

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

April 3, 2012

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Bloomfield 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 - None
 - 4.2 John Keates, Facilities, Parks and Trails, read a news release announcing that Mason County will be soliciting public comments for a Parks and Trails Department Survey.
 - 4.3 Vicki Kirkpatrick, Public Health, read a proclamation declaring April 2-April 8, 2012 as Public Health Week in Mason County.
 - 4.4 Ms. Kirkpatrick also read a news release regarding Public Health Week in Mason County.
 - 4.5 Dave Loser, Public Works, announced that a purchase order for \$18,549.00 was issued to Pape Machinery of Tacoma for an excavating bucket and two hydraulic kits including installation. In addition a purchase order for \$10,575.00 was issued to Finkbinder Equipment of Burr Ridge, IL for a fixed thumb grapple.
5. Open Forum for Citizen Input –
 - 5.1 Tom Davis commented on medical costs for inmates. He noted that the issue had a serious impact on local governments' budgets. He suggested that a task force be put together to see if there was an alternative method to address the issue.
 - 5.2 Mary Jean Hrbacek spoke regarding the process the Commissioners used during the last budget cycle to create a year end budget. She stated that there was an error in the budget she sent over from the Sheriff's office when she was leaving these as the finance manager. She wanted it to be clear that the error was caught a week later and it was attempted to be fixed before the budget was adopted. She also noted that other finance managers in the County complained when the Chief Finance Manager was given a raise and she thought the Chief Finance Manager deserved a raise because she needs to know more than the other finance managers do.
 - 5.3 Patricia Vandehey commented on Public Health Week. She didn't think the focus should just be on the public. She noted that Mason County has one of the highest cancer rates in the state and it could have something to do with the environment. She didn't think adequate consideration was given to that issue. She also thought the industries weren't forced to be up to code. She suggested that there should be more emphasis placed on what the industries were doing along with the individuals.
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 – March 12, 2012 briefing meeting minutes, March 13, 2012 Public Transportation Improvement Review Conference Minutes and March 27, 2012 regular meeting minutes.

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Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve the March 12, 2012 briefing meeting minutes, March 13, 2012 Public Transportation Improvement Review Conference Minutes and March 27, 2012 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

8. Approval of Action Agenda:

- 8.1 Approval of Rental Policy and Rental Procedures for special events / rentals held at Memorial Hall, establishing a reservation system, user fees, general rules, set up and clean up guidelines and general facility information.
- 8.2 Approval to set a public hearing on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. to consider the 2010 applications for the Current Use Open Space and Timberland taxation program for the 2012 property taxes.
- 8.3 Approval of a resolution adopting a revised Mason County Public Records Policy. **Resolution No. 23-11 (Exhibit A)**
- 8.4 Approval of a resolution declaring a parcel of real property located off Cascade Street to be surplus to the needs of Mason County and approving the sale of the property to Charles E. Boettger and Deborah J. Weil for a price of \$222.13. **Resolution No. 24-11 (Exhibit B)**
- 8.5 Approval of the Veterans Assistance Fund applications for Kathleen McFarlane – Food \$150.00; Billee C. Ralstin – Utilities \$212.44 for a total of \$362.44 as recommended by the Veterans Assistance Fund Screening Committee.
- 8.6 Approval to accept the recommendation of the Hearing Examiner and grant the vacation of a portion of Reservation Road, County Road Number 43130, and all of Skokomish Indian Flats Road, County Road Number 43400, Vacation File No. 378, subject to the conditions contained in the Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations of the Hearing Examiner.
- 8.7 Approval to accept the recommendation of the Hearing Examiner and grant the vacation of a portion of Capital Hill Road, Vacation File No. 379, subject to the conditions contained in the Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations of the Hearing Examiner.
- 8.8 Approval to reclassify the Director of Public Health and Human Services from Pay Range 39 to Range 45. This is continued from the March 27, 2012 Commission meeting.
- 8.9 Approval of the resolution amending the Mason County Personnel Policies relating to Vehicle Use. **Resolution No. 25-11 (Exhibit C)**
- 8.10 Approval of Warrants

Claims Clearing Fund	Warrant #s 201478-202659	\$3,969,236.39
Salary Clearing Fund	Warrant #s 5598-5655	\$ 525,226.46
Direct Deposit Fund	Deposit #s 36301-37015	\$1,108,500.60
- 8.11 Approval to set a public hearing for April 17, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. to consider amendments to Title 8, Section 8.52 (Resource Management) and Title 17, Section 17.05 (Zoning) regarding Long Term Commercial Forest.

