

# MINUTES

## GRANT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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### MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2015

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

9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.                      J Strickler, ASC Update and Misc. BOCC Action

A motion was made by Commissioner Swartz, seconded by Commissioner Carter, to approve items 1, and 6 through 10 on the ASC Agenda as presented. Items 2 through 5 did not arrive for signature. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Possible vouchers for Interfund Communications, insurance, legal services, grant administration, etc. **(Approved)**
2. **Anticipating:** Working Agreement by and between Grant County and Grant County Public Employees Association Public Works Unit, January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. **(Item did not arrive for signature)**
3. **Anticipating:** Working Agreement by and between Grant County and Grant County Public Employees Association Youth Services Unit, January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. **(Item did not arrive for signature)**
4. **Anticipating:** Working Agreement by and between Grant County and Grant County Public Employees Association Courthouse Unit, January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. **(Item did not arrive for signature)**
5. **Anticipating:** Subrecipient Agreement for CDBG Public Services between Grant County and the OIC (Opportunities Industrialization Center) of Washington for public services funded by the Washington State Department of Commerce's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Pass-through funding occurs through Commerce Agreement #14-65400-005 in the amount of \$125,397.00. Term is July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. **(Item did not arrive for signature)**
6. Interagency Agreement IAA 16073 between the State of Washington Administrative Office of the Courts and Grant County Juvenile Court for BECCA Programs and Services. Funding is in the amount of \$76,807.00 with a period of performance of July 1, 2015 through Jun 30, 2016. **(Approved)**
7. Addendum #3 to Vendor Agreement between Grant County, by and through Developmental Disabilities, and Service Alternatives to provide Individual Supported Employment and Group Supported Employment. The Addendum modifies Exhibits A. **(Approved)**
8. Addendum #3 to Vendor Agreement between Grant County, by and through Developmental Disabilities, and Goodwill Industries of the Inland Northwest to provide Individual Supported Employment and Group Supported Employment. The Addendum modifies Exhibits A. **(Approved)**
9. Addendum #3 to Vendor Agreement between Grant County, by and through Developmental Disabilities, and First Choice Services to provide Individual Supported Employment and Group Supported Employment. The Addendum modifies Exhibits A. **(Approved)**

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10. Addendum #2 to Vendor Agreement between Grant County, by and through Developmental Disabilities, and Moses Lake Community Health to provide Education and Information Services. The Addendum modifies Exhibits A. **(Approved)**

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Commissioners Office Safety Meeting

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Citizen Public Comment Period

Glenn Stockwell discussed the convention he would like to hold in Grant County. He has also talked to Senator Judy Warnick and her assistant Kyle Lynch about it. He would like to know if the Commissioners have a problem with inviting the City of Seattle to attend the convention. The BOCC doesn't have a problem with this. Carolann stated that Seattle may not understand what the project is. Glenn has an old video, but would like to update it to use for demonstration for people outside the area. Discussion was held regarding the Columbia Basin Project.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Elected Official and Department Head Monthly Luncheon

1:15 p.m. – 1:55 p.m. L Allison, Grant Integrated Services Update

2:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m. D Hooper, Planning Update

Items discussed were: Comprehensive Plan Amendments; GCIA Planned Action Update; and PacifiClean.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2015**

The session was continued at 9:00 a.m. with all Commissioners in attendance.

9:00 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. Open Record Public Hearing, iStar Blues LLC application for Classification or Reclassification as Farm and Agricultural Conservation/ Open Space

The Commissioners held an Open Record Public Hearing to consider an application from iStar Blues LLC for Open Space Land Classification or Reclassification per RCW 84.34.020(1) for parcel nos. 150572001 and 201525004. A total of 112.29 acres of land.

Melissa McKnight, Assessor, stated in their regular review of current use property, these 2 properties were brought up as no longer being used for agricultural and letters sent out. No response was sent in. These parcels are commercial, non-agricultural and used for business. The Assessor's office continued the process to remove these parcels from Open Space. She spoke with the Department of Revenue and cannot find any reason to keep these parcels in Open Space. Her recommendation is to deny the application.

