

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting
Adams County Courthouse
Ritzville, Washington

December 18, 2019

(Wednesday)

Call to Order @ 9:00 a.m.

Present:

Chairman John N. Marshall
Vice-Chairman Roger L. Hartwig
Commissioner Terrance J. Thompson

[9:04:00 AM](#)

Othello District Court Agreement

City of Othello representatives met with the Board for review of the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Othello and Adams County regarding RCW 39.34.180.

Present at the meeting were City of Othello representatives Mayor Logan; Chief Schenck; Finance Officer Williams; and, council members Genna Dorow and John Lallas. County staff present were Sheriff Wagner, Prosecutor Flyckt, Auditor Hunt, and HR Manager Perez.

A letter, dated December 2, 2019, was sent to the City of Othello with the Boards' final proposal in negotiating the terms of the Interlocal Agreement for District Court Services. The Board proposed for Adams County to continue to retain fines; the City of Othello will pay \$94,000 for prosecution costs; \$30,000 for indigent defense services; \$10,000 for probation officer services; and, \$50,000 for additional costs of maintaining the court. The conditions would commence as of January 1, 2020 for a three (3) year contract ending on December 31, 2022. Additionally, all charges will be increased annually at the rate of seven (7) percent. If an agreement is not reached between Adams County and the City of Othello by Friday, December 20, 2019, Adams County will continue to provide court services through December 31, 2020, at which time the contract for services will be terminated. Jail and incarceration services may be negotiated separately.

At 9:11 a.m., City of Othello representatives requested a five (5) minute break to discuss the matter at which time Chairman Marshall recessed the meeting.

[9:11:00 AM](#)

[9:26:37 AM](#)

At 9:26 a.m. Commissioner Marshall reconvened the meeting. Costs of district court services were reviewed. Mayor Logan presented a counter offer of \$144,000 annually with a seven percent (7%) increase annually.

Commissioner Marshall stated that the offer is still lower than what the county is requiring with the Board concurring to decline the offer.

Both parties reviewed their offers with Councilman Lallas noting that the matter will be taken back to the city council for a vote, however the earliest that will be is in January, 2020.

Prosecutor Flyckt agreed that the city council, as the legislative authority of the City of Othello, needs to have a vote on this matter. The Board has delivered their final offer in the form of a letter dated December 2, 2019 that, if not accepted by December 20, 2019, constitutes a one year notice of termination. Mayor Logan concurred that the City of Othello will accept the date of December 20, 2019 as notice of termination of services. The City of Othello will schedule a January, 2020 date to meet with the Board to finalize the matter once the City of Othello council has had the opportunity to meet and discuss the same.

[9:57:29 AM](#)

[9:58:20 AM](#)

Shared Annual Leave

The Board granted **consensus approval of a request to share annual leave for an employee in the Corrections Department of the Sheriff's Office (Josh Grimm).**

[10:01:24 AM](#)

Quarterly Jail Inspection

The Board conducted the 2019 fourth quarter jail inspection with Jail Administrator Williams.

[11:12:15 AM](#)

WSU Cooperative Extension Personnel

WSU Coordinator Esser reported the Extension Program Assistant has resigned. Esser requested and received **consensus authorization to begin the process of filling the position of Extension Program Assistant in the WSU Extension Office.**

[11:19:11 AM](#)

[11:45:46 AM](#)

Personal Health

Commissioner Hartwig moved, Thompson seconded, to *approve a half-*

*time public health nursing position in the Integrated Health Care Services Department with an additional \$35,000 from Current Expense added to the 2020 Public Health Budget to assist in funding the position. **Motion carried.***

WSU Cooperative Extension

Commissioner Thompson moved, Hartwig seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign Memorandum of Agreement, Appendix A, between Washington State University Extension and Adams County, authorizing funding to provide an extension program in the amount of \$74,186 for the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019. **Motion carried.***

[11:48:21 AM](#)

Collective Bargaining

The Board called for a fifteen (15) minute session closed to the public pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) “that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining,...”. Session began at 12:00 and ended at 12:15 p.m. Prosecutor Flyckt and Human Resource Manager Perez were present.

Adjournment @ 12:20 p.m.

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

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
s/John N. Marshall, Chairman
s/Roger L. Hartwig, Vice-Chairman
s/Terrance J. Thompson, Commissioner