

## BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

JANUARY 17, 2012

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Nancy Moran 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 April 30, 2012.
    - 4.1.2 The Port of Shelton expressed interest in producing a Memorandum of Understanding concerning permitting and inspection processes.
    - 4.1.3 Skookum Clam and Oyster LLC is seeking Aquatic Farm status.
    - 4.1.4 Mary Jean Hrbacek expressed concerns regarding the condition of Lake Boulevard in Shelton.
    - 4.1.5 Randy Neatherlin is seeking appointment to the Transportation Improvement Program Citizens Advisory Panel.
    - 4.1.6 Helen Muralt is seeking appointment to the Lewis Mason Thurston Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council.
5. Open Forum for Citizen Input –
  - 5.1 Randy Churchill read a statement that he tried to read originally in the January 3, 2012 BOCC meeting. He asked the Public Disclosure Commission for comments regarding the matter and was told that the prohibition that is applicable was RCW 42.17A.555, which he read. He also thought that Sheriff Salisbury had been shunned when he tried to speak. He was upset that there had been word that the Commissioners were considering hiring a County Administrator at the taxpayers expense to do the job that the Board of Commissioners had failed to do. He knew that there were enough staff and elected officials do to the job of an administrator. He also mentioned that he stops by to see the Commissioners on Friday's and they are never there.

Cmmr. Bloomfield commented that he communicates with the Sheriff's office on a regular basis.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson stated that she thought Mr. Churchill was ill-informed. She mentioned that she had worked every single Friday for the last seven years. If she isn't in her office on Friday, that doesn't mean that she isn't attending a meeting on behalf of the County. She stated that the Sheriff has a regular briefing along with other department heads weekly.

- 5.2 April Hanson, Harstine Island Neighborhood Watch, commented that they had three burglaries within a few days of each other in Harstine Island. They would like protection. Elderly people are scared and the neighborhood watch is their only voice. She would like the Commissioners to consider more protection.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson noted that the Board increased the Sheriff's budget.

Cmmr. Sheldon added that they are not random occurrences. There was a connection with the people and the burglary victims. He didn't think that people should be scared. He thought they are in a safe community.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 2**

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 – January 3 regular meeting minutes and briefing meeting minutes.

**Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve January 3 regular meeting minutes and briefing meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**

8. Approval of Action Agenda:
  - 8.1 Approval for the Chair to sign Change Order #5 in the amount of \$15,043 for the Mason County Courthouse Project. Project funded by REET I capital funds and state and federal historic preservation funds.
  - 8.2 Approval of Contract #E12-143 with the Washington State Military Department for State Enhanced 911 Funds in the amount of \$103,281.
  - 8.3 Approval to sign the Acknowledgment of Receipt from the Mason County Treasurer, per RCW 84.69.020. This is a report of the 294 refunds made for 2011 for a total of \$281,245.63.
  - 8.4 Approval of the resolution to cancel uncollectible personal property taxes as attested to by the Mason County Treasurer for a total amount of \$1,095.24. **Resolution No. 08-12 (Exhibit A)**
  - 8.5 Approval to adopt the revised precinct plan creating two new precincts in order to stay in compliance with state law. The lines used to create Congressional District No. 10 split two precincts and RCW 29A.16.050(1) requires that each precinct be wholly within a single congressional district. **Resolution No. 05-12 (Exhibit B)**
  - 8.6 Approval to identify precincts with names. RCW 29A.16.050(5) requires every voting precinct within each county to be designated by number for the purpose of preparing maps and the tabulation of population. These precincts may also be identified with names or other numbers for other election purposes. **Resolution No. 06-12 (Exhibit C)**
  - 8.7 Approval to set a public hearing on February 7, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. to consider application by Mason County to the State of Washington Department of Commerce in the amount of \$1,000,000 for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a project on behalf of Faith in Action for a Center for Seniors Facility in Belfair.
  - 8.8 Approval to sign the Country Restriction Request form from US Bank for the Mason County Credit Card Program. This is to restrict all foreign credit card purchases to reduce the risk of fraud on the account.
  - 8.9 Approval of Lodging Tax Fund Applications for: North Mason Chamber of Commerce Visitor Information Center - \$35,000; Shelton-Mason County Chamber of Commerce Visitor Information Centers -\$43,500; Allyn Days -\$3,350; Allyn Geoduck Festival -\$2,500; Mason Area Fair and NPRA Rodeo - \$15,000; Old Time Fiddler's Fest -\$1,500; Taste of Hood Canal - \$2,500; Geocache Bash - \$5,000; Mason County Forest Festival -\$4,000; Olympic Peninsula Culinary Loop - \$2,000; Hama Hama Oyster Rama - \$2,000; Blue Grass from the Forest - \$5,000 and the Allyn Waterfront Mini Park - \$10,000 for a total award of \$131,350 and deny Lodging Tax Fund Applications for: Shelton Farmers Market and Spencer Lake Fishing Derby.
  - 8.10 Approval of the Veterans Assistance Fund application for: James R. Beals – Utilities \$297.81; Dana M. Owens – Housing \$600.00; Chip Proctor – Utilities \$600.00; David J. Stucke – Food \$150.00; and Stephen R. Needham – Food \$150.00; Sharon Jo Buechel-Schirman – Utilities \$110.25; Sarah M Carlisle – Housing \$300.00; Rodney Gorm – Housing \$600.00; Kathleen McFarlane – Food \$150.00; Rose Oster – Utilities \$600.00; Klaus D. Redweik – Utilities \$196.58; John A. Worsley – Housing \$450.00; and Jesse R. Johnson – Housing \$600.00 for a total of \$4,804.64 as recommended by the Veterans Assistance Fund Screening Committee.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 3**

- 8.11 Approval to reappoint Sue LaMont to the Thurston-Mason Regional Support Network (RSN) Advisory Board representing Mason County for a three-year term ending December 31, 2014.
- 8.12 Approval of the Home Visiting Services Account Grant agreement between Washington Early Learning Fund, dba Thrive by Five Washington and Mason County Public Health. This provides \$53,847 of grant funding and is budgeted.
- 8.13 Approval of the Inter-Governmental Request and Agreement for Reimbursable Work by Mason Conservation District to provide environmental services, as needed, for calendar year 2012.
- 8.14 Approval for Public Works to select Construction Project and Bridge Inspectors from the 2012 Letters of Interest Roster and enter into a letter agreement/contract for Construction Project Inspector Services for calendar year 2012.
- 8.15 Approval for Public Works to select and enter into agreements for structural and geotechnical consultant services, as needed for 2012, from the County MRSC Consultant Roster. The maximum pay-out for each agreement not to exceed \$50,000; Public Works will announce each consultant selection during a regular scheduled Commissioner meeting.
- 8.16 Approval for Public Works to advertise, interview, and hire for the vacant Survey Supervisor and Senior Party Chief positions in the Public Works Survey Division.
- 8.17 Approval for the Chair to execute Amendment #2, in the amount of \$151,856 and extending the term of the agreement through June 2012, to the consulting agreement with Harris and Associates for Construction Management services for the Belfair Wastewater and Water Reclamation Facility Project.
- 8.18 Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Mason County Environmental Health and the Washington Department of Ecology. This agreement affects the Simpson Lumber Company's Dayton Limited Purpose Landfill (Simpson) for activities related to development and approval of closure and post-closure plans for the facility and issuance of solid waste permits to Simpson that provide for implementation of those plans. There is no funding associated with this agreement.
- 8.19 Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement between Mason County and the Mason County Sheriff's Office Employees Guild, increasing the employer contribution towards employee health insurance to up to \$900 per month per eligible employee and their dependents, effective January 1, 2012.

