

## BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

JUNE 26, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Chairperson Cady who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Herb Baze and Wesley Johnson were also in attendance.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Cmmr. Baze/Johnson moved and seconded to approve the meeting minutes of June 19, 2001 as circulated. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

### CORRESPONDENCE

#### WRIA 14

Acknowledgement was received from the Washington State Department of Ecology concerning the Squaxin Island Tribe's request to change the boundary of the Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 14.

#### FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE

The Washington State Department of Agriculture is planning a meeting and tabletop exercise to prepare an emergency response plan for the state in case it is faced with the Foot and Mouth Disease disaster that has happened in Great Britain.

#### GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT

John Diehl asked that the Board reconsider Ordinance Nos. 58-01 and 59-01. Copy forwarded to Community Development.

A letter was received from Mason County Community Development Council expressing concern for the language in the Development Regulation amendment Section 1.03.025.

### BUSINESS

#### DISCHARGE OF FIREWORKS

Cmmr. Cady announced the Fire Marshal has asked that an ordinance be enacted to allow the discharge of fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July only. Since this is difficult to enforce, the Board has instead asked the Fire Marshal to distribute a public announcement asking citizens to voluntarily restrict use of fireworks. The state law allows for the discharge from noon on June 28 through noon on July 6. The voluntary restriction limits discharge of fireworks to 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and from 9 a.m. to midnight on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### 2000 CURRENT USE TIMBER/CURRENT USE OPEN SPACE

The Assessor's office is requesting the Board set a hearing to consider the 2000 applications for the Current Use Timber and Current Use Open Space taxation program. Suggested date is July 17, 2001 at 9:45 a.m.

**Cmmr. Johnson/Baze moved and seconded to set a hearing on July 17, 2001 at 9:45 a.m. to consider the 2000 applications for the Current Use Timber and Current Use Open Space taxation program. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

#### LOCAL ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

Ione Siegler, Budget & Finance, is asking the Board approve an application for funding from the Prince of Peace Church in the amount of \$7,500. This will be used to build an emergency disaster facility to house an emergency generator.

**Cmmr. Baze/Johnson moved and seconded to approve the recommendation of Ione Siegler for the application for funding from the Prince of Peace Church in the amount of \$7,500. This will be used to build an emergency disaster facility to house an emergency generator. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

#### LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

Special Occasion Liquor License: Alderbrook Ladies Golf Club; Date: July 12, 2001, 9 am – 6 pm; Place: Alderbrook Club House.

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**VETERANS ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS**

Dennis Simpson – VFW 1694 – Utilities \$166.53  
William N. Powell – VFW 1694 – Housing \$400.00  
Rodney L. Gorm – VFW 1694 – Housing \$400.00  
Larry M. Tunno – VFW 5372 – Utilities \$200.00

The Veterans Assistance Screening Committee is recommending approval on the above listed applications totaling \$1166.53.

**Cmmr. Johnson/Baze moved and seconded to approve the Veterans' Assistance applications for Dennis Simpson, \$166.53; William Powell, \$400; Rodney Gorm, \$400, Larry Tunno, \$200 for a total of \$1,166.53. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

**RODEO CONTRACT**

Mike Byrne, Parks & Rec, requested the Board approve a contract with Lazy HK-Bar Rodeo in the amount of \$10,500.

**Cmmr. Baze/Johnson moved and seconded to approve the Mason County Fair and Rodeo Stock contract with Lazy HK-Bar Rodeo Company. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST I**

Steve Kutz, Personal Health Services, requested permission to hire an Environmental Health Specialist I to work in the Solid Waste Program at the rate of \$15.89 per hour. This will be funded by a grant and will be temporary full time.

**Cmmr. Johnson/Baze moved and seconded to authorize Mason County Department of Health Services to post, advertise, and hire a full time temporary Environmental Health Specialist I to work in the Solid Waste Program at the rate of \$15.89 per hour through December 31, 2001. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

**ASSURED HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE**

Mr. Kutz requested the Board approve a professional services agreement with Assured Home Health and Hospice.

**Cmmr. Baze/Johnson moved and seconded approve and authorize the Chair to sign the Professional services agreement between Assured Home Health and Hospice and Mason County Department of Health Services. This agreement provides us with funding for \$31 per hour for one additional day of HIV Case Management per week. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

**WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE FOUNDATION**

Mr. Kutz requested the Board authorize the Chair sign the grant application with Washington Dental Service Foundation. This partially funds the ABCD program for Mason County.

**Cmmr. Johnson/Baze moved and seconded to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the grant application between Washington Dental Service Foundation and Mason County Department of Health Services the grant is for \$21,000. The program partially funds the ABCD program for Mason County. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

**INTERIM AMENDMENT TO DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS– SPECIAL USE PERMITS**

Ron Henrickson, Community Development, requested the Board to approve the interim ordinance to amend the Mason County Development Regulations regarding Special Use Permits and set a hearing on 7-17-01 at 9:30 a.m. to consider the ordinance. The ordinance would amend Chapter 1.05 of Ordinance 82-96 by adding a new section 1.05.048, Minor Amendment. This amendment establishes a procedure for minor amendments to an approved Special Use Permit.

