

# MINUTES

## GRANT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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### MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2013

The Grant County Commissioners session began at 8:30 a.m. with all Commissioners in attendance.

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Elected Official Roundtable Meeting
10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Citizen Public Comment Period <b>(No public in attendance)</b>
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
1:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.	Open Record Public Hearing, 2013 Year End Budget Extensions

The Commissioners held an Open Record Public Hearing to consider the following Grant County Budget Extensions:

1. Fairgrounds Fund #116, Department #159 in the amount of \$200,000.00 to cover operating expenses for the remainder of 2013;
2. Museum Construction Fund #304 in the amount of \$213,390.00 to allow Museum management to replace items lost during the 2010 fire;
3. REET – Property Tax Administration Assistance Fund #139, Department #191 in the amount of \$20,000.00 to track the resources collected and expenses incurred in accordance with RCW 82.45.180 for real estate and property tax administration;
4. Grant County Tourism Fund #114, Department #156 in the amount of \$11,000.00 to cover the cost of expenses through the end of 2013;
5. Homeless Housing Fund #130, Department #172 in the amount of \$50,000.00 to cover additional revenue received in 2013;
6. Life Insurance and EAP Fund #508, Department #188 in the amount of \$50,000 to cover unexpected expenses.
7. New Hope Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services Fund #128, Department #170 in the amount of \$53,270.00 to reflect an increase in revenue from a series of grants and contracts with state, local, and private entities and the resulting increase in staffing costs.
8. Directions in Community Living Fund # 125, Department #167 in the amount of \$258,900.00 to reflect an increase in revenue from Washington State and the resulting increase in staffing costs.
9. Emergency Management Fund #102, Department #144 in the amount of \$50,000.00 to receive Homeland Security grant funds for Contract FFY10 SHSP E11-109 not included in their 2013 budget.

Jacob Taylor, Chief Accountant, discussed each item.

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Commissioner Swartz moved to close the public comment portion of the hearing. Commissioner Stevens seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Stevens moved to approve the budget extension as presented. Commissioner Swartz seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The hearing adjourned. **(Approved, Resolution No. 13-092-CC)**

- 2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.                    T Hechler, Human Resources Update
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.                    Open Record Public Hearing, Ordinance to consider a Tax on Prepaid Wireless Telecommunications Service in a Retail Transaction for Enhanced 911 Excise Tax

The Commissioners held an Open Record Public Hearing to consider an Ordinance relating to the imposition of Excise Tax for the continued operations of an Enhanced 911 Emergency Telephone System, and amending Ordinance No. 10-079-CC.

Counties are currently authorized to levy an excise tax in an amount of 70 cents per month on the use of each switched access line in their county, 70 cents per month on the use of each radio access line whose place of primary use is located within their county, and 70 cents per month on each interconnected voice over internet protocol services line whose place of primary use is located within their county. The money from the excise taxes must be used to fund the Enhanced 911 telephone system. Chapter 82.14B RCW did not explicitly address prepaid wireless telecommunications service.

Consistent with chapter 82.14B RCW, Grant County adopted Ordinance No. 10-079-CC imposing the excise taxes authorized thereunder within Grant County to fund enhanced 911 telephone system.

Chapter 8, Laws of Washington 2013 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Session authorizes counties, as of January 1, 2014, to impose, on the consumer who purchases a prepaid wireless telecommunications service in a retail transaction occurring within their county, an enhanced 911 excise tax in an amount not to exceed 70 cents per retail transaction.

Jackie Jones, Director of the Multi Agency Communications Center (MACC) read into the record the following:

This amendment is required due to an RCW change enacted by the State Legislature which shifts the obligation to collect and remit the existing 911 telephone excise tax for prepaid wireless from the services provider (cellular company) to the seller (retailer) effective January 1, 2014. This amendment changes the point at which our county tax is levied from monthly service to each retail transaction. Again, this is for prepaid wireless service only – the amendment does not make any changes to the traditional (or postpaid) wireless, wireline, or VoIP 911 excise taxes. The amendment inserts prepaid wireless as a separate type of service and imposes the same requirements and penalties on retailers as currently exist for service providers.