Patricia Vandehy requested that item 8.18 have a separate vote.

Item 8.13

An audience member asked if item 8.13 could wait to be approved until next week. He also wanted clarification on what it meant when it stated "as needed". He thought the amount would be going up.

Charlie Butros, Public Works Director, responded that the agreement was an annual agreement that the County has had with the Conservation District to provide support on some of the projects that Public Works routinely have that required litigation work or environmental services work. The agreement had been in place since he had been at the County. It is renewed every year and there are no extra costs.

John Bolender, Executive Director of the Conservation District, stated that the agreement has been with the County since 1998 and it is used for environmental and engineering services. It is used and identified for specific needs.

The audience member commented that he understood that part, but was hoping that there would be a cap.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 4**

Mary Jean Hrbacek noted that the expenditures that occurred in the past had always been in the department's current budget. She believed there was insufficient information in the supporting document. There were numerous questions that she thought needed to be addressed before any agreement could be voted on.

**Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve Action items 8.1 through 8.19, with the exception of 8.18, which will have a separate vote. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**

Item 8.18

Patricia Vendeby requested that there be a public hearing for the approval of the agreement between Mason County Environmental Health and the Washington Department of Ecology. She believed that there was insufficient information in the supporting document and she had numerous questions that needed to be addressed.

Debbie Riley, Environmental Health Manager, stated that if anybody ever had any questions, to please contact her. The agreement was being proposed because they had a staff change last year. The person in the position now did not have all of the applicable training for every section of enforcement done in solid waste. They sent him to get composting training. They thought it would be in the best interest of Mason County to contract with the Department of Ecology for the Dayton/Simpson landfill. They plan to use the on-the-ground training for their solid waste person.

Cmmr. Sheldon asked if the other two counties would involve wood waste.

Ms. Riley stated that one county involved wood waste and the other county involved the general landfill that closed under the old regulations and didn't make it.

**Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve item 8.18. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**

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

9.1 Public hearing to consider the following 2012 budget revisions:

9.1.1 Reduce the Traffic Policing Budget by \$125,000 to balance to the Road Levy Traffic Diversion.

Charlie Butros, Public Works Director, reported that the budget was adopted at the December 5<sup>th</sup> budget hearing. There were some questions that came up at the December 6<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting. The Commissioners met with the Prosecuting Attorney and clarified the intent of what they had passed in the budget hearing. On December 9<sup>th</sup>, the Prosecuting Attorney provided his position. At the December 13<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting the road levy was approved, which included the levy for the road portion of the budget, as well as the traffic diversion. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of December the Commissioners set a hearing date for today to address the budget for traffic policing. Last week there were some discussions at briefing between the Commissioners and Public Works and the Commissioners and the Sheriff's department. The Commissioners asked that Mr. Butros meet with the staff at the Sheriff's department, which he did. The Commissioners discussed many of the support services that Public Works would need with Chief Dean Byrd and the Sheriff's Financial Manager, Frank Pinter. Chief Byrd and Mr. Pinter gave their feedback, which was supportive of the needs requested of Public Works and felt that was a small part of the Traffic Policing Unit. They had also suggested giving the Sheriffs longer lead times and more notice and discussed reconvening the monthly coordination meetings. Mr. Butros stated that they could respectfully do that.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 5**

Questions for Staff

Cmmr. Ring Erickson clarified that most of the general law enforcement money comes out of the general fund. That was an amount of money that they have diverted from the road fund to a special fund in the Sheriffs office for traffic enforcement and accident investigation. There was no requirement in state law that the County has to do that.

Mr. Butros confirmed there was not.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson stated that it was a supplemental road safety program documented by the County Auditor, and Public Works as opposed to the expenditures that are documented through Public Works.

Mr. Butros noted that was a correct statement.

Cmmr. Sheldon stated that a limited portion of the road fund could be used for traffic policing and for safety issues. Public Works uses the Sheriffs to provide their presence so people don't speed through the work zone.

Mr. Butros clarified that Public Works typically requests support from the Sheriff's department to assist them with assuring that traffic is managed appropriately and that enforcement be present in areas where they have sensitivity around maintenance projects or construction projects. When the Public Works crew had been stripping or chip sealing. The crew may stop traffic for a period of time to allow that work to get to a point where it is safe to allow traffic through the work zone. There were times where drivers get frustrated and drive past the flagger, putting the workers and the driver at risk. Those are times when they need the additional support by the Sheriffs department for enforcement. The Sheriffs office has provided support when the deputies are available to help.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson asked if that was part of the general fund.

Mr. Butros stated that it was not. That was part of the traffic policing scope that they envisioned some time ago, when it was first established. Years ago Public Works had requested support but the Sheriffs staffing level was to the point that they could not provide support. It was suggested that they get that type of support from the State Patrol, which was approved by the Commissioners. The State Patrol was used until Sheriff Salisbury was elected. The discussion continued and it was decided that the support would be provided by the Sheriff's department again, which Public Works preferred.

Cmmr. Sheldon clarified that when the Commissioners put together the budget they were faced with paying for the Sheriff's vehicles. He wanted to know if the Sheriff's vehicles were purchased from the equipment repair and revolving (ER&R) fund.

Mr. Butros stated that when the unit was formed, there was a need for vehicles. Those vehicles did not have funding available from the ER&R fund. There was an agreement with the Sheriffs department and the ER&R fund to loan money to initially purchase vehicles. Those vehicles were purchased with a repayment schedule of three years. The last payment on that loan was made in 2011, which totaled right under \$95,000. The current ER&R rates for those vehicles included the replacement costs that were paid at full rates.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson commented that the Sheriff's vehicles are on a regular replacement schedule and will be replaced as needed based on current usage and mileage.

Mr. Butros stated that was correct.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 6**

Cmmr. Sheldon asked if the payment for those vehicles came out of the County Road Fund.

Mr. Butros responded that the traffic unit vehicles come out of the County Road Fund.

An audience member wanted to clarify if Public Works contracted with the State Patrol for their services requested. She used to work at the State Patrol and understood that they would no longer go on County roads. They were sticking to State roads only because they did not have the funding and only had seven officers to work 24/7.

Mr. Butros stated that what they did at the time was allow their troopers that were off normal duty hours to work overtime to offer the support that they needed for Public Works. He was not sure of the restriction that she was addressing, but at the time they could provide that service and they did.

The audience member wanted to clarify if they have discussed this subject with the State Patrol prior to this meeting to bring them into this.

Mr. Butros stated that Public Works was not proposing bringing the State Patrol into this; that was the past. What he reported was originally when the Sheriffs department did not have a traffic unit and they and needed support. It was agreed that the County could go to the State Patrol to get that service. Public Works preference was to have the service provided by the Sheriffs, which they now have, because the service needed is on county roads.

Public Testimony

Sheriff Salisbury commented that when he was running for Sheriff, he was contacted by the State Patrol and advised that the State Patrol was no longer going to provide the service on County roadways because they didn't have the staff time. That left only one person from the County that they had at that time. The money for the road diversion was quite commonly used to fund the traffic units. Part of the increase that occurred in their general fund money was an expense in the jail that caused the general funding for the Sheriffs office to go up. It had nothing to do with the traffic unit. Also, labor costs went up and will continue to go up. In the past, the traffic diversion money wasn't being spent in the Sheriffs office in the amount that it is now. Since then, a lot of lives had been saved. The numbers went from fifteen fatal accidents to three.

Linda Nichol was a concerned citizen from Harstine Island. She stated that not everything's reported and makes the paper. She had been involved with Neighborhood Watch since 2005. She had witnessed first hand how things had changed, which wasn't for the better. She hoped the Commissioners would reconsider taking the money away. Burglars were kicking doors down on the south part of the island and then returning the next day. People in Harstine Island were nailing things down so it had a better chance of not being taken. Burglars know that there are only two deputies available at any given time and know how to work the system. The Commissioners would be hard pressed to find someone that hadn't been a victim of crime. She asked the Commissioners to re-consider.