Tom Davis asked that item 8.3 be removed for further discussion.

Annette McGee had questions on items 8.1, 8.4 and 8.8.

Mary Jean Hrbacek had questions on item 8.9.

Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve Action items 8.2, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, 8.10 and 8.11. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

Item 8.1

Ms. McGee asked what the changes were to the policy.

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John Keates explained that the current process wasn't working. There had been damage to the building and it had been left dirty. The main change was that the renters would not be issued a key. A staff person would assist in opening, cleaning up and closing the building.

Andrew Graham asked if the rates would be affected.

Mr. Keates replied that the rates would be higher to offset the costs of staff time. He went over the new rates.

An audience member asked how the building had been damaged.

Mr. Keates went over the different damages to the building and the costs to repair the damages.

Ms. Hrbacek asked if L&I and other benefits had been factored in with the staff time.

Mr. Keates had taken benefits into consideration. He explained that it would be an extra help situation.

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

Item 8.3

Mr. Davis asked why there was an exemption in the policy for attorney-client communications.

Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board, explained that State law provides an exemption for attorney client privileged communications.

Ms. Vandehey asked if private industries could use the exemption.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson replied that the exemption only applies to the County's attorneys.

Cmmr. Sheldon added that permits and many other records are accessible to the public.

Mark Core asked why the policy states that requesters should fill out a public records request form. He wanted to know why it didn't say that requesters shall fill out a public records request form.

Mrs. Goudy explained that the law doesn't dictate how the public has to put in a public records request. The County prefers that requesters fill out a form so the request is clear.

Mr. Core asked if something could be included in the policy that states that the public records officer will give notice to the requester before records are sent to a private copy shop for copying.

Mrs. Goudy replied that it would be up to the Board if they wanted to revise the policy.

Mr. Core asked how the fees in the policy were determined.

Mrs. Goudy explained that she used suggestions on the Attorney General's website for determining actual costs for records.

Cmmr. Sheldon thanked staff for working on the policy. He noted that it was a complicated subject that was often discussed in the Legislature.

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Cmmr. Ring Erickson also thanked staff for assisting the public with their requests.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve Action Item 8.3. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

Item 8.4

Ms. McGee asked if the item referenced an alley.

Rick Brush, Public Works, explained that it is a small property that lies within the boundaries of a regular subdivided lot. They don't know how it came to be a separate lot. It became incorporated into a yard that was surrounded by a fence and when the property owners tried to replace the fence they found out they did not own the corner of their lot.

Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve Action Item 8.4. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

Item 8.8

An audience member asked why the person's pay was being raised.

Karen Jackson, Human Resources, explained that it had been determined that her job duties and the scope of her position had changed over a period of time. It wasn't a raise. It was a pay adjustment to coincide with the scope of the duties. It was also about looking at what the work entails and how it compares to other counties.

Ms. McGee asked how much money the pay adjustment entailed.

Ms. Jackson stated that it would be a 5% increase.

Mr. Davis asked what Ms. Jackson's recommendation was.

Ms. Jackson recommended approval of the pay adjustment.

Constance Ibsen asked if the current listed salary included the 2% adjustment from last week.

Ms. Jackson stated that it did.

Ms. McGee asked how the Board could justify a 5% change when the other elected officials and department heads haven't received a raise for four years.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson stated that she proposed a raise to the elected officials last year and they all said no. It was part of what she wanted to do countywide.

Karen Herr, Auditor, clarified that the elected officials refused their raises because their staff didn't receive any increases.

An audience member thought it could open up the floodgates for everyone else to ask for raises. He didn't think it was feasible to see increases in government salaries when the private sectors haven't seen raises.