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Commissioner Stevens asked how long this has been in the current zone. Ms. McKnight stated since 2003. Commissioner Stevens asked about the procedure for removing land from Open Space. Ms. McKnight stated they go back 7 years for taxes and penalties. The only time penalties are waved is if it's the Assessor's Office fault.

Commissioner Carter asked about the categories within Open Space taxation. Ms. McKnight stated there is an Open Space/Open Space classification. You have to allow public access to the property. These 2 parcels are privately owned.

Pam Hill, Assessor's Office, Current Use specialist, stated they bought the property in 2003 and they marked on the Real Estate Excise Tax Affidavit to say they were going to keep it agriculturally farmed. They marked the commercial/industrial box as well. In 2005, the Assessor's Office started an audit process to where any new purchase, they would have to fill out a Farm Ag Management Plan stating exactly what they were going to do with the property. Since they bought the property in 2003, this process wasn't available. The only reference they have for them to keep the property in current use is the Excise Tax Affidavit.

Dave Bricklin, representing Live Nation, stated there are 2 separate issues on the taxing of these parcels. They are not questioning they are not agricultural parcels. They believe they qualify as Open Space classification.

Separate is the issue whether Live Nation is liable for back taxes and penalties and interest. He wanted to clarify that the box for principle use as commercial/industrial is marked. He wanted to confirm that they were forthright and marked the correct box; but that is between them and the Assessor.

He reiterated that there are 3 types of current use tax exemptions: Agriculture, Forestry, and Open Space. They are seeking an Open Space classification for the 2 parcels brought forth today. The Open Space doesn't necessarily require public access. The Department of Revenue application asks the applicant to indicate what category of open space this land will qualify for: conserve or enhance scenic resources; protect streams; protect wildlife or native plant habitat; and the protection of natural lands. They believe they qualify for the Open Space classification, for the 2 parcels being submitted.

Commissioner Swartz asked about the definition of "Open Space"; is it open to the public all of the time? The Gorge Amphitheater is not. Mr. Bricklin stated it doesn't need to be. He doesn't know if the Department of Revenue has addressed charging a fee for access makes a difference. Camping in state parks is almost as expensive as getting a hotel room. Paying a fee to access public lands is part of today's existence. There has been discussion about providing for public viewing at the Gorge Amphitheater, if the BOCC's concern is providing for public access.

Danny Wilde, General Manager of the Gorge Amphitheater, discussed the view and how they are careful when making changes to the area that the changes do not affect that. He stated the Grant County Tourism Commission placed an information kiosk there as well. They have discussed creating a public access point during non-concert days, for people to come and look at the venue and the scenery. They get a lot of traffic in the area during non-concert days.

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Pam Hill, Assessor's Office, re-clarified her previous statement regarding the Real Estate Excise Tax Affidavit, where iStar Blues marked the commercial/industrial box. She was letting us know there were other boxes there as well. When it's classified as current use and check that box, she believed it was still being farmed.

Commissioner Carter asked about the audit the Assessor's office does for Open Space. Pam stated they always audited but it was under 20 acres only. Since 2010/2011 they were auditing over 20 acres for Open Space.

Dave Bricklin, clarified on the Tax Affidavit form, there are 6 boxes you can mark. They did not mark agriculture, they marked commercial/industrial.

Melissa McKnight, described box #8 of the Tax Affidavit form which is a notice of continuance of the Open Space program, and brought forth the Tax Affidavit paperwork and showed the Commissioners. The iStar Blues representative signed this box.

Commissioner Carter asked about Open Space/Open Space classification. Ms. McKnight clarified there is Current Use Open Space and Current Use Open Space Ag.

Don Fortier, Fire Chief for Fire District #3 (Quincy) stated they agree with the County Assessor and Department of Revenue that this property should not be classified as Open Space. The use of these lands impacts the Junior Taxing Districts. The Gorge is asking to exempt the amphitheater stage venue and that area has the largest impact on the taxing districts. They have to provide protection 365 days a year.

Martin Hanson, lives next to the Gorge, has people driving into his yard wanting to see the Gorge. He believes the Commissioners should consider passing this application and the Gorge should open a public viewing area as well.