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While passage of this amendment is expected to be revenue neutral, failure to enact the ordinance could result in a significant revenue loss. It is difficult to accurately predict the impact as the existing law did not distinguish between prepaid and postpaid wireless service so the two have been tracked together. However, industry analysts estimate thirty-three percent (33%) of all wireless customers nationwide now use prepaid wireless. We are estimating five hundred thousand (\$500,000) in revenue from the wireless excise tax in Twenty-Fourteen (2014). If the thirty-three percent (33%) trend holds true for Grant County, failure to enact this amendment could result in the loss of approximately one hundred, sixty-five thousand dollars (\$165K) from the excise tax.

We are also required to collect the maximum excise tax allowed by RCW in order to qualify for funding from the state 9-1-1 office. In twenty-fourteen [2014] we expect thirty-five thousand five hundred (\$35,500) in reimbursements with the state directly paying additional funds for telephone network and database services on our behalf.

The four point seven (4.7%) drop in revenue combined with the obligation to pay the network and database charges out of our budget would necessitate either a service cut or an increase in the fees paid by the cities, counties, and fire districts from their general funds. Failure to enact this amendment would also create an inequity between users of the different types of telephone services.

Commissioner Swartz asked who is currently paying this tax. Ms. Jones stated that currently, AT&T and Verizon are paying this tax but not the smaller service providers, like Trac phone.

Cameron Probert, iFiberone News, asked about changes to the money coming in. Ms. Jones stated her understanding is that our current Ordinance doesn't state specifically out to allow for prepaid wireless tax. She is asking for a change to the current Ordinance so MACC can collect that tax.

Commissioner Stevens moved to close the public comment portion of the hearing. Commissioner Swartz seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Swartz moved to approve the amendment to the Ordinance for Enhanced 911 telephone services as presented. Commissioner Stevens seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The hearing adjourned. **(Approved, Ordinance/Resolution No. 13-093-CC)**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2013**

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Consent Agenda (Items 1 through 19)

**COMMISSIONERS OFFICE**

1. Commissioners Office and Public Defense Vouchers for approval. **(Approved)**
2. Commissioners December 2 and 9, 2013 Minutes for approval. **(Approved)**

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3. **Resolution No. 13-090-CC** setting the 2014 appointments of Commissioners to Boards and Committees. **(Approved)**
4. **Resolution No. 13-091-CC** in the matter of establishing the effective date of salaries and benefits for non-union and non-association personnel, for 2014. **(Approved)**
5. Possible vouchers for Interfund Communications, insurance, and/or grant administration. **(Approved)**
6. **Anticipating:** Contract between Grant County and Engineered Control Services, Inc., for replacement and expansion of the Electronic Controls for Detention and Building operations for County Youth Services. **(Not ready for signature)**
7. 2014 Grant County Sheriff Towing Contract between Grant County, by and through the Grant County Sheriff's Office, and Jeff's Towing & Recovery. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Approved)**
8. Telemedicine Services Agreement between Grant County, by and through Grant Integrated Services' Grant Mental Health Care and Seattle Children's Hospital for the provision of Telepsychiatry Services. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Approved)**
9. Professional Services Agreement for Legal Representation of Indigent Individuals in Grant County Superior Court (Adult Felony Only), Full Time Contractor, between Grant County and Robert S. Kentner. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015. **(Approved)**
10. **Anticipating:** Professional Services Agreement for Legal Representation of Indigent Individuals in Grant County Superior Court (Adult Felony Only), Conflicts/Overflow, between Grant County and Dovie Sigle. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015. **(Did not arrive for signature)**
11. Professional Services Agreement for Legal Representation of Indigent Individuals in Grant County District Court, between Grant County and Patrick Earl. Term is January 1 through December 31, 2014. **(Approved)**
12. 2014 Professional Services Agreement, Interpreter, between Grant County and Saul C. Castillo, dba The Interpreter. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Approved)**
13. 2014 Professional Services Agreement, Interpreter, between Grant County and Ross Miller. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Approved)**
14. 2014 Professional Services Agreement, Investigator, between Grant County and Taylor Kindred, dba Acute Investigations, LLC. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Approved)**
15. **Anticipating:** 2014 Professional Services Agreement, Investigator, between Grant County and Marc Doney, aka Citadel Investigations. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Not ready for signature)**
16. **Anticipating:** 2014 Professional Services Agreement, Investigator, between Grant County and Karl Calhoun, dba Calhoun Investigations. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Not ready for signature)**
17. **Anticipating:** 2014 Professional Services Agreement, Investigator, between Grant County and Jeff Wade, dba Wade Investigative Agency, Inc. Term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Not ready for signature)**