Ms. Hrbacek thought a salary review should take place for all non-union employees in the County. She questioned the break in responsibility between the Public Health Officer and the Health Director. She

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didn't see a recommendation from the Health Officer, which she thought would be appropriate. She thought a lot of the functions that were outlined in the increase request were part of the department's finance manager's position. She wondered why they needed more than one accountant if the Director was doing those duties. She also had concerns about the organizational structure of the department. She thought that the department's budget might have been overstated if it could absorb this increase.

Ms. McGee asked the Board not to act on the issue until the other department heads and elected officials were looked at. She was concerned that if there was money in the budget for the raise the budget was too fat.

Ms. Ibsen didn't think the wage increase could be based on comparable salaries and functions of other counties because the other counties' Health Director positions weren't comparable. She noted that it was not a mandated position because only the Health Officer is required. She was concerned that the State budget wasn't adopted yet so the County shouldn't be approving increases. She perceived that the Director was lobbying for the position because she had a special relationship with the Chair. She wanted to see the issue voted on today.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson was offended by Ms. Ibsen's comments. She hadn't met privately with Ms. Kirkpatrick about the issue. The issue was about adding housing and human services to the job description.

Ms. Jackson went over the comparable Health Director salaries and functions from other counties.

Mr. Davis commented that the Human Resources Director made a recommendation and substantiated why the position should be increased. He thought the matter of consistency with other department heads should be the only issue.

An audience member questioned the relevance of comparing the salaries with other counties.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson explained that it was a standard practice that was used in collective bargaining as well. Her recommendation was to leave the Director at her current rate and removed human services and housing from her job description.

Cmmr. Sheldon was opposed to any increase. He stated that it wasn't a performance issue and there were a lot of employees that were underpaid. The State employees have all taken a 3% decrease in pay. He thought there needed to be an overall look at all of the positions to make sure compensation was fair across the board.

Cmmr. Bloomfield agreed that there needed to be a holistic approach. He didn't like that the issue was taken to a personal level. He thought Ms. Kirkpatrick was always a professional.

Item 8.8 died due to lack of a motion.

Item 8.9

Mr. Hrbacek asked if there was any consideration to the tax effect to the employee driving a vehicle in a non emergency situation. She noted that the IRS requires that it be taxable income to the employee.

Dawn Twiddy, Risk Manager, replied that it was noted in the policy.

Ms. Hrbacek asked if the policy delineated which positions were determined to be emergency.

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Ms. Jackson noted that the policy was just to provide overall guidance. She didn't think listing the specific positions was necessary.

Ms. Twiddy read the portion of the policy related to the issue.

Ms. McGee asked if there was anything in the policy regarding taking the vehicles home.

Ms. Twiddy responded that it was specified in the policy.

Ms. Hrbacek wanted the Chief Finance Manager to weigh in on the issue.

Ms. Ehrich stated that it is clear that it is an IRS fringe benefit and it is up to the Commissioners to adopt the policy on vehicle use.

Ms. Hrbacek thought there should be a accounting form included in the policy.

Ms. Jackson clarified that the policy is to provide guidance on when and how to use County vehicles not the procedures for accounting.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve Action Item 8.9. 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 changing the speed limit on a portion of Pickering Road from 45 mph to 35 mph.

Melissa McFaden, Public Works, explained that the change was recommended by a local resident who was concerned about safety in the area, given the population density and the pedestrian activity in the area. Field observation and speed analysis was performed to confirm the observations of the resident. The department recommends the speed limit change from 45 mph to 35 mph.

Questions for Staff

Andrew Graham asked if it would increase the number of changes to the speed limit on Pickering Road.

Ms. McFaden replied that it would make the speed limit more consistent.

An audience member asked if there have been traffic issues.

Ms. McFaden didn't have accident data. The change was based on speed data and perception.

Connelly Watson asked if all of the speed limits could be the same on the road.

Ms. McFaden replied that the change would take a step towards that.

Public Testimony

Jeremy Morris commented that the area is strait and there is a wide shoulder. He has never seen an issue with the traffic or the speed limit. He thought it would create more speeders. He suggested that the speed be left at 45 mph because 35 mph was too slow.

