

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

February 21, 2012

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Patti Sells led the flag salute.
3. Roll Call – Present: Commissioner District 1 - Lynda Ring Erickson; Commissioner District 2 – Tim Sheldon. Absent: 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 an application for added privilege for Safeway in Belfair and notice of establishments in Mason County with liquor license due to expire on May 31, 2012.
 - 4.1.2 The Economic Development Council of Mason County expressed concerns regarding the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System program.
 - 4.1.3 The Port of Allyn submitted an application for .09 funding for a water system plan update.
 - 4.1.4 Lori Kent discussed the moratorium on collective gardens.
 - 4.1.5 LindaSue Martin encouraged support of the Humane Society's plans to build an animal shelter.
 - 4.1.6 Herb Gerhardt expressed support of Faith in Action's Community Development Block Grant.
 - 4.1.7 Sue Lamont, Douglas Sayan, George Radovich and Patti Kleist are seeking appointment to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Advisory Board.
 - 4.1.8 The Turning Pointe Domestic Violence Shelter shared their recent accomplishments and challenges.
 - 4.2 Brian Matthews, Public Works, announced that the design consultant selection for the Lower Elfendahl Pass Road bridge project to BergerABAM out of Federal Way, Washington.
 - 4.3 Emergency Management Staff Recognition - Martin Best read a letter from the City of Shelton Police Department recognizing Tammi Wright and Sandi Kvarnstrom. Cmmr. Ring Erickson presented the staff with green star awards.
 - 4.4 Cmmr. Ring Erickson read the correspondence from Turning Pointe Domestic Violence Shelter listed under item 4.1.8.
5. Open Forum for Citizen Input –
 - 5.1 Sandra Herndon thanked Commissioner Ring Erickson for acknowledging the need for a pet area at the domestic violence shelter.
 - 5.2 Patricia Vandehey read a portion of the Washington State Constitution and discussed the importance of wisely selecting candidates for government leadership.
 - 5.3 Tom Davis commented that the Shelton Hills project was out of litigation, which he believed would be very positive for the county.
 - 5.4 Theron Dixon was concerned that North Mason County Resource didn't have enough funding to serve the needs of the homeless.

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- 5.5 Linda Thomson from North Mason County Resource asked for an increase in funding from the 2163 Housing Funds for homelessness prevention. They were not recommended for funding and they are seeking \$35,000.
6. Adoption of Agenda - **Cmmr. Sheldon/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-absent.**
7. Approval of Minutes – January 30, 2012 and February 6, 2012 briefing meeting minutes; January 17, 2012 and February 14, 2012 regular meeting minutes.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to approve January 30, 2012 and February 6, 2012 briefing meeting minutes; January 17, 2012 and February 14, 2012 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-absent.

8. Approval of Action Agenda:
- 8.1 Approval of Housing Coalition recommended grants for 2012 funding as follows:
From the 2163 Housing Funds for Homeless Prevention: Mason County Shelter for Rental Assistance, \$135,720; Mason County Shelter for Rental Assistance Specialist, \$23,700; Community Action Council for Utility Assistance, \$7,040; Faith in Action for Utility Assistance, \$5,760; and United Way of Mason County for Financial Literacy, \$10,000. For Services to Homeless: ESD 113 for Youth Outreach, \$29,100; St. David's Church for Adult Outreach, \$29,600; Community Action Council for Toothache Clinic, \$11,400; For Housing for Homeless Youth, and St. David's Church, \$12,600; For the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Compliance to meet the State mandate to move the Mason County Shelter, \$18,000. From the 2060 Funds for Affordable Housing: Turning Pointe, \$45,000; Mason County Shelter, \$40,000 and St. David's Emergency Shelter, \$10,000.
- 8.2 Approval of the Veterans Assistance Fund applications for: Ernest F. Lazard – Utilities \$600.00; Rodney J. Thurman – Housing \$200.00; Larry Tunno – Utilities \$157.34; and Charles T. Underhill – Utilities \$347.67 and food \$150.00 for a total of \$1,455.01 as recommended by the Veterans Assistance Fund Screening Committee.
- 8.3 Approval of Warrants
- | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Claims Clearing Fund | Warrant #s 197227-200929 | \$4,919,158.39 |
| Salary Clearing Fund | Warrant #s 5429-5569 | \$ 841,082.68 |
| Direct Deposit Fund | Deposit #s 35240-35946 | \$1,699,826.68 |

Linda Thomson asked for a separate vote on item 8.1.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to approve Action Items 8.2 and 8.3. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-absent.

Item 8.1

Cmmr. Sheldon asked Vicki Kirkpatrick, Public Health and Human Services Director, to provide more information about the item.

Ms. Kirkpatrick explained that the 2060 and 2163 funds are to be used specifically to serve the homeless. The funding requires that Mason County establish a homelessness prevention plan and a Housing Coalition. The Housing Coalition reviews the requests for funding and makes decisions for the use of the funds each year. Mason County must demonstrate how the dollars are helping to meet the goals in the homelessness prevention plan. Reports must be provided that demonstrate how the dollars are spent and how they are moving the plan forward. There was not a recommendation to fund North Mason County Resource, but there are contracts to provide services to the north end.

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She noted that the Coalition has historically maintained a reserve in the 2163 fund to allow for capital activities and to mitigate reduced funding collections. There are also other housing funding opportunities in the community. The Board could ask the Housing Coalition to reconsider their recommendations. The Coalition did a performance and financial review of all of their contracts and there were a couple of issues with North Mason County Resource regarding documenting the use of the funds. They were not able to demonstrate how they were moving forward with the homelessness prevention plan.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted that the funds were very dependant on the economy. He asked if the North Mason County Resource had the option to provide more information and reapply.

Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that it was a possibility.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted that it was important to coordinate services and avoid duplication.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson asked if there was representation from the north end of the county on the Coalition and if North Mason Resource had access to the Coalition meetings.

Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that there was representation from the entire county and North Mason Resource was able to attend the meetings.

Ms. Thomson commented that their performance audit came out well. She stated that if the funding wasn't approved the homeless in the north end would not be served. She recommended that the Board amend the item to add funding instead of taking it away from somewhere else.

Andrew Graham asked for a recap of the differences in funding between 2011 and 2012.

Ms. Kirkpatrick explained that there was reduced funding, but the purposes of the contracts remained the same. She went over the process of the homeless advocate program.

Mr. Graham asked if there were portions of funding going to the north end.

Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that there were contracts that provided services to the north end.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson asked if there were equal services available to the Belfair area and other parts of the county.

Ms. Kirkpatrick stated that there was a goal of equitable distribution but there were remote areas that had difficulty accessing those services. She noted that there were other services available in the area through faith-based organizations.

An audience member asked who made up the Housing Coalition.

Ms. Kirkpatrick explained that it is made up of stakeholders and went over the different organizations involved.

John Gunter asked how the decision was made to not fund North Mason County Resource.

Ms. Kirkpatrick explained that the Coalition has a consensus process to evaluate the contracts. North Mason County Resource was part of that process but they were not recommended for funding.

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Cmmr. Sheldon suggested that Ms. Kirkpatrick ask the Coalition to reconvene to discuss the issue of countywide distribution.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson asked for the Coalition to provide a list of services that can be funded with the money. She also wanted to look at equitable distribution of funds throughout the whole county.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted that there would be a lot of changes in the funding after the Legislature ends. He thought that would be a good time to discuss the issue again.

Patti Sells noted that one of the issues in discussing the application was the duplication of services. They wanted a consistency of information and the outcomes were important. The utility assistance was divided to provide assistance to each end of the county. There were also things written into the contracts to make sure services were available to the north end.

Denny Hamilton asked the amount of funds contributed from each district.

Ms. Kirkpatrick didn't know the funding per district.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted that the Treasurer provides a list of transactions each month.

Ms. Thomson commented that recently North Mason County Resource became a Homeless Management Information System agency to avoid duplication of services. She noted that the last Housing Coalition meeting just considered that there wasn't affordable housing in North Mason.

Harlan Olson stated that sewer hook up issues were also causing rents to go up Belfair.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to approve Action Item 8.1. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-absent.

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

- 9.1 Continuation of a public hearing held on February 7, 2012 to consider authorizing the Director of Community Development to sign an application by Mason County to the State of Washington Department of Commerce in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a project on behalf of Faith in Action for a Center for Seniors Facility in Belfair. This grant would be administrated by the Department of Community Development.

Barbara Adkins, Department of Community Development, explained that it was the second public hearing to ask the Board to consider acting as a sponsor for Faith in Action to submit a grant application to the Department of Commerce for a \$1,000,000 Community Development Block Grant. Representatives of the project gave a presentation on the senior center at the last public hearing. At that time the grant application was not prepared. They finished the application and took the public testimony from the hearing into consideration. The draft application was provided to the Board for consideration.

Kathleen Byrne-Barrantes added that the development team has been working on the grant. They left the comment period open until the 15th of February. All of the comments will be part of the application. They are asking for approval of the application.

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Questions for Staff

Tom Davis asked if there had been any discussion about extending services outside of the senior community.

Patti Kleist explained that the core mission was to extend services to seniors and disabled. She noted that there is a medical equipment bank for everyone to use and the thrift store generously provides items for people in need. They have traditionally addressed needs beyond their own. They also give to other organizations in the community that serve homeless and low-income people. The senior center will mainly support seniors, but they have envisioned programs in which youth and seniors could interact. It could be a community family center. There is the possibility of classes for all ages. They want to embrace the community as a whole.

There was no public testimony.

Cmmr. Sheldon thanked everyone for their previous participation. He was excited about the project and thought it made sense for the area. He thought there was a demonstrated need.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to authorize the Director of Community Development to sign an 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 for a project on behalf of Faith in Action for a Center for Seniors Facility in Belfair. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-absent.

Cmmr. Sheldon commented that he was amazed at the number of non-profit groups and volunteer citizens that give back to the community.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson agreed and thought it was a good example of the community working hard to bring a project together.

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

- 10.1 Sheriff Salisbury commented that Turning Pointe was a vital service to the community and greatly assisted the law enforcement community.
- 10.2 Cmmr. Ring Erickson commented that the Sheriff's deputies had recently been helpful in her neighborhood.
- 10.3 Bob Simmons, WSU Extension Office, thanked volunteers for putting in gardens at a local park. He also announced an upcoming gardening workshop and a seed swap.
- 10.4 Cmmr. Sheldon commented that State Parks is holding a public hearing in March regarding a property exchange for a new State Park on Harstine Island. He was concerned about funding, traffic and roads for the proposed park.
- 10.5 Cmmr. Sheldon also addressed the invalidation a five-dollar parcel tax that was put on parcels in Mason County in 2003 for water quality and the Conservation District. He noted that the money that has been collected does not have to be refunded.
- 10.6 Cmmr. Sheldon also mentioned the development of a jobs program in Olympia. The funding would primarily come from the Public Works Trust fund. They are hoping to create 30,000 jobs. The focus would be on funding infrastructure outside of large urban areas.

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- 10.7 Cmmr. Ring Erickson also discussed the Conservation District issue.
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 10:36 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