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18. Application/Agreement between Grant Integrated Services – New Hope Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services and Grant County United Way. The term is January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. **(Approved)**
19. Grant County Request for Reimbursement No. 4 on CDBG Public Services Grant No. 13-65400-005 for the month of November, 2013, with the Department of Commerce and administered through the OIC of Washington, in the amount of \$12,810.81. **(Approved)**

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

20. Sales Order between Grant County, by and between the Planning Department, and Paladin Data Systems Corporation, for the purchase of SMARTGov SaaS Software, SMARTInspection Assistant, and SMARTConnector Saas Transaction Software, for permitting, planning, code enforcement, inspections, licensing, recurring inspections, cashiering, public portal, and GIS mapping. **(Approved)**

1:30 p.m. – 2:20 p.m. J Tincher, Public Works Update

1. Execution of Contracts between Grant County and DeAtley Crushing Company, Lewiston, ID, for the 2014 Crushing & Stockpiling contract, in the amount of \$731,450.00. **(Not ready for signature)**
2. Execution of Right of Way Procedures in accordance with the policies of the Washington State Department of Transportation Right of Way Manual (M26-01) and Local Agency Guidelines Manual (M36-6). **(Approved)**

2:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m. Open Record Public Hearing, Prchal-Metro Farms LLC Franchise Hearing

The Commissioners held an Open Record Public Hearing to consider a franchise application from Prchal-Metro Farms LLC to construct, operate and maintain a water line 2 miles west of Dodson Road on 4 Road SW for 300" along Road 4 SW then across 4 Road SW.

Jeff Tincher, Director, discussed the application.

Commissioner Stevens moved to close the public comment portion of the hearing. Commissioner Swartz seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Stevens moved to approve the Franchise as presented. Commissioner Swartz seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The hearing adjourned. **(Approved and the Order was signed)**

2:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. D Lee, Prosecuting Attorney's Office Update

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

The Chair of the Board authorized the Deputy Clerk of the Board to stamp her signature of approval to a Reimbursement Request for Washington Department of Revenue Annual Revaluation Grant Program, in the amount of \$182,631.25

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The Commissioners approved and signed the Grant County Payroll Authorization form for the December 23, 2013 payroll.

The Commissioners approved and signed the Grant Public Works County Payroll Salary Fund for December 27, 2013 payroll.

As of this date, the Board, by a majority vote, does approve for payment those vouchers certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.090, in the amounts of \$159,599.77 and \$261,882.27, as recorded on a listing and made available to the Board.

The Chair of the Board was authorized to sign the Health District Voucher listing in the amount of \$8,520.23.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014**

New Year's Day Holiday, Courthouse Closed

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 2014**

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. C Carter at Area Aging/Council of Governments Meeting (E Wenatchee Office)

Signed this 14th day of January, 2014.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Grant County, Washington

Carolee  
Carolann Swartz, Chair

Richard Stevens  
Richard Stevens

Cindy Carter  
Cindy Carter

Attest:

Barbara J. Vasquez  
Barbara J. Vasquez  
Clerk of the Board

*BV*