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Larry Harbaugh stated that he walks the road every morning. It is wide with shoulders but there is a blind corner where speed is a big deal. It creates a hazard getting out of the driveways. It is rife for a potential problem. He agreed speeding was a problem. He thought there needed to be a change.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson commented that she also walks to road and drives it several times a day. She agrees there is a problem when people turn out of their driveways and when people try to make left turns into the businesses. She thought the change was a good idea.

Cmmr. Bloomfield also had an issue with people pulling out of their driveways on the road. It had almost caused an accident for him personally. He thought 35 mph was an appropriate speed for the road.

Cmmr. Sheldon knew there were opinions on the matter both ways but he thought that when speeds are adjusted it should be on the safe side, not just focused on travel time.

Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to execute the resolution establishing a speed limit change from 45 mph to 35 mph on a portion of Pickering Road. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye. Resolution No. 26-11 (Exhibit D)

9.2 Public hearing to consider the following 2012 budget transfers & supplemental appropriations for the Current Expense Fund:

9.2.1 \$34,856 supplemental appropriation due to Accessibility Coordinator Grants for Auditor/Elections.

Karen Herr, Auditor, explained that it was a Federal grant from the Help America Vote Act. It is in response to the review of Mason County by the Disability Rights of Washington. The department applied for, and was awarded, \$15,500 for capital improvements. The improvements include the curb cut out for handicap parking, lowering ballot boxes and re-treading the stairs. They were awarded \$19,356 for a part time accessibility coordinator for one year. The money will be used for voter education and outreach programs to target and assist voters with disabilities.

Questions for Staff

Andrew Graham asked if the entire amount was grant money.

Ms. Herr responded that it was and there was no match requirement.

Public Testimony

Jeremy Morris commented that the Federal government shouldn't be giving the counties money for things like this when there is a 16 trillion dollar debt.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson thought it was important to make it accessible for people to vote. She thought the Auditor had done a wonderful job in empowering citizens that had difficulty voting.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted that a good way to increase accessibility would be to reverse the functions of the first floor and the second floor of the building.

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Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve the \$34,856 supplemental appropriation due to Accessibility Coordinator Grants for Auditor/Elections. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye

- 9.2.2 \$122,584 budget transfer from Ending Fund Budgeted Balance to increase employee benefits budget lines.

Theresa Ehrich, Chief Finance Manager, explained that the Commissioners approved Resolution 01-12 to increase the contribution for benefits to non-union employees and elected officials. There was also an AFSMCE contract approved that had an increase in medical contributions. The amount reflects the combined total of those increases.

Ms. Jackson asked Ms. Ehrich to explain why the community health contract wasn't included in the amount.

Ms. Ehrich explained that it was a special fund so it didn't affect the general fund. Contract changes in Health and Public Works don't affect the general fund.

There was no public testimony.

Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve the \$122,584 budget transfer from Ending Fund Budgeted Balance to increase employee benefits budget lines. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye

- 9.2.3 \$218,404 budget transfer from Ending Fund Budgeted Balance for the Mason County Sheriff's Office.

Ms. Ehrich explained that the requested amount included \$17,880 that came from a Byrne grant for computers. The revenue was included in the budget that was passed, but the expenditure was not. There was \$45,502 for a MACECOM payment increase that wasn't anticipated when the budget was passed. There was also \$93,786 for Patrol for salary and benefits and \$61,236 for the Jail for salary.

There were no questions for staff.

Public Testimony

Tom Davis testified that he didn't have any issues with the first three items but the other items occurred as a direct result of reducing the road policing budget. It didn't make any sense to reduce that budget when in the end it would only be a \$31,000 savings and two officers would be lost. It should have been argued that way in the beginning. It looked like someone had made a mistake and it is being shown after the fact. He thought the additional expenses had to be anticipated. He suggested removing those items from the supplemental appropriation.

Mary Jean Hrbacek was frustrated about how the Commissioners office was putting the Sheriff's budget together. She didn't think the Commissioners did any calculations when reducing the traffic patrol budget. She was also frustrated that the Sheriff's office knew about the MACECOM charges and it wasn't allowed to be put in the budget. It was her mistake about the sergeant's salary but it was discovered in August.