Commissioner Swartz would like to learn more about Open Space and moves to continue this hearing until August 24, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Carter seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Public comment will remain open.

10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. T Gaines, Central Services Update

Items discussed were:

- Technology Services: Barracuda Costs; Server Costs; and Surplus.
- Facilities and Maintenance: Power for Storage Building (PUD); Internal Projects; Furniture Order; and FTR.
- Interfund Communications: Different Phone Bills; and On Call Communications Clerks
- Misc: Projected Budget Extensions and Cost over Runs.

10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. L Stoltman, Conservation District Update

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11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Department Head Review

11:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. G Goodwin, Discussion on Chelan/Douglas/Grant County Behavioral Health Organization – Conference Call

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

1. Authorization to Call for Bids: Valley Road and Airway Dr. Grind/Inlay Project with a bid opening date of August 25, 2015 at 1:30 pm. **(Not ready for signature)**  
Items discussed were: Personnel; Crescent Bar Bridge; 10-NW Road; and Sheriff Request.

2:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. G Dano, Prosecuting Attorney's Office Update

Items discussed were: Intra-department assistance; Fairgrounds; Wellness; Walkup Estimate by NW Recycling; and Credit Card Resolution. Action items: Gorge Taxes.

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Consent Agenda (Items 1 through 16)

A motion was made by Commissioner Carter, seconded by Commissioner Swartz, to approve items 1 through 10, and 12 through 14, and 16 on the Consent Agenda as presented. Items 11 and 15 were held for further review. Item 12 was removed from the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

**COMMISSIONERS OFFICE**

1. Commissioners Office and Public Defense Vouchers for approval. **(Approved)**
2. Commissioners July 20, 2015 Minutes for Approval. **(Approved)**
3. Special occasion liquor license application for SHOC – Strengthening the Heart of our Community, 3430 11<sup>th</sup> Rd SW, Royal City, WA 99357. The event will be held at the Seed Cupboard Nursery. **(Approved)**
4. New marijuana license application for Seaside Holdings (Jon Park and Philip Taylor) 12335 Rd 9 NE, Ste C, Moses Lake, WA 98837 (Producer Tier 2), from the Washington State Liquor Control Board. **(Approved)**
5. *Corrected* marijuana license application for Mizpah (Peter and Debra Rettman; Anthony and Rebecca Decker) 2875 W 1<sup>st</sup> St, Ste A, Warden, WA 98857 (Producer Tier 3). This is a new address location as the previous one was denied; from the Washington State Liquor Control Board. **(Approved)**
6. Request from the Commissioners to Ron Baker of the Grant County Water Conservancy Board, asking him to continue his service on this Board until alternate member Gerald "Spud" Brown has completed his required training. **(Mr. Baker agreed to serve until Mr. Brown completed his required training)**

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**HUMAN RESOURCES**

7. Personnel Action Request regarding the salary, wage and/or position changes for Andie Lorenz, Building Department and Fire Marshal's Office; Daniel Dale and Geri Hinkle, Prosecuting Attorney's Office. **(Approved)**
8. Recommendation Memorandum regarding a request from Grant Integrated Services for Heather West to sell back leave to Grant County due to a leave error that was done while the employee interned and worked as a full-time GrIS employee. The Director recommends approval. **(Approved)**
9. Recommendation Memorandum regarding a request from Grant Integrated Services to review the Office Manager position. After review, the Director recommends revising the title to Business Office Manager and re-band the position to a Band 12. **(Approved)**
10. Recommendation Memorandum regarding a review of the Witness Facilitator position in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. The Director does not recommend a step increase for the position (as requested by the department) but rather recommends the position be returned to the original band 15 as originally set. **(Approved)**
11. Recommendation Memorandum regarding a request from Grant Integrated Services for the creation of a Behavioral Health Administrator position and the redefinition of the existing position of Director of Clinical Services. The Director does not have a recommendation at this time. **(This item is being held for further review)**
12. Recommendation Memorandum regarding a request from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to move Geri Hinkle from a Legal Secretary III position to a Legal Secretary IV. The Director recommends approval. **(Approved)**
13. Recommendation Memorandum regarding a request from the Board of County Commissioners to review the Building Department and Fire Marshal's Office On-Call Protocol for their call-out procedures. The Director recommends the following: **(All Approved)**
  - A. The rotation of responsibility for the Fire Marshal duty will continue to be assigned in week designations. The week will be designated in two periods. Part one will be from 8:00 am Monday through Friday 4:00 pm. The Fire Marshal and Chief Deputy Fire Marshal will alternate on part one. Part two will begin Friday at 4:00 pm and end Monday at 8:00 am. Investigators will be responsible for one period and will rotate through these periods with all investigators. Alternate increments may be assigned should back-up coverage be necessary.
  - B. The positions participating in the rotation will increase to include the additional positions in the department trained in the request duties. The number of positions in rotation may be increased or decreased by the Director depending upon need, skill level, and other department priorities. The goal will be to maintain a pool of four or more to reduce the impact on any one position.
  - C. Effective 8/3/15, participants will receive a stipend \$150 for the part two rotation.
    - Non-exempt positions will receive pay for actual time worked, as provided for in Grant County Policy (705-On-Call).
    - Exempt positions will not receive pay for actual time worked.

