

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' BRIEFING MINUTES
Mason County Commission Chambers, 411 North 5th Street, Shelton, WA
August 31, 2015

Monday, August 31, 2015

9:00 A.M. Executive Session – RCW 42.30.110 (4) (g)
Commissioners Neatherlin, Jeffreys and Sheldon met in Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee from 9:00 a.m. to 10:25 a.m. Bill Kenny and Frank Pinter were also in attendance.

10:30 A.M. The Board took a break from 10:25 to 10:35 a.m.

10:35 A.M. Support Services - Bill Kenny
Commissioners Neatherlin, Jeffreys and Sheldon were in attendance.

- Proclamation for September 2015 being National Preparedness Month will be placed on the agenda.
- Reviewed the draft September 9 agenda for the special joint meeting with Thurston County. Cmmr. Sheldon will not be available for the meeting.
- Frank reviewed the next steps to address the ER&R finding. A budget hearing will be set.
- An offer on Anthony Road properties was reviewed and the Commissioners agreed to counter offer.
- Single audit review deadline moved to October 31.
- Discussion of the Squaxin Island property.
- Diane was directed to schedule joint meeting with City of Shelton and EDC to discuss the \$500,000 appropriation. Cmmr. Jeffreys asked that Diane work with Cmmr. Sheldon to establish the structure or the meeting.
- Judge Sheldon was in attendance and brought up the reclassification requests for two staff members due to Therapeutic Courts. Cmmr. Neatherlin stated the Commissioners wanted further discussion of this. Cmmr. Jeffreys stated she wants to know the long-term plan for the mental health tax. The Board agreed to a temporary (remainder of 2015) reclassification for the Office Manager to Program Manager I. A briefing will be scheduled on September 14 to discuss the Superior Court Administrator reclassification request.
- Cmmr. Jeffreys stated a briefing will be scheduled to discuss the Voluntary Stewardship Program and she is recommending the Conservation District serve as lead.

Cmmr. Sheldon left the briefing at 11 a.m.

11:00 A.M. Sheriff Office – Sheriff Salisbury
Commissioners Neatherlin and Jeffreys were in attendance. Cmmr. Sheldon was absent.

- Undersheriff Barrett stated their discussion topic is a salary realignment for the Sheriff. They don't care if the Sheriff salary is compared to Region 3 comps or internal comparables. This has been an issue for eleven years and they request a seat at the table for discussion to resolve this.

Cmmr. Jeffreys responded that elected officials chose to run for office knowing what the salary is. The Board has been concentrating efforts for the rank and file employees and that is her priority. The question is how much and where will it paid from. She apologizes to the elected officials.

Cmmr. Neatherlin stated he is interested in a salary commission. His priority is the staff and he noted that the Sheriff command staff has received huge increases. Elected officials know what they will be paid when running for office. Besides the Judges and Prosecuting Attorney, the Sheriff is the highest paid Mason County elected official and it is hard for him to look at only one elected official. They plan to discuss across-the-board increases during 2016 budget discussion.

Cmmr. Jeffreys stated her reticence to a salary commission is the commission doesn't have to look at ability to pay.

The Board believes they are moving in the right direction with adjusting salaries.

- 11:15 A.M. Public Works - Brian Matthews & Melissa McFadden
Utilities & Waste Management - Brian Matthews/Erika Schwender
Commissioners Neatherlin and Jeffreys were in attendance. Cmmr. Sheldon was absent.
- Request that the September 1 agenda be amended to add a road closure resolution for North Shore.
 - Public hearing on September 8 for a private occupancy permit.
 - Maps provided showing property ownership around the transfer station.
 - Status of Simmons Road project, it is in the 2017-2019 biennium budget. Melissa McFadden plans to contact the Squaxin Island tribe just to keep the conversation open.

- 11:30 A.M. Mason County Economic Development Council – Lynn Longan
Commissioners Neatherlin and Jeffreys were in attendance. Cmmr. Sheldon was absent.
- Lynn Longan presented a Microenterprise Assistance Program proposal for a Community Development Block Grant that involves Enterprise for Equity and Washington State University. Proposing to offer a loan fund and microenterprise training throughout the county. Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity, was also in attendance to explain the proposal. EDC will do local outreach and get people to the classes and provide technical assistance to link to needed resources.
Discussion of the proposal. It is basically a revolving loan program. The funding will be in a county special fund.
WSU Extension office will be evaluating how the program is working and what the impacts of the program are to the community.
A public hearing will be set in September to consider the CDBG grant application.

Commissioner Discussion


- Commissioners Neatherlin and Jeffreys were in attendance. Cmmr. Sheldon was absent.
- Discussion of across-the-board salary increases to include elected officials.
 - Cmmr. Jeffreys brought up the long-term plan of the Mental Health fund. In the resolution implementing the tax, the advisory board was directed to put together a 5-year plan, which has not been completed. There was a discussion of the plan. Cmmr. Jeffreys feels that the advisory board should be disbanded and make it a Commission decision or rebuild the advisory board and give them direction.


Respectfully submitted,

Diane Zoren, Administrative Services Manager

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Randy Neatherlin
Chair


Tim Sheldon
Commissioner


Terri Jeffreys
Commissioner