Undersheriff Jim Barrett explained that the issue was clarified during the debate on the traffic policing budget that supervision would be lost with a cut. The \$90,000 represents the

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supervision that was eliminated that had to be absorbed by patrol. The department doesn't know how many traffic collisions or DUIs will take place during the year. They made their best guess possible based on previous statistics. The \$125,000 reduction to the traffic policing resulted in a loss of supervision and oversight to a million dollar program and the amount has to be absorbed within police operations. They were very clear on the issue.

Sara Watkins stated that she has a son that has been in law enforcement and she is a close friend of Sheriff Salisbury. She was concerned that there wasn't enough coverage in the county for law enforcement. If there are only two deputies on duty at one end of the county there is no response time or prevention for the other end of the county. She disconnected her security program because she knew there weren't enough deputies to respond to the alarms. She was concerned for the community. Law enforcement needs to be present and they can't do it with the current force. If their monies are reduced the county will find itself in a lawless situation. Some people who can't find work who turn to lawlessness. People need to be protected and she hopes the Commissioners won't reduce the money going to the Sheriff's office that would reduce deputies.

Jeremy Morris suggested that if there are budgetary problems in the Sheriff's department, money could be taken from the traffic enforcement to pay for the deputies that deal with the real crime.

Pat Undly stated that crime is at an all time high in the Timberlakes community. They have had to sign a \$40,000 contract to get law enforcement in the community, which is a huge burden. They have to pay for something that should be provided for free.

Denny Temple had 100% confidence in the Sheriff's department because they are based on honesty. He stated that didn't seem to be happening elsewhere in the County. Deputies are needed because it is a big county. It has become a political game and he thought everyone needed to work together. He wanted his public safety taken care of for himself and his grandkids. He thought the positions needed to be funded and maybe more. He thought the Sheriff's department was telling the truth. He also thought the appropriation should be adopted because the Board wasn't going to be there in a year anyway.

Frank Pinter, Finance Manager for the Sheriff's department, clarified that traffic policing put forward a million dollar budget and it was approved. Subsequently, there was a clarification put forth on the budget reducing it by \$125,000. The balance of the budget had already been completed and approved so there was no opportunity to make transfers of the supervisory positions in traffic policing. The transitions couldn't be put back into patrol because the budget was already approved. After the correction to the policing budget the diversion was passed to fund the traffic policing. It wasn't known at that time that the \$125,000 would be left out entirely of the Sheriff's budget.

Cmmr. Sheldon commented that the State budget is 30 billion dollars, which is 500 times greater than the County's budget. He didn't think the debate was any tougher though. He thought the debate had gotten personal and a lot of misinformation was put out to the public about the issue. The budget process isn't easy and it is difficult for the public to understand. The bottom line is that Sheriff's department has been increased over the years. There are also three positions the Sheriff hasn't filled. He thought it was important to support the courts and the prosecutors as well. There are three legs to the criminal justice stool. He thought that there has been a lot of animosity and things said for political purposes. He just wanted to write the best budget for the citizens. He was supportive of the item.

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Cmmr. Bloomfield noted that the County is in a time of declining budgets and every piece taken out of the budget will cause an effect. These circumstances dig into the ending fund balance. He urged the departments to keep in mind that when they ask for a supplemental it will come out of the budget of all of the other departments. Not being able to perform in one area will hurt everyone down the road.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson stated that she was inclined to support the issue but she was deeply saddened by how the issue took place. She noted that the Sheriff's finance manger talked to the other Commissioners but not her. She explained that it started because there was a loan that was paid off. She encouraged the Sheriff's office to fill the vacant positions that they already have. It would be nice to fund another layer of administration, but she thought deputies were more important. She also thought it was important to be transparent with the public. There has never been an issue with funding the sergeant's position. She thought it was a good opportunity to have thoughtful discussions with the Sheriff's office.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted that there has been a long-term discussion of courthouse security and resources were put to the issue. The motion was in support of good law enforcement. It is not about what people want. It is about what is needed.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve the \$218,404 budget transfer from Ending Fund Budgeted Balance for the Mason County Sheriff's Office. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye

9.2.4 \$180,000 revenue reduction to the Treasurer Revenues for property tax and liquor excise tax.

