

## BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

October 18, 2011

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Annette McGee led the flag salute.
3. Roll Call – Present: Commissioner District 1 - Lynda Ring Erickson; Commissioner District 2 – Tim Sheldon. Commissioner District 3 – Steve Bloomfield.
4. Correspondence and Organizational Business
  - 4.1 Correspondence
    - 4.1.1 The Washington State Liquor Control Board sent notice of establishments in Mason County with liquor licenses due to expire on January 31, 2012 and notice of a special occasion liquor license application for the McReavy House Museum.
    - 4.1.2 The Economic Development Council of Mason County sent their third quarter report.
    - 4.1.3 The League of Women Voters provided their final report on their study of the Mason County budget.
    - 4.1.4 Ken Wilson is seeking appointment to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.
5. Open Forum for Citizen Input –
  - 5.1 Patricia Vandehey questioned if there was a public meeting for the Johns Creek Basin Area.
  - 5.2 Mary Jean Hrbacek discussed her concerns about the Mason County Sheriff budget. She handed out a Mason County Sheriff office patrol vehicle spreadsheet which showed years and mileage. She stated the vehicles need to be replaced due to high mileage.
6. Adoption of Agenda - **Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**
7. Approval of Minutes – August 29 briefing meeting minutes & September 6, October 4 and 11 regular meeting minutes.  
  
**Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve the August 29 briefing meeting minutes & September 6, October 4 and 11 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**
8. Approval of Action Agenda:
  - 8.1 Approval of a project agreement with the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for the Coulter Creek Park Acquisition Project. State grant award is \$900,000 and will be matched with \$100,000 including donations, gifts, and additional grants, in addition to volunteer labor, donated equipment, force account equipment and force account labor.
  - 8.2 Approval of the bid from Shelton Floor Covering to replace flooring in the men's and woman's locker rooms at the Mason County Jail in an amount not to exceed \$1,587.81 and authorizing the Chair to sign any pertinent documents. Project funding to be covered from REET I capital funds.
  - 8.3 Approval to set a public hearing on Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. to consider the recommendations of the Advisory Committee regarding the implementation of the 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax for Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Therapeutic Courts.
  - 8.4 Approval of the Veterans Assistance Fund application for: William R. Nolte (Tanya) – Burial \$600.00; Patrick Mallon (Jackie) – Utilities \$192.09; Robert W. Robbins – Housing \$550.00 & Utilities \$50.00; David C. Higgins – Utilities \$225.10 for a total of \$1,617.19 as recommended by the Veterans Assistance Fund Screening Committee.

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8.5 Approval to reject all bids to furnish Mason County a 53,000 pound class hydraulic track excavator for Public Works. Five bids were received and after evaluation, it is the recommendation of the Equipment Rental & Revolving Fund Manager to reject all bids.

8.6 Approval of Warrants

|                      |                          |              |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Claims Clearing Fund | Warrant #s 193539-193844 | \$435,496.03 |
| Salary Clearing Fund | Warrant #s 5164-5221     | \$281,796.66 |
| Direct Deposit Fund  | Deposit #s 33078-33438   | \$503,385.41 |

**Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve action items 8.1 through 8.6, with the exception of item 8.3. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**

Item 8.3

Cmmr. Sheldon stated that sales tax has declined and he doesn't believe that taxes should be raised at this time. He was concerned that the small businesses didn't know about the 1/10 of 1% tax and he wanted to encourage new businesses to thrive.

Cmmr. Bloomfield understood Commissioner Sheldon's concerns and believed that the Board should have a public meeting to get public's ideas.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson also felt there should be a public hearing to hear public concerns or ideas.

Annette McGee thought that there should be a public hearing for the 3/10 of 1% for Criminal Justice.

**Cmmr. Bloomfield/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to approve Action item 8.3. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-nay; B-aye.**

9. 9:30 a.m. Public Hearings and Items Set for a Certain Time –

9.1 Public hearing to consider the following supplemental appropriations and budget transfers to the 2011 budget:

9.1.1 \$54,724 supplemental appropriation to the 2011 budget for the WSU Extension that reflects \$49,724 from a Mason County Utilities and Waste Management contract to install rain gardens at the Belfair Wastewater Treatment facility and \$5,000 from a DSHS Contract to provide the Youth in Action Program.