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- D. The Department will create and maintain a rotation log to clearly document the weeks/days covered and by whom. The specifics of the log need to be approved by the Accounting Office to facilitate auditing.
- E. The Department will create and maintain a process guide to provide to each department member on the rotation. The specifics of the guide need to be approved by the Human Resources Office.

**CENTRAL SERVICES**

- 14. Request for the emergency purchase of a Barracuda Message Archive Virtual Appliance for the County's email server. The purchase will be made from CDW-G in the approximate amount of \$32,400.00. **(This item was added in error. This was brought to the BOCC on July 31, 2015 as an emergency purchase and approved then. This was added to that week's minutes.)**

**FAIRGROUNDS**

- 15. Recommendation to make "Home Town Hero Day" every day of the Grant County Fair, not just the Thursday of Fair week. This would give Law Enforcement, Fire Personnel, and Military Personnel ½ price admission with proof of ID. **(This item is being placed on hold for further review)**
- 16. Recommendation to charge Emergency Management a building rental fee of \$1,000.00 per month for their use of the office building and ECC facility on the Fairgrounds (this will include water and power). **(Approved)**

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.                      A White, Criminal Case Transition

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

The Commissioners wrote a letter to Governor Jay Inslee in support of Wahkiakum County Commissioners request to intercede with the Department of Ecology and allow them a period of time to find an effective legislative solution to the issues surrounding the application and regulation of biosolids.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2015**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.                      BOARD OF EQUALIZATION ANNUAL MEETING

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.                        PLANNING COMMISSION

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2015**

C Carter, Out

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. C Swartz at Moses Lake Chamber Response Team Meeting (Moses Lake Chamber Office)

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. R Stevens, WA State Auditor's Office – Interim Financials Discussion

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. C Swartz, Webinar on Drought Emergency Funding with Department of Ecology

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. VETERANS ADVISORY BOARD

**MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

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 \$789,444.10, \$24,946.57, \$90,683.11, \$199,601.17, and \$440,119.39, as recorded on a listing and made available to the Board.

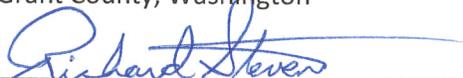
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2015**

C Carter, Out

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. JUDGE SPERLINE RETIREMENT CELEBRATION (Multi-Purpose Room)

Signed this 1st day of Sept., 2015.

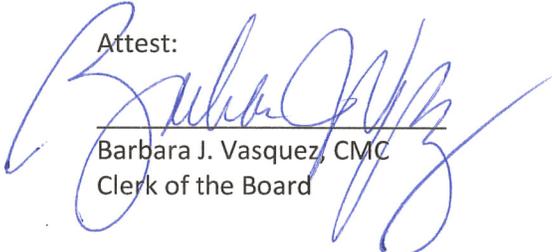
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Grant County, Washington

  
Richard Stevens, Chair

  
Cindy Carter, Vice-Chair

  
Carolann Swartz, Member

Attest:

  
Barbara J. Vasquez, CMC  
Clerk of the Board