Ms. Ehrich explained that the \$90,000 revenue reduction involved a 1% increase that was not passed with the levies after the budget was adopted. There is also \$90,000 that the Treasurer included in liquor taxes that are not going to be realized.

Cmmr. Sheldon asked if the action would decrease the ending fund balance again.

Ms. Ehrich explained that there is a currently a 1.2 million dollar gap that would now be 1.7 million dollars.

Cmmr. Sheldon added the 1% tax increase was budgeted but the Commissioners chose not to impose it on the citizens.

There was no public testimony.

Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve \$180,000 revenue reduction to the Treasurer Revenues for property tax and liquor excise tax. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye

9.2.5 For the Mental Health Fund #164 a \$250,000 supplemental appropriation due to the 1/10 of 1% sales tax imposed for mental health, substance abuse and therapeutic courts.

Ms. Ehrich explained that the appropriation is to make sure the fund that collects the tax will be utilizing it. It gives budget authority to spend the tax that will start to be collected in July.

Cmmr. Sheldon asked if there was a resolution that established the fund.

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Ms. Ehrich stated that she didn't find a specific resolution on the establishment of the fund, just the date of the contract with Thurston County from 1980. It was established by RCW and is a restricted fund.

Cmmr. Sheldon thought a resolution should be established for the fund.

Ms. Ehrich stated that there was a resolution for the purpose of the tax.

Cmmr. Sheldon wanted to see a resolution for the entire fund to include the other uses of the fund.

There was no public testimony.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to approve a \$250,000 supplemental appropriation for the Mental Health Fund #164 due to the 1/10 of 1% sales tax imposed for mental health, substance abuse and therapeutic courts. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

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

10.1 John Keates, Facilities, Parks and Trails, invited the public to attend a ribbon cutting ceremony at MCRA on May 1st.

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 11:26 a.m.

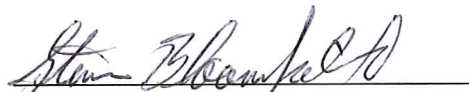
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Lynda Ring Erickson, Chair

ABSENT 4-24-12
Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board


Steve Bloomfield, Commissioner

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

April 10, 2012

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Max Folsom 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 special occasion liquor license applications for Hood Canal Education Foundation and North Mason Rotary and notice of an application for added privilege for Rite Aid in Belfair.
 - 4.1.2 John Gunter is seeking appointment to the Belfair Urban Growth Area Adviosry Committtee.
 - 4.2 Staff Recognition – Central Operations. Cmmr. Ring Erickson recognized Britta Creed for her outstanding customer service and presented her with the Green Star Award.
 - 4.3 Vicki Kirkpatrick, Public Health, read a news release announcing that two public workshops would be held for the Mason County Park Plan Update.
 - 4.4 Ms. Kirkpatrick read a news release announcing the National County Health Rankings.
 - 4.5 Ms. Kirkpatrick also read a news release regarding a Mason County sales tax increase for chemical dependency and mental health services, which will go into effect on April 1, 2012.
5. Open Forum for Citizen Input –
 - 5.1 Patricia Vandehey commented on the National County Health Rankings. She thought that the industries needed to be held responsible for the environment and public health as well. She thought the report needed to be more focused on environmental health and not just the public.
6. Adoption of Agenda - **Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.**
7. Approval of Minutes – March 13, 2012 and March 20, 2012 regular meeting minutes; March 19, 2012 briefing meeting minutes.
Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve the March 13, 2012 and March 20, 2012 regular meeting minutes; March 19, 2012 briefing meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.
8. Approval of Action Agenda:
 - 8.1 Approval of Lodging Tax Fund Applications for: The Union Tourism Association for Traveler Days - \$5,000; Union Tourism Association for PumpkinFest - \$5,000; Hood Canal Highland Celtic Festival - \$3,500; Anna's Bay Center for Music - \$4,440; and to deny Lodging Tax Fund Applications for: Shelton-Mason County Journal for Visitor Guides and Oysterfest programs and Shelton Skookum Rotary Club for Oysterfest website upgrade.
 - 8.2 Approval to appoint Andrew Kinney to the Mason County Parks and Trails Advisory Board.
 - 8.3 Approval of the agreement for the Mason County Recreation Area (MCRA) Attendant with Mark and Angie Stubblefield.