Bob Simmons, WSU Extension, discussed the supplemental appropriation to the 2011 budget. \$54,724 would be transferred into the budget from outside sources to reflect the \$49,724, from Utilities and Waste Management, to put rain gardens in at the Belfair Wastewater Treatment facility. They have seven rain gardens which is a way to manage the storm water right on site. It would help educate the community about rain gardens and their role in landscape water quality. They will also receive a total of \$20,000 from Department of Social Health Services. That will cover the entire year starting in November and ending next September. They plan to use \$5,000 for the remainder of this year to support the Youth in Action Program.

Cmmr. Sheldon stated that this was a massive facility and wanted to know how much the collection system would cover.

Emmett Dobey, Utilities and Waste, mentioned that they would not be monitoring all twenty acres. There are seven gardens, about an acre in size.



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There was no public testimony.

**Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve a \$54,724 supplemental appropriation to the 2011 budget for the WSU Extension that reflects \$49,724 from a Mason County Utilities and Waste Management contract to install rain gardens at the Belfair Wastewater Treatment facility and \$5,000 from a DSHS Contract to provide the Youth in Action Program. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye**

- 9.1.2 \$7,670 supplemental appropriation to the 2011 budget for the WSU Extension/Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board from a Washington State Department of Agriculture Knapweed contract for \$3,670 and a Mason Conservation District contract in the amount of \$4,000.

Bob Simmons, WSU Extension, stated this was external money to control Noxious Weeds in the county which totaled \$ 7,670. \$3,670 came from the State Department of Agriculture to control Knapweed which is popular. They will work on knotweed control with the Mason County Conservation District. The Conservation District has gotten several grants and WSU will assist them. The knotweed can not just be cut it because it will keep spreading. The most effective way to kill the knotweed is to inject right into the stem. It is safe and should not go beyond the root system.

There was no public testimony.

**Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve a \$7,670 supplemental appropriation to the 2011 budget for the WSU Extension/Mason County Noxious Weed Control Board from a Washington State Department of Agriculture Knapweed contract for \$3,670 and a Mason Conservation District contract in the amount of \$4,000. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye**

- 9.1.3 \$20,000 budget transfer from the Current Expense Ending Fund Balance to the Board of Equalization due to the increased number of required hearings.

Emmett Dobey, Utilities and Waste, stated that two years ago the Assessor changed the method in which they assessed property from once every four years to yearly. This created a large back-log of 400+ properties that needed to go through the Board of Equalization for review. They had expended almost the entire budget that was allocated for this year. They had heard over 400 cases for 2010 and hadn't started on the 2011 cases. The supplemental budget would help clean up the back-log of 2010 and start 2011. The Board, which is three members, meets 28 days by law. If they extend more than 28 days, they need permission to act longer.

The employee works 60 percent for Board of Equalization and 40 percent for Utilities. Next year they hope for this person to work 75 percent for Board of Equalization and 25 percent for Utilities. He is hopeful that they will be caught up by the end of 2012.

Cmmr. Sheldon commented on the last meeting in Belfair. He thought the public would have been there to discuss the sewer issue, but ended up being there to discuss their assessment issues and exercise their right to appeal.

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Public Testimony

Annett McGee wanted to know how long people have to appeal their 2011 property taxes.

Melody Peterson, Assessor, explained that once the change of value notice goes out, they have 30 days to appeal the value for that year. They can appeal any year, but they won't get that result in that year, it would be for the next year's taxes. They have had a large increase in the Board of Equalization appeals due to the way the economy has dropped. They are currently on a four year cycle and they had to use sale values that occurred previous to the drop. They are working so far behind the market trend. Next year they will go onto the annual revaluation; the whole County will be valued physically or by an analysis process. That should keep the appeals down. People do have the right to appeal their value. The new change of value notices will start going out this week. She was hopeful that going onto annual revaluation will help with the appeals.

Cmmr. Sheldon stated that the comparative sales, that can go back as far as five years, angers people. He agreed that going to an annual revaluation should help.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson complemented Melody Peterson and her staff.


**Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve a \$20,000 budget transfer from the Current Expense Ending Fund Balance to the Board of Equalization due to the increased number of required hearings. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye**

10. Other Business (Department Heads and Elected Officials) –
  - 10.1 John Keates, Parks and Facilities, thanked volunteers from PUD # 3 for helping commence his MCRA project.
  - 10.2 Vicki Kirkpatrick, Public Health, reminded everyone that October was National Breast Cancer month. She encouraged women over 40 to get a mammogram. She also noted that the report from the advisory committee on the 1/10 of 1% for Mental Health is now available.
11. Board's Reports and Calendar - The Commissioners reported on meetings attended the past week and announced their upcoming weekly meetings.

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12. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Lynda Ring Erickson, Chair

  
Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board

  
Steve Bloomfield, Commissioner