Gerald Apple, Traffic Safety Coordinator for the Educational Service District, stated that the Educational Service District was made up of thirty-one schools and five counties. He stated that he was very proud of the Mason County Sheriffs department, their traffic unit and Casey Salisbury. He discussed some of their accomplishments. The counties DUI fatality rate had dropped from fifteen to three in the last four years. Speed related collisions had dropped by thirty-nine percent. The sector hook-up program saved two hundred and twenty administrative hours while creating a much more efficient paperless system. They had instituted the drug-take-back program. The Sheriffs office recruited twenty six seniors for the senior volunteer program to help with many services in the Belfair station. The Search and Rescue team spoke to groups regarding safety. He thought the County should reward the Sheriffs for all of the

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 7**

accomplishments and provide them the needed financial help to keep the county safer. Mr. Apple also asked the Commissioners to not make any more cuts in the future.

Mary Jean Hrbacek stated that over the past two years, because of a contract, there had been a two percent increase in pay. That didn't affect basic pay, it effected all of the overtime and the benefits based on basic pay. The road diversion could only be used for road projects. The levy-shift could have been used for the general fund use and could have supplied needed funds to departments using the general fund operations. Public Works received additional resources because they maintain the road and get assistance from the State and the Federal government. The property tax was a more stable source of income than the sales tax. Mr. Butros had indicated that Public Works had savings over the projected TIP-CAP. Ms. Hrbacek was in the process of trying to identify what that amount was. She believed that over the past few years \$125,000 had been there. When those savings came through it was not spread across the County, but kept within the Public Works department. She didn't consider the \$125,000 to be optional. It was part of the basic traffic operations.

Cmmr. Bloomfield stated that they were talking about traffic safety, not the entire budget. It seemed like the support for the Sheriff's office was unanimous. The Public Works department works on the County roads to ensure safe conditions and make improvements when necessary. In overlapping agreements Mason County receives help from other counties when there is a problem and the Sheriffs can't get there in the proper amount time. It is only right for Mason County Sheriffs to assist other counties or vice-versa, if the need arises. The Commissioners had considered a levy-shift. He stated that the Sheriff's budget was not cut, it had increased. The budget in 2011 was \$8,487,318 and the budget approved for 2012 was \$8,776,198. The policing budget last year was at \$980,000, which included the purchase of the cars. The Commissioners requested that if the cars were paid for the money should be put back. The Sheriff found another need for that money, which he respected.

Cmmr. Sheldon commented that everyone was in the situation together. He thought there was some misinformation going through the community and difficulties in understanding the issue. The legislature made a decision to cut the State Patrol in Olympia. That wasn't an easy decision but it depended on the money available. The patrol still provides the accident investigation in Thurston County. The Commissioners had to balance spending between the court system, the prosecutors, the Sheriff and the jail. He wished he had unlimited funds for patrol of officers, but with a large county it isn't possible. Mason County has an unincorporated population of approximately 51,000 people and 10,000 in the city. Mason County is a very rural county. Grey Harbor County has nine incorporated cities. Most counties have a police force in their city. Mason County has the Sheriff's office, the Shelton Police department and the two Tribes. There was a lot of interaction in the communities to work for a common goal. Washington State has the highest DUI rate in the country. The Commissioners had considered a levy-shift but a levy-shift would increase the tax for the City of Shelton residents for no extra service. He felt it would be unfair to certain residents to be taxed differently than the others for law enforcement so he would not vote for a levy-shift. He thought that the supplemental budget was the way to address this issue through the year. The Sheriff's office had legitimate needs they had requested in the past and the Sheriff and Commissioners went through the process and increased medical at the jail, leased a new Sheriff's office, new patrol cars, three boats and new equipment. It must be a conversation for the whole community. He was willing to have that conversation. He was disturbed with the crime that was happening in his neighborhood, in his district and his county. He complemented the Neighborhood Watch in Harstine Island for keeping everyone informed, which is very difficult, but he believed that everyone must work closer together. The County has a budget and the services that all of the departments provide are all important. He felt the Commissioners need to have more direct interaction with the County's elected officials.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 8**

Cmmr. Ring Erickson stated that the Board did not cut the budget. The budget for 2012 was 1.2 million dollars higher than the budget for 2011. It did not include the increases for medical that the Commissioners had adopted for County staff. She also stated that she agreed with the Sheriff. What minimal amount of money was added to his budget probably didn't enhance services much beyond making sure there was enough money for labor contracts and medical for the jail. Law enforcement was funded out of the current expense fund. The Commissioners wanted to get a better grip on what was going on with the roads and roads safety. She stated that there were a lot of nice people in the County who were willing to make the community safer. She appreciated the people in Harstine Island who were working with the Sheriff's office. There were other departments that needed things too. She was in the Auditor's and Assessor's offices quite a bit. Those were offices that she didn't feel were funded fully. She stated that she would like the Auditors and Assessor's offices to get to the point where they can at least be open during the noon hour. There were a lot of things that the County offices need. It made her feel bad when people said that the Commissioners don't care about law enforcement because that wasn't how she felt. She was a retired police officer and worked in law enforcement most of her career. She does care about the Sheriffs. It had been mentioned that the Sheriffs will need new cars, but in reality those cars were fully funded and are on a regular replacement schedule and will be replaced.

Cmmr. Sheldon commented that he thought the public was confused. When the Governor made her announcement about writing her budget for 2012, she proposed to take away liquor profits and proceeds that come to the County. The Treasurer wrote the Commissioners a memo giving some reductions that she thought would be taken from Mason County's budget. A lot had happened since then. Over the years, Mason County had been able to cut and streamline some of the operations so the Commissioners were able to increase the budget this year. The State of Washington had a \$1.4 billion shortfall. Other counties had a shortfall. Keeping the County on an even keel will help everyone. He wouldn't want to be in Eastern Washington where they didn't start to cut across the board a long time ago. It would be really sad to have to lay-off a number of people all at once. He would like to have a conversation again with the Sheriff about what his department needs. He would like to figure out the resources for the Sheriff to work on the residential burglaries which is a very big issue with the public. He was more than willing to discuss the supplemental budget and put it on the agenda.

**Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to reduce the Traffic Policing Budget by \$125,000 to balance to the Road Levy Traffic Diversion. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**

9.1.2 Transfer \$4,000 from the Current Expense Ending Fund Balance to Probation Services for Juvenile Detention meals.

Mike Dunn, Juvenile Detention Manager, stated that after the initial budget was submitted and approved his department received a letter from the Sheriff indicating that due to their rising costs, the funding for meals would be passed on to the Juvenile Detention department. It worked out to be an additional increase of .95 cents per day, per youth, to feed. They projected what that would look like for 2012 based on a six month period in 2011, and estimated that it would be an additional \$4,000 to the budget.

There was no public testimony.

Cmmr. Bloomfield commented that the Juvenile Detention does a great job.

Cmmr. Sheldon felt confident that the money would be well spent. The County has many needs, not just the visible needs that the public sees or hears.



**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 9**

**Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to transfer \$4000 from the Current Expense Ending Fund Balance to Probation Services for Juvenile Detention meals. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**

9.2 Public hearing to consider a electing to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program for protection of critical areas as adopted under RCW 36.70a.705.

