
s/Roger L. Hartwig, Commissioner