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- 8.4 Approval to authorize the Interim Utilities & Waste Management Department Director to call for bid proposals for the Belfair Sanitary Sewer Improvements, Get Connected Phase 1 Program project and to award the contract for construction of the project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The bid opening will be Thursday, May 17 at 3 p.m. Bid results and contract award shall be announced at an upcoming regular Commission meeting.
- 8.5 Approval of a resolution declaring real property located off East Sherwood Place to be surplus to the needs of Mason County and approving the sale of the property to Jeanette Lewis for a price of \$1,278.29.

Item 8.5

Tom Davis noted that the legal description attached to the resolution for item 8.5 had the wrong parcel number listed.

Brian Matthews, Public Works, recommended that the item be removed until the paperwork could be sorted out.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to table Action Item 8.5 for one week. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

Cmmr. Bloomfield/Sheldon moved and seconded to approve Action Items 8.1 through 8.4. 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 establishment of a Lake Management District (LMD) No. 1 for Island Lake in Mason County as petitioned by Island Lake property owners. The purpose of the LMD is to manage noxious aquatic plants in Island Lake.

Diane Zoren, Central Operations, explained that the proposal was for a ten-year term with the rate at \$0.25 per \$1,000 of valuation. It would be the second lake management district for the lake. There was a five-year term from 1999 to 2003. The petition was signed by 55% of the property owners, which equals 61% of the taxable value on the lake. It involves the parcels fronting the lake. She recommended that the hearing be continued for one week to meet a requirement in the law, which states that the hearing shall be held 30-90 days after the initial resolution. That resolution was adopted by the Commissioners 29 days ago.

Max Folsom, Island Lake Management District, explained that the citizens would like to renew their relationship with the County. The County and the State own the lake and the waterfront property owners have chosen to tax themselves for the management of the lake. The relationship has worked out. They are allowed to do the work on the lake with a group of volunteers. Over the last twelve years they have had a lot of experience dealing with the invasive weed milfoil. The target weed grows in shallow water and surfaces at the lake at its maturity, which can preclude fishing and boating, to some extent, and is hazardous to swimmers. He stated that the budget that was presented to the Board was cyclical. The periods of high usage and expense are attached to the weather. When it is cooler they can use divers to pull the weeds early in the year. During long hot summers hand pulling isn't as effective so they hire professional aquatic herbicide applicators. They meticulously keep track of the weeds on a map so they are easy to locate. The water can continue to be used after the herbicide application and it isn't hazardous to humans or animals. The higher expense for treatment can be up to \$15,000 and the lower expense is about \$2,000.

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Cmmr. Bloomfield asked how long the milfoil survives out of water.

Mr. Folsom stated that it dies right away but they are careful about where they put the weeds after they are removed.

Cmmr. Bloomfield asked the name of the herbicide used.

Mr. Folsom provided the name of the herbicide.

Cmmr. Bloomfield asked if there were any volunteers to assist with the efforts.

Mr. Folsom replied that they have a lot of volunteers but not for the dive team.

Cmmr. Bloomfield thought he could find some volunteer divers.

Cmmr. Sheldon appreciated the history that was presented.

Mr. Folsom thanked Ms. Zoren for her assistance.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson asked if lawn fertilizer contributed to the problem.

Mr. Folsom didn't think that it was a big issue. People are careful when fertilizing around the lake.

There was no public testimony.

Cmmr. Sheldon/Bloomfield moved and seconded to continue the public hearing to April 17, 2012 to take final action on the establishment of a Lake Management District (LMD) No. 1 for Island Lake in Mason County as petitioned by Island Lake property owners. Written testimony will continue to be accepted until that time. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; B-aye.

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

10.1 Brian Matthews, Public Works, introduced his job shadow, Jacob Johnson. Public Works was working with the schools to get students interested in engineering and public works.

10.2 Bob Simmons, WSU Extension Office, announced upcoming programs presented by the Extension Office.

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 10:06 a.m.

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Lynda Ring Erickson, Chair


Tim Sheldon, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board


Steve Bloomfield, Commissioner