Barbara Adkins, Department of Community Development Director, explained that that in 2007 the Legislature charged the Ruckelshaus Center to look at the conflict between protecting agriculture areas and critical areas. One of the ultimate goals in doing both would be to protect critical areas but allow for viable agricultural activities. That was something that was inside the Growth Management Act and that program crafted into House Bill 1886. It was adopted into RCW 36.70A and now the Growth Management Act. It would provide an optional alternative for the County to put together regulations that would allow agricultural operators to participate on programs and come up with ways to continue what they're doing and still protect the critical areas. The way that the RCW was currently written, any county planning under GMA was charged with protecting critical areas. This would give a little bit of flexibility should the Commissioners decide to opt into the program, to work with the agricultural operators to come up with work plans and goals that would allow them to continue to operate voluntarily and be stewards for the critical areas on their property. The Commissioners had been briefed about two weeks ago. They had representatives from The Washington State Conservation Commission, the Washington Association of Counties and the Washington Farm Bureau. The counties in Washington have until January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to determine whether they want to opt in or not. The purpose of the hearing was to consider the resolution, to consider opting into the program. It was a funded program. Should funding become available, and Mason County was chosen to receive that funding, it would be over a four-year period. The County would then put together work groups for common goals, work plans and also work with the State to form watershed groups. The County could elect to be the administrator of the VSP and coordinate the local efforts, or choose to work with another group such as the Conservation District. Ms. Adkins had also received two supportive comment letters that the Commissioners had copies of.

Cmmr. Sheldon asked Dan Wood, who was there from the Washington Farm Bureau, how many counties have voluntarily joined the Stewardship Program so far and how many are expected to join.

Mr. Wood stated that there were twenty confirmed and another eleven were in consideration. He thought the number would be between twenty-six and thirty-one.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson asked if Mason County was on the maybe list.

Mr. Wood commented that Mason County was not confirmed, but was in the very hopeful category.

Public Comment

Tom Davis was concerned that there hadn't been enough time to consider some of the concerns with the VSP. He felt it was being rushed down the pike. It was presented at the briefing on January 3rd and January 10th the proposal was put on the agenda. When he looked at other counties he found that they had three weeks to prepare in most cases. Other counties had an organized outreach program. There was participation by stake-holders but the community was never mentioned. In five days the County will have to opt in or opt out which he felt wasn't enough time. His other concern about the proposal was the summary from the bill that transferred some of the authority of how the critical areas were handled, typically through the Growth Management Act, over to a ten-member committee. That committee would be subject to certain influences from the community, which he believed was the intent. Those influences normally took place more from special interest than it did from the environmental community or the public at large. Compromising land uses or critical areas would be where he felt the problem started. He

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 10**

listed groups opposing opting in to the Voluntary Stewardship Program. Those companies felt there would be a lack of over-site and further degradation of the critical area environment. He thought it would be a complete unknown at this time without a guarantee of funding. It could be several years before funding became available. The opportunity to opt out of the plan would be three years, with conditions. Once the County accepts funding, the County would be tied to the funding. The County would have to show progress that a local plan would be developed. That particular proposal had been met with a great deal of enthusiasm by two of the Commissioners before the meeting today and also voted on by Commissioner Sheldon. It was adopted in April 2011 in the Senate. He wanted to know if the Commissioners knew about the VSP that far back, and if so, why was the community just learning about it. He suggested not to opt in the program until the County learned what they are opting into. He suggested waiting to see how it worked for everyone else.

Allen Kreever and his wife own an 800 acre farm in the Skokomish Valley. He outlined what the bill was about. There had been a lot of work and the people responsible were at the Washington State Conservation Commission. Mason County had two options, to opt in to the VSP or continue under the GMA existing laws. The deadline for opting in was January 22, 2012. It required an ordinance or a resolution opting into the VSP. Mason County can opt out anytime by adopting an ordinance or a resolution to that effect. He heard there was a three-year waiting period also. The funding was not available yet due to the State and the Feds. Mason County must designate an entity to administer the funds and a local watershed group willing and capable of overseeing a successful program. This group must be identified within sixty days of receipt of the first funds. Being supportive of the VSP means that Mason County would receive \$710,000 in State and/or Federal funding. Mason County had two entities required to implement the program, the Mason Conservation District and Skokomish Watershed Action Team. They would work together to identify and improve the critical areas involved. Mr. Kreever stated that it appeared that passing a resolution by January 22 would be a win-win situation for all. Then end goal was to better protect and enhance critical wildlife areas and salmon habitat, while providing landowners the necessary funds to improve the long-term liability of their agricultural lands.

Larry Bolt and his wife also owned a small farm. He stated that VSP was a chance for cooperation rather than confrontation. He believed that the VSP was needed for the best stewardship of the land. It would work with the property owners to bring about the best practices for the whole county. He realized that there were some enterprises in the county that do not do the best practices and need overseeing. If Mason County opted in, the County would be exempt from going to court for three years. He thought it would be better to say that the County tried a voluntary manner. In most instances, it had worked best for the counties that opted in. As a farm owner, he worked with the Mason County Conservation District and the NRCS to do the best management practices on his land with his wife. This property was what he and his wife plan to spend the rest of their lives on. Their land is very important to them and so are the animals living on it. As a taxpayer and property owner, he requested that the Board make the decision to opt in the VSP program. He felt this would be a positive effect on the land and the people of Mason County.

Dan Wood, Washington Farm Bureau, handed out 3 documents, which he then discussed. He stated that they negotiated the VSP with legislation for four years and it was facilitated by the Ruckelshaus Center. The Ruckelshaus Center was a joint operation of UW and WSU that was designed to handle difficult public policy issues. He had seen a lot of lawsuits over the years under the Growth Management Act. He gave an example in Skagit County regarding an appeal. They went to the Legislator to change the language to say that a county can't prohibit nor require modifications of legally existing agriculture activities. He wanted to put that same language in the Growth Management Act. What he received instead was four years of negotiation with tribal, agricultural, county and environmental interest at the table. The last year was agricultural, county and environmental interests. The language changed where a Voluntary Stewardship Program was created so counties dealing with critical areas and agricultural

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 11**

activities could step aside and create a stakeholder group where they are using voluntary programs to address needs. He had examples of this working. The cooperative effort between stakeholders in Walla Walla, Nisqually, Chehalis and Grays Harbor County and the upper Columbia were just some of the examples. There was language protecting agricultural activities that states that they cannot be required to cease; similar to the language in the Growth Management Act, which would only be available in this county if opting into the VSP. There wasn't any money appropriated by the State. Those numbers that were shared earlier from the Conservation Commission were estimates of the costs. Washington was one of five states being looked at by various Federal agencies looking at getting more bang for their buck. There were many counties applying for this, meaning that Mason County may not get funding for in the first year. If nothing happened in three years, the County could back out of the VSP. There would be various options if the County didn't opt into the VSP. One option would be to review or revise, except the deadline would be put off for agriculture. Another option would be to adopt either the Clallam, Whatcom, King or Clark County models. The only question subject to challenge would be whether there was enough similarity between Mason County and the county model that was chosen. A third option would be to come up with the County's own plan. Before adopting the County's own plan, it would be submitted to the Department of Commerce and they would certify it. That would help save taxpayers money locally and at the State level, which would give more options and flexibility. The VSP was a very innovated program with a very unique set of organizations. The agencies still would have the obligations they had at the State, Federal and local level to implement and enforce the existing law. The VSP could only be reviewed at the State level by the technical panel. They want agriculture to be equal to other the goals, which they have brought under the act. He strongly encouraged the Commissioners to make the opt in decision.

