

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Margie Benson 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 Cascade Land Conservancy announced that they are changing their name to Forterra.
 - 4.1.2 The Washington State Liquor Control Board sent notice that China Capital in Belfair has discontinued sales and service of liquor.
 - 4.1.3 Comcast announced that a nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System will take place on November 9, 2011.
 - 4.1.4 North Mason School District submitted their Certification of Excess Tax Levies for 2012.
 - 4.1.5 Students from Pioneer Middle School wrote letters to the Commissioners for a school project.
 - 4.1.6 Davey Newby and William Busacca expressed support of the 1/10 of 1% sales tax for mental health, substance abuse and therapeutic courts.
 - 4.1.7 Rachel Hansen is seeking appointment to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.
5. Open Forum for Citizen Input –
 - 5.1 Raymond Stutz read a letter regarding in home security alarm systems being a waste of money for law enforcement to respond to..
 - 5.2 Ken VanBuskirk discussed the Capital Facilities Plan and the phasing of the Belfair Sewer.
 - 5.3 Sheriff Casey Salisbury read a letter regarding the Commissioners' 2012 budget reduction request.

Cmmr. Sheldon responded that it is a time of unprecedented economic uncertainty. The Governor and the legislators are faced with finding 1.4 billion dollars. He hopes to work together to find a resolution and come up with a budget that serves the needs of the citizens. He suggested to plan for the worst and hope for the best.

Cmmr. Bloomfield explained that there probably won't be a light at the end of the tunnel and a miraculous turn around in the budget and availability. The Board has to overcome this problem in a legal manner. Until these numbers are straightened out, everyone should count on the worse case scenario.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson noted that the Commissioners are responsible for making sure that a year from today, everyone is able to make payroll. Those that choose to work with the Commissioners should come up with a plan so when they find that things are better they can restore some of what was cut. They received a list of potential revenue cuts from the Treasurer. The hole in the State budget is still the same.

Sheriff Salisbury commented that the elected officials have found discrepancies in the budget. He would like a chance to ask some more questions. There are things that were reported to them that were different from what the Commissioners have. He asked the Governor if she thought it would be the right thing to do for the County's budget to take cuts now. She thought it might be a little presumptive to start making cuts before the State actually knows what those cuts are going to be.

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The elected officials don't want to be presumptive with making 8.5 percents cuts to mandated services.

5.4

Annette McGee realized that the Commissioners were having a problem in balancing the budget. It is her understanding in studying the budget that there is a carry over of seven million dollars. She agrees with the elected officials that it is early to ask them to make cuts. If they cut their budget now, there are only two ways to raise that budget once it's passed; unanticipated funds and true emergency. She had a copy of the letter that was sent to the department heads on October 31. She wanted to know if it was a decision that was made in the workshop and not in the usual advertised public meeting. She believed that the Board violated the Open Meeting Act because they made a decision in a workshop.

Cmmr. Sheldon stated that all counties are all going through difficult budget times. The Commissioners still have to have a budget by law and still need to adopt it by the end of the year. Having some reserves is a good thing. The Commissioners will find a solution, but it won't be fun and it won't be a solution that everyone likes.

Cmmr. Bloomfield explained that he is not in favor in spending the money that is going to be carried over for long term use. It shouldn't be used for payroll, it should be for special needs. To rob that fund now is not looking down the road very far.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson added that they cannot approve a budget that can't be funded and doesn't have reserves.

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 – October 3 briefing meeting minutes; October 24 budget workshop minutes.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve the October 3 briefing meeting minutes and October 24 budget workshop minutes. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

8. Approval of Action Agenda:

- 8.1 Approval to establish an Extra Help position in the Parks, Trails and Facilities Department for remainder of 2011 budget year. This is to allow the use of an Evergreen State College Work Study student and will be funded from budgeted positions that are not filled. The State of Washington will reimburse Mason County 60% of all wages paid. Total cost to the County will not exceed \$1,000.
- 8.2 Approval to set a public hearing on Monday, December 5, 2011 at 9 a.m. to consider the 2012 budget for Mason County. Copies of the 2012 preliminary budget will be available to the public on November 21st.
- 8.3 Approval for the Department of Public Works to advertise, interview and hire a Geographical Information Services (GIS) Technician to fill a budgeted vacant position.
- 8.4 Approval for the Public Works Director to sign the membership contract with Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) allowing Mason County to use the MRSC Small Works and Consultant Rosters as the official roster system and approve the resolution establishing the Small Works Roster process and the Consulting Services Roster for architectural, engineering, and other professional services. This resolution replaces Mason County Code 3.48.050 in its entirety.

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- 8.5 Approval of the Veterans Assistance Fund application for: Robert E. Smith – Utilities \$103.15 and Scott E. Kaylor – Food \$200.00 for a total of \$303.15 as recommended by the Veterans Assistance Fund Screening Committee.
- 8.6 Approval to set a public hearing on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. to consider extending the moratorium on collective gardens approved under Ordinance 65-11 for an additional six months. The moratorium would expire on May 16, 2012 unless extended or terminated by the Board of County Commissioners.

Item 8.6

Tom Davis asked the purpose of extending the hearing. He wanted to know what has happened between then and now. He believed that this was the third extension.

Barbara Adkins, Community Development Director, stated that she is extending it because they don't have the regulations drafted or in place. The first time it was set for 30 days and from there they had another 90 days. It takes longer than 90 days to come up with regulations because guidance doesn't come easy.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve Action items 8.1 through 8.6. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

9. 9:30 a.m. Public Hearings and Items Set for a Certain Time – There were no public hearings scheduled.
10. Other Business (Department Heads and Elected Officials) –
10.1
Emmett Dobey, Utilities and Waste Management, reminded everyone that there is going to be a fifth Tuesday meeting in Belfair this month. He shared the three points of interest regarding the Belfair Sewer.
11. Board's Reports and Calendar - The Commissioners reported on meetings attended the past week and announced their upcoming weekly meetings.
12. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 9:47 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