Pat Vandehy had great concerns regarding in opting in. She thought it was another way for the County to delegate responsibility for things they should take care of themselves. In 2008 the Health Department requested that they no longer receive annual water, soil and septic reports for Web Hill. Her main concern was water and has been for two years now. Neither the County, the City of Shelton, or the Port of Shelton have any idea where the critical recharge areas are. They are all operating on different maps and different consensus. She wanted to know how you can regulate when you don't know where the critical areas are. It was mentioned that would be some kind of study, which she hoped for, but hadn't happened yet. The beginning of last year, everyone was concerned about water and forming committees and groups and meetings. Nothing happened. She stated that what happens on the land area is what eventually gets into the streams, the lakes and Hood Canal. The general public is responsible for most of the pollution. The industries, including the big farm industries, were never mentioned. She was really concerned that this was called a voluntary program but the groups that are in it have a choice to act in a responsible way or not. She thought it seemed like the County was being pushed into making a decision in a very fast way and she thought the County needed more time.

John Bolender, Mason Conservation District, encouraged the Commissioners to thoughtfully opt in to the Voluntary Stewardship Program and make commitments to agriculture and make it a priority in the community. Farmers are stewards of their land and if they don't care about their soil and animals, they wouldn't be farming for very long. Farmers provide food for the community and are contributors to the local economy. He thought it was important that the County provide an environment that was conducive to the agricultural producers and new agricultural products that go along with that. The County needs to foster creative solutions and innovation within agriculture. The County would need to reduce regulatory barriers and protect the resources. The County would need to encourage efforts under GMA to maintain and enhance natural resource based industries. That was a tool that government can use to support an important element in the community. Opting in does not assure anything. If the process doesn't successfully create a regulatory scheme that adequately protects environmental functions, the general CAO would take affect and doesn't create any risk. The County can designate more than one watershed. He discussed the Skokomish Watershed Action Team as an example of voluntary stakeholder

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 12**

success. He thought the County knew how to do this locally and be thoughtful about preserving and protecting the natural resource concerns in the environment, but also in a way that enables the agricultural community to thrive.

Suzanne Boltz owns property by Spencer Lake with her husband. She stated that her choice would be for the County to opt in to the process. She was interested in opting in because farming had been in her family for generations. Her grandparents bought property in Kitsap County and farmed it and then turned it over to her parents. She and her husband were fortunate to buy just a small portion of that property from her parents. They eventually decided to sell and move to Mason County for more land. Her family had instilled in her to not put too many animals on the land and to use natural resources. There were people that came in and bought property around her and didn't do such a nice job with the property because they needed to be educated. She loved her property and would like to perpetuate that. She wanted everybody to remember that people don't own the land, they are only here for a short time to take care of it. The footprint that is left behind is going to make a difference. She would like to participate in opting in with people that have her agricultural background. She has had great experience working with the Mason County Conservation District and thought they should be duplicated everywhere. She appreciated talking to Barbara Adkins. She stated that she would like to see Mason County opt in.

Cmmr. Bloomfield stated that he knew of this process two years ago. The intent was to provide security for continuance of farming to allow reasonable regulations of farms and also surety for their future. He wasn't sure if the VSP would allow that or not. He felt that it would certainly be a grim future for farming in a lot of counties without it. Mason County didn't have quite the area that other counties have. The County would have to address the critical areas concern. That would help to allow flexibility.

Cmmr. Sheldon stated that he was very much in favor of the VSP. He worked hard in the Legislator on the concept. He felt the VSP was a unique process and a good beginning to an alternative to the GMA process. The vote passed in the House, which was 92-5 and 48-1 in the Senate. The GMA had gone on for far too long in the state and taken a lot of hostages and a lot of victims. Many of the victims were individuals that own property in Mason County that wanted to develop it in a very responsible way. He appreciated the two local speakers that were great examples of the agricultural community in the county that were very much in favor of opting in.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson was very concerned about the environment because Mason County is a resource county. She stated that she ran for County Commissioner because she had a deep and abiding respect for the history as well what she believes is the future. She thought that the opportunity was there and she didn't know all of the answers, but she had been briefed by the Washington Association of Counties. The vote in the House and the Senate had a Legislative intent of what has evolved over the years. She believed that it would be good to opt in. She believed that it was an opportunity for the County to become more informed and knowledgeable. The County will have a series of forums and discussions for people to be involved and answer questions. It could help people all become more knowledgeable about the county. She thought the County could stay in the process and continue to be educated as a community.

Cmmr. Bloomfield noted that it doesn't do away with the Counties Critical Area Ordinance, which was still in place. If the VSP failed, the County could fall back on the Critical Area Ordinance.

Cmmr. Sheldon had heard from people that were in agriculture that felt that one of the biggest problems in the Skokomish River Valley is the high water table. The Growth Management Act didn't really address those local issues. He thought the VSP would help address local issues.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 13**

**Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield to consider a electing to participate in the Voluntary Stewardship Program for protection of critical areas as adopted under RCW 36.70a.705. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye. Resolution No. 07-12 (Exhibit D)**

10. Other Business (Department Heads and Elected Officials) –

- 10.1 Amber Cervantes, Elections Superintendent, questioned the approval of today's action agenda item 8.6. She asked if the Commissioners' intent was to approve the precincts with their proposed names. In workbooks the Commissioners received, there were some proposed names for the precincts on one side and the other side was a column for Commissioner selection.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson explained that the Commissioners hadn't discussed the names and would like her to put it on a briefing.

Cmmr. Sheldon asked Ms. Cervantes how many precincts there were.

Ms. Cervantes responded with thirty-nine precincts; two were new.

Cmmr. Sheldon asked Ms. Cervantes if the Hoodsport precinct was now the Lilliwap precinct.

Ms. Cervantes stated that Hoodsport merged with Lilliwap and the largest portion geographically was Lilliwap. The proposed name was Lilliwap and alternative name was Hoodsport or the Commissioners could decide to call it whatever they chose.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson wanted to know if there could be a hyphenated precinct name.

Ms. Cervantes stated it would be hard to enter the name into the computer with a hyphen. The system probably wouldn't except it that way. She stated it would be easier if there was a space instead.

- 10.2 Charlie Butros reported that the snowfall hadn't been bad for the Department of Transportation and the Public Works crew so far. More snow was expected after midnight. He suggested to try to keep off the roads if possible, especially early, and be safe.
11. Board's Reports and Calendar - The Commissioners reported on meetings attended the past week and announced their upcoming weekly meetings.

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**  
**January 17, 2012 - PAGE 14**


12. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.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

Resolution No. 08-12  
2012 Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes  
Affidavit of Mason County Treasurer  
Elisabeth (Lisa) Frazier

**WHEREAS**, RCW 84.56.240 states in part that if the county treasurer is unable for the want of goods or chattels whereupon to levy, to collect by distress or otherwise, the taxes, or any part thereof, which may have been assessed upon the personal property of any person or corporation....., the treasurer shall file with the county legislative authority, on the first day of February following, a list of such taxes.

**THEREFORE**, pursuant to RCW 84.56.240, I Elisabeth (Lisa) Frazier, Mason County Treasurer, and or my deputy entrusted with the collection of the taxes have made a diligent search and inquiry for goods and chattels wherewith to make such taxes, and was unable to make or collect the same as shown on attachment "A".

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Mason County Board of County Commissioner's hereby accepts the affidavit of the Mason County Treasurer and hereby approves the cancellation of uncollectible personal property taxes as shown on attachment "A".

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup>, day of January, 2012.

ATTESTED TO:

Elisabeth Frazier  
Elisabeth (Lisa) Frazier, Mason County Treasurer

ATTESTED TO:

Shannon Goudy  
Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lynda Ring Erickson  
Lynda Ring Erickson, Chair

Tim Sheldon  
Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

Steve Bloomfield  
Steve Bloomfield, Commissioner

**2012 UNCOLLECTIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES  
AFFIDAVIT OF MASON COUNTY TREASURER  
ELISABETH (LISA) FRAZIER  
ATTACHMENT "A"**

<b>PARCEL #</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>TAXES</b>
<b>10-06129</b>	<b>PURDY CANYON BARK SUPPLY</b> 15230 N US Highway 101	Retail/Trade	2007	\$76.94
<i>REASON</i>	Uncollectible Business was closed in 2007 and owner filed bankruptcy in 2009. Bankruptcy Case #09-42856.			
<b>10-04126</b>	<b>Big E's Lounge</b> 324 W Railroad Ave	Tavern / Lounge/ Eating	2009	\$609.40
<i>REASON</i>	Business was closed in 2009.  Multiple letters and phone calls and research trying to locate Mr. Anderson. All efforts have been exhausted.			
<b>10-06709</b>	<b>Mission Creek Antique Gallery</b> 23611 NE Highway 3, Belfair	Antique Sales	2009	\$55.28
<i>REASON</i>	Business was closed in 2009.  Owner, Lisa Moss is deceased as of 2007. Unable to Certify to Real Property as it has been foreclosed on by the Mortgage Company.			
<b>10-06712</b>	<b>Raintree Construction and Remodeling, LLC</b> 160 E Susan Lane	Contract Construction	2008 2009	\$45.06 \$94.04
<i>REASON</i>	Business closed in 2009. Business owned by the same persons as Mission Creek Antique Gallery. Unable to certify to Real property since business is in a LLC and Real property has been foreclosed on by the Mortgage Company. Exhausted all efforts to locate owner.			
<b>30-06155</b>	<b>Burt Cooper</b> 70 E Endeavor Lane	Spacemaker Mobile Home	2007 2008	\$112.49 \$102.03
<i>REASON</i>	Mobile has been demolished.  The mobile home was stripped of usable metal and the walls were tore down by Vandals. Per Andrea in the Assessor's Office, the new owners of the property demolished the remainder of the mobile and filed a destroyed property form.			

**Total Cancellation**

**\$1,095.24**

Exhibit A



Resolution No. 05-12

Resolution to adopt a revised voting precinct boundary plan

Whereas, on August 9, 2011, the County Commissioners adopted a new voting precinct boundary plan reducing the number of precincts from 57 to 37, and;

Whereas, the Washington State Redistricting Committee has adopted a Congressional District Plan that moves a portion of Mason County from Congressional District 6 to Congressional District 10, and;

Whereas, RCW 29A.16.050(1) directs that no precinct may be divided by a Congressional District and two of the 37 precincts were divided by the new Congressional line, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HERBY RESOLVED: That the Mason County Board of County Commissioners hereby approve and adopt the revised plan adding two voting precincts to bring Mason County's voting precincts into compliance with RCW 29A.16.050(1) as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

Approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2012.

Mason County Board of Commissioners  
Lynda Ring Erickson  
Lynda Ring Erickson, Chair  
Steve Bloomfield  
Steve Bloomfield, Commissioner  
Tim Sheldon  
Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

Attest:  
Shannon Goudy  
Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:  
Tim Whitehead #37821  
Tim Whitehead, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

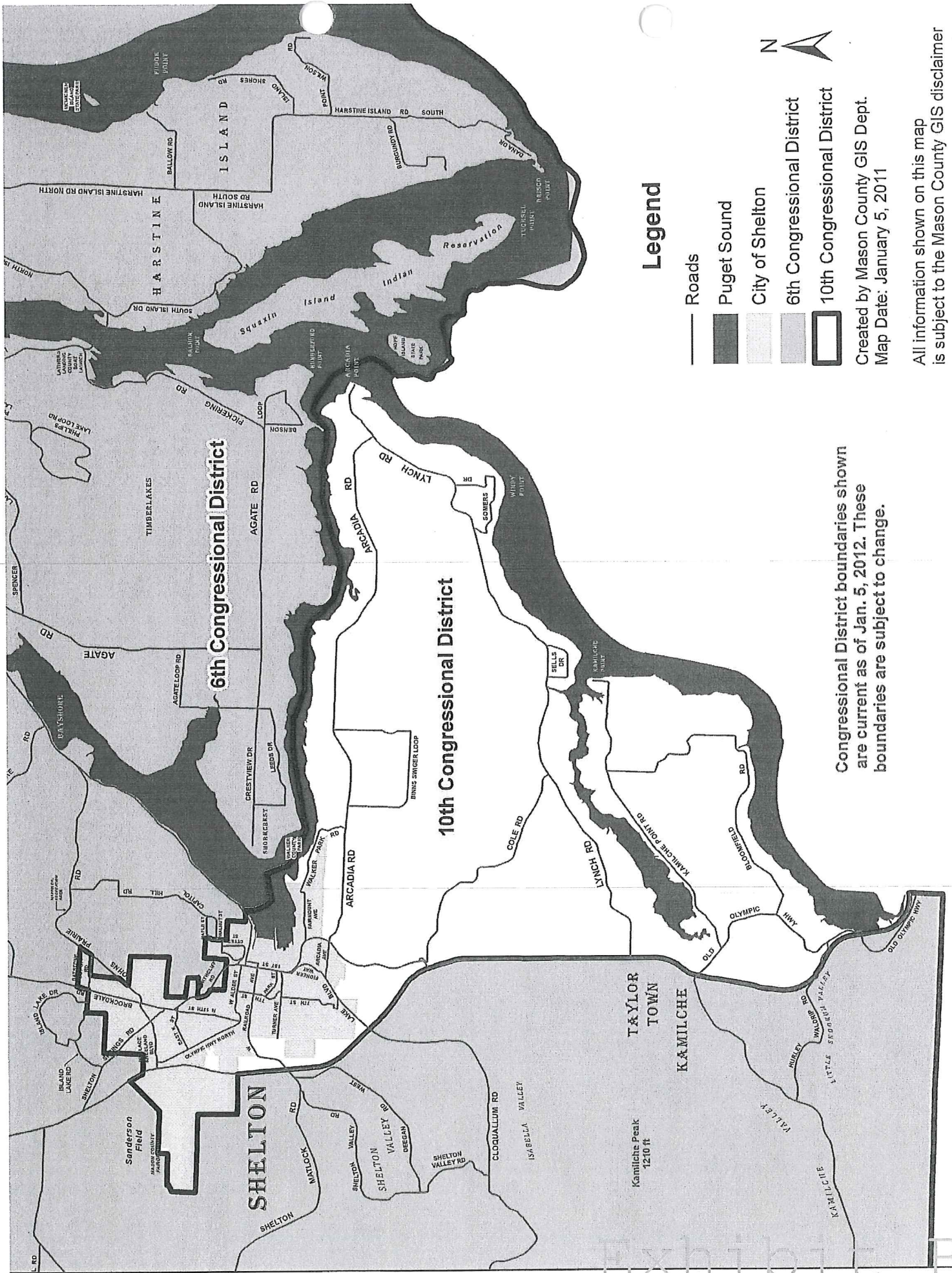
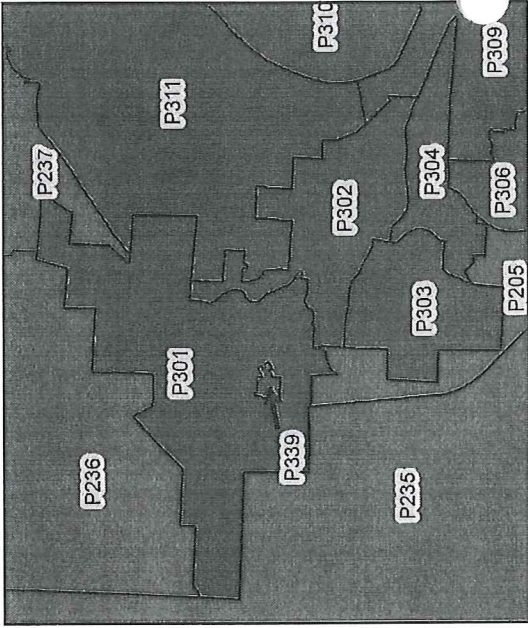
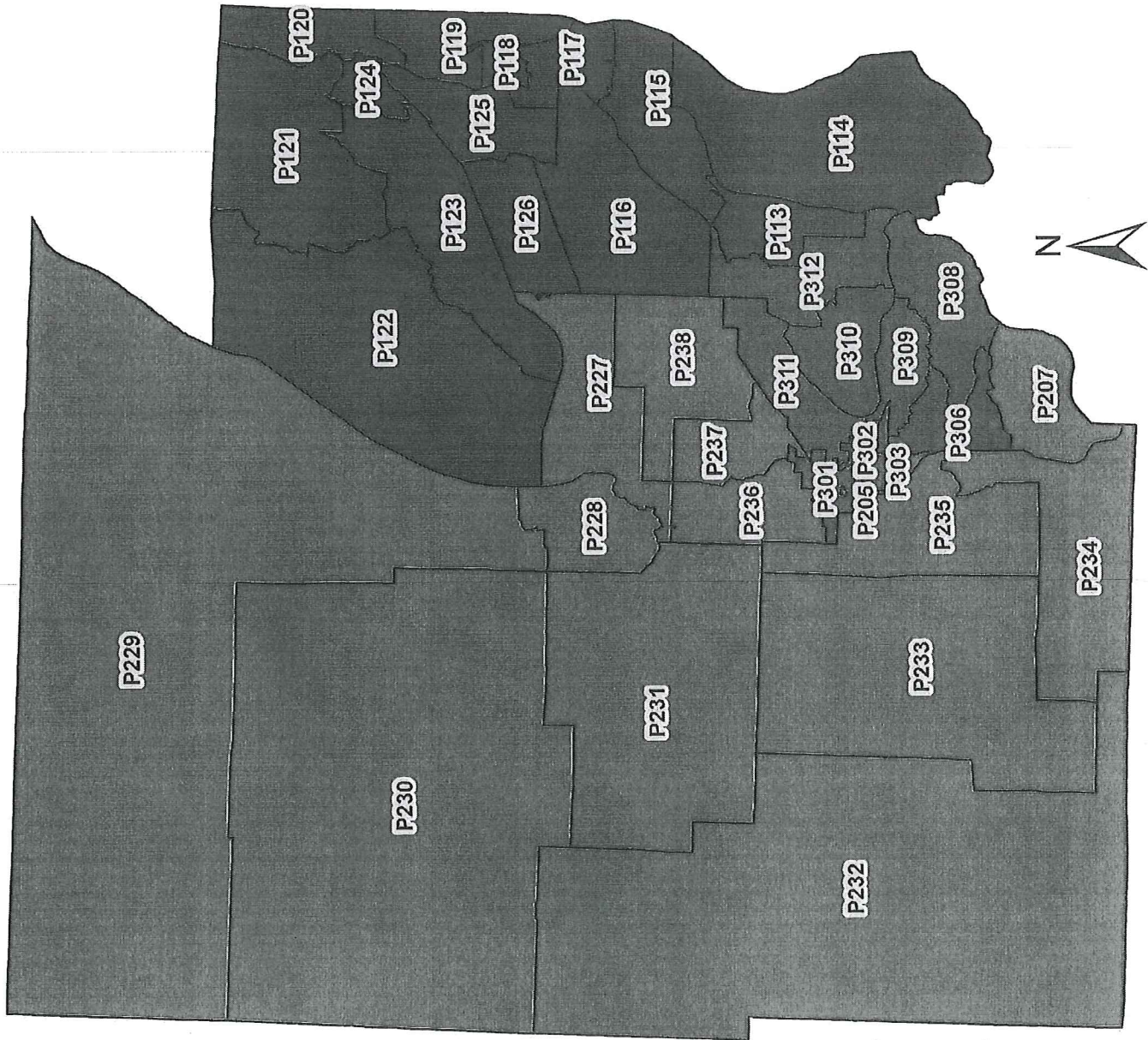


Exhibit B

# Possible Option



## Legend

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3

## Commissioner District Populations

- District 1 20,279
- District 2 20,218
- District 3 20,209

Created by Mason County GIS Dept.  
Map Date: January 5, 2011

All information shown on this map

Resolution No. 06-12

**Resolution to name each voting precinct in Mason County**

Whereas, the Mason County Commission has adopted new voting precincts, and;

Whereas, RCW 29A.16.050(5) requires a number be assigned to each voting precinct and although not required, allows a name to also be assigned to each voting precinct, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HERBY RESOLVED: That the Mason County Board of County Commissioners hereby approve and adopt a name for each of the 39 voting precincts as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

Approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2012.

Mason County Board of Commissioners

Lynda Ring Erickson

Lynda Ring Erickson, Chair

Steve Bloomfield

Steve Bloomfield, Commissioner

Tim Sheldon

Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

Attest:

Shannon Goudy

Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:

Tim Whitehead #3761

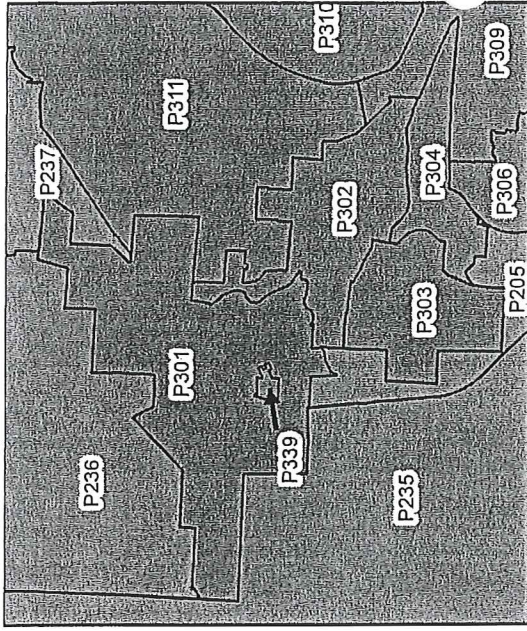
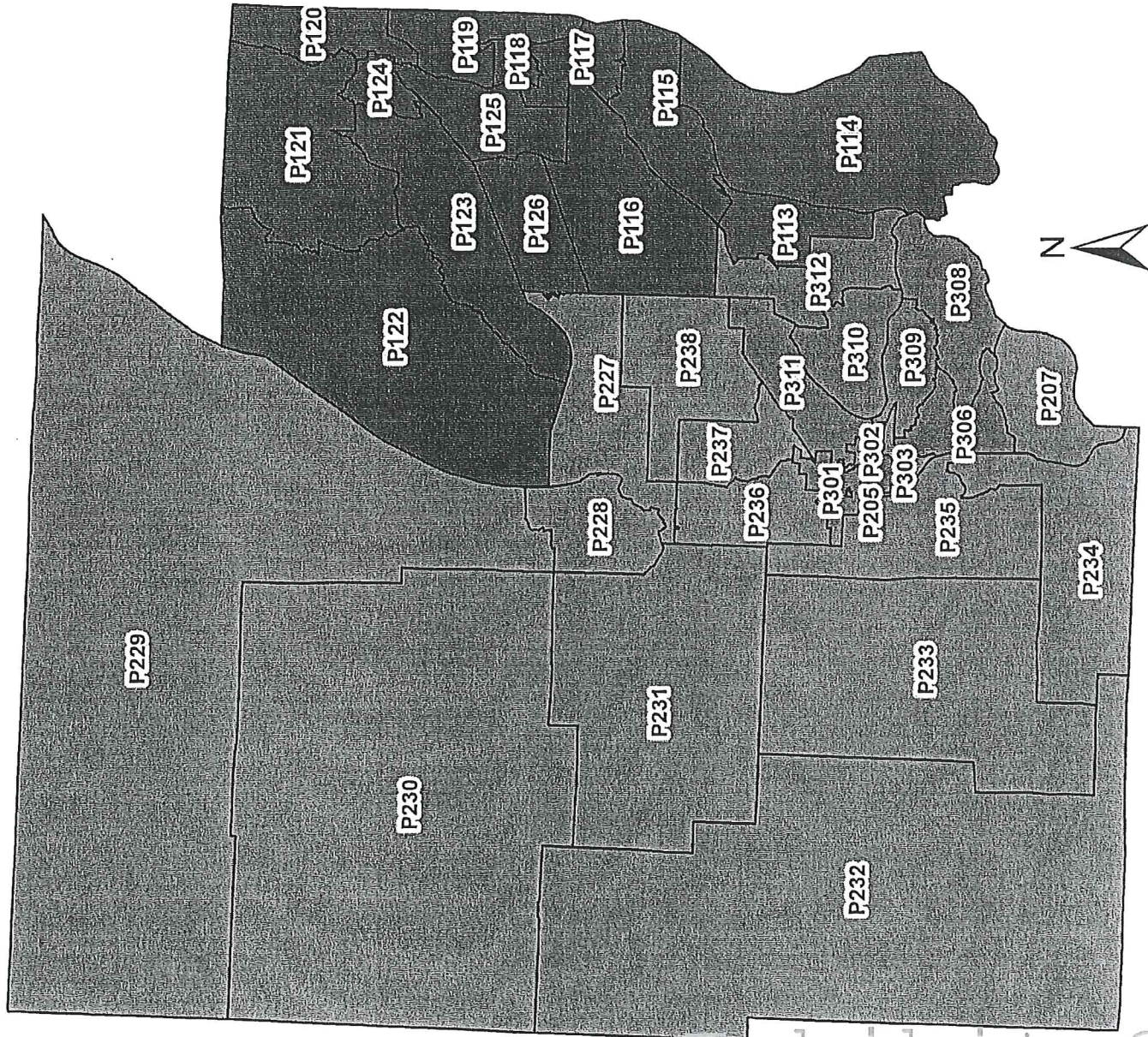
Tim Whitehead, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Exhibit C




## Proposed Voting Precinct Names

Precinct Number	Proposed Precinct Name	Alternate Choices	Commissioners' Selection
P301	Olympic View	Shelton Olympic View	
P302	Downtown	Shelton Downtown	
P303	Angleside	Shelton Angleside	
P304	Hillcrest	Shelton Hillcrest	
P205	new	Westside, Deegan, Shadow Valley	
P306	Fawn Lake		
P207	new	Kamilche 2, Skookum, Kamilche Point	
P308	Arcadia		
P309	Mill Creek	Southside	
P310	Agate	Miller	
P311	Oakland Bay	Bayshore	
P312	Timberlake		
P113	Pickering		
P114	Harstine		
P115	Grapeview		
P116	Mason Lake		
P117	Twanoh		
P118	Allyn		
P119	Victor		
P120	Belfair	Belfair East	
P121	Tiger Lake	Bear Creek, Elfendahl	
P122	Dewatto		
P123	Tahuya		
P124	Sand Hill	Belfair West	
P125	Trail's End	Razor, Theler, Belfair South	
P126	Fair Harbor	Detroit	
P227	Union		
P228	Skokomish		
P229	Lilliwaup	Hoodsport	
P230	Cushman		
P231	Eells		
P232	Matlock	Satsop, Mary M. Knight	
P233	Dayton		
P234	Kamilche	Squaxin	
P235	Isabella		
P236	Airport		
P237	John's Prairie	Capitol Hill	
P238	Limerick		
P339	Callanan	Cemetery, Mountain View	

# Possible Option



## Legend

-  District 1
-  District 2
-  District 3

## Commissioner District Populations

- District 1 20,279
- District 2 20,218
- District 3 20,209

Created by Mason County GIS Dept.  
Map Date: January 5, 2011

All information shown on this map

RESOLUTION NO. 07-12  
ELECTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VOLUNTARY  
STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR PROTECTION OF CRITICAL AREAS  
(RCW 36.70A.705)

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature, through ESHB 1886, known as the Ruckelshaus Process Bill, created a Voluntary Stewardship Program ("VSP") for protection of critical areas associated with agricultural activities; and

WHEREAS, ESHB 1886, as codified in RCW 36.70A.710, states that "As an alternative to protecting critical areas in areas used for agricultural activities through development regulations adopted under RCW 36.70A.060, the legislative authority of the county may elect to protect such critical areas through the program."; and

WHEREAS, in order to participate in the VSP, the county legislative authority must elect to participate by January 22, 2012; and

WHEREAS, prior to electing to participate in the VSP a county is required to confer with tribes, environmental and agricultural interests; and provide notice following the public participation and notice provisions of RCW 36.70A.035 to property owners and other affected and interested individuals, tribes, government agencies, businesses, school districts, and organizations; and

WHEREAS, Mason County established a VSP website and email address to provide effective communication for providing and receiving information; provided a News Release to KMAS, KRXV, Shelton-Mason County Journal, The Olympian, Shelton Chamber Of Commerce, North Mason Chamber Of Commerce, City Of Shelton, Economic Development Council, and The Kitsap Sun and a formal public notice to the Shelton-Mason County Journal; and mailed notice of the public hearing to interested individuals, tribes, government agencies, businesses, school districts, and organization; and

WHEREAS, after due notice, the Mason County Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing on January 17, 2012 to hear testimony and take public comments regarding Mason County decision to opt-in to the VSP pursuant to RCW 36.70A.710 ; and

WHEREAS, on January 17, 2012 the Mason County Board of County Commissioners considered this Resolution and officially elects to participate in Voluntary Stewardship Program (RCW 36.70A.705) and adopts the following findings:

1. The Board of County Commissioners hereby elects to enroll the entirety of unincorporated Mason County, and all of its watersheds, in the Voluntary Stewardship Program established by Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1886 (RCW 36.70A.705); and
2. The Board of County Commissioners hereby acknowledges that the county includes portions of five watersheds including Kennedy Goldsborough, Kitsap, Skokomish-Dosewallips and South Shore of Hood Canal, Queets-Quinault, and Lower Chehalis.

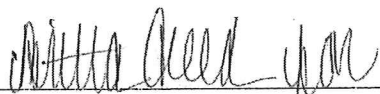
3. The Board of County Commissioners hereby nominates all of its watersheds for consideration by the State Conservation Commission as priority watersheds; and
4. There is local leadership to make the Voluntary Stewardship Program successful; and
5. Data relevant to the VSP is available and there are some watershed plans and implementation strategies that can be integrated; and
6. Technical assistance is available locally as necessary to develop and implement the Program; and
7. With adequate funding, there is a likelihood of success with a local effort to establish and implement the Voluntary Stewardship Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by adoption of this resolution Mason County is eligible for state grant-funding to accomplish the intent of the *Voluntary Stewardship Program*, and that Mason County will proceed as required under the Growth Management Act and RCW 36.70A.705 to implement the requirements of the Voluntary Stewardship Program once adequate funding is provided by the state.

ADOPTED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON


ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynda Ring Erickson, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Whitehead, Chief DPA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Bloomfield, Commissioner

Exhibit D