**Cmmr. Baze/Johnson moved and seconded to approve Ordinance No. 66-01, an interim ordinance to amend the Mason County Development Regulations regarding Special Use Permits and set a hearing on Ordinance 66-01 on Tuesday, July 17, 2001 at 9:30 a.m. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye. Ordinance 66-01 (Exhibit A)**

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**Cmmr. Baze/Johnson moved and seconded to authorize the Chair sign the application between the US Dept of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS in School Award in the amount of \$125,000, start date 2-1-01 through 1-31-04. The match will be paid by the participating school districts. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; C-aye.**

**SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM**

Sheriff Whybark introduced Ken Adams who is Chair of the Jennie Osborn Board. Mr. Adams stated their goal is to distribute information on sex offenders in Mason County. He urged the Board to support the Sheriff's Department during the budget process for a full time deputy on the sex offender program. He noted the *Shelton Mason County Journal* charges the Sheriff's office \$210 to publish one sex offender notice although other area newspapers do not charge.

Thom Osborn spoke about his loss of his daughter, Jennie Osborn. He urged the county to support a county wide effort for notification.

Tawny Keating spoke about her involvement in the Jennie Osborn Board (JOB). She stated she joined JOB to raise awareness and mobilize the community, to get laws passed requiring more effective notification of dangerous offenders and longer prison sentences. She has created a group called the Sex Offender Awareness Program (SOAP), a branch of the Mason County Youth Task Force.

Shannyn Wiseman, Lake Cushman, talked about her involvement in JOB. She was aware of Joseph Rosenow and that he was a convicted sex offender. She contacted the Sheriff's office several times because of her concern about the lack of public notification. She noted that the Sheriff's office has reassigned duties so there is a full time officer on the sex offender program. She talked about how this program needs funding to continue.

Jan Smith, Lake Cushman, also urged the Board to support the Sheriff's Department in funding.

Mr. Adams noted that Senator Sheldon has had legislation passed regarding the sex offender notification program. He stated the Sheriff's Department has done an excellent job with the resources they have. He asked that a Sheriff substation be created in Hoodspout. He noted that in Hoodspout there are six Level II offenders.

Sheriff Whybark stated he has a Power Point presentation he can do for any civic organizations. He thanked the members of the JOB and the Sheriff's Advisory Board. He stated he supports a substation in Hoodspout, much like in Belfair, which would be run by volunteers. There would be some building costs and he will talk to the Board about that.

Senator Sheldon pointed out the notification process helps to prevent the sex offenders from living in our community.

**RECESS**

The Board recessed for 6 minutes.

**HEARING – To take public testimony regarding the location of the Mason County Fairgrounds and Convention Center Location**

Chair Cady stated this hearing was called to get testimony on the record regarding the location of the current Mason County Fairgrounds and Convention Center. She stated there has been no official notice from the Port of Shelton saying what will happen with the lease. However there has been public testimony stating the fairgrounds will have to be relocated. She explained that besides the buildings, there is extensive infrastructure including wells, septic and power. The taxpayers have stated they don't want more taxes however to move the fairgrounds/convention center, it would need taxpayer support. She asked people to limit their testimony to 3 minutes.

Annette McGee gave the history of the fairgrounds. She is in favor of leaving the fairgrounds/convention center at the present 60 plus acre location. She noted the fairgrounds has moved four times in the past fifty years. Past locations include the Lincoln Gym, located on Cota Street and the Shelton Valley. In 1963 a fifty year lease agreement was signed with the Port of Shelton. It was under port jurisdiction because it was determined back in 1955 by the city

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seem proper. The duration was for 50 years ending on December 31, 2013. The County agreed to pay \$100 per year until January 1, 1968 at which time 5% of the gross income plus the \$100 per year was to be paid to the Port.

He stated the facilities demand and use are increasing each year and currently the facilities calendar has event bookings into the year 2005. He sees tremendous potential for events that would not only serve the community needs, but enhance tourism.

In February, 1987 a Convention Center Planning and Facility Advisory Board was established which provided ideas for future growth of the facility. The ensuing years brought increased frustration for the advisory board. The Port was not committed to discussions regarding development and the fairgrounds site was being overshadowed by the "Airport Plan" and recently by the "Airport Comprehensive Plan" neither of which, encourages the facility to remain on a site that is now designated as an "Aviation Orientated District". He believes it is timely to renew the Convention Center Advisory Board to revisit options.

Mr. Byrne stressed that the facility is in need of maintenance and capital improvements and probably will not sustain another lapse of attention.

Norm Eveleth, Arcadia Shores Road, believes the decision of the Port to not renew the lease is justifiable because the fairgrounds and the airport conflict. Ports, as authorized under RCW Title 53, have only two functions - to provide for transportation needs such as sea ports, river ports, airports, railheads and marinas and to provide siting and infrastructure for industrial use. The deed transferring title requires that the airport be managed as an airport. He stated there is a safety concern. He pointed out it is the Port commissioners responsibility to manage Sanderson Field as an airport and industrial site. He doesn't believe the FAA would find the fairgrounds a compatible use for the lease. He believes the fairgrounds will need to be moved.

June Simms, stated she doesn't believe people realize how much the fairgrounds is used. She doesn't think the County could afford to relocate the fairgrounds. She asked if there is a way to have the property conveyed back to the County so it can continue to be used by the community.

Marvin Barker, Mason County 4H president, stated there are 27 4H clubs in the county that meet at the fairgrounds once a year. They attract kids from other counties because of the fairgrounds size. He stated they put a lot of time and effort in their buildings at the fairgrounds. If the fairgrounds is going to have to move, he asked that it be moved now. He believes volunteers would help. He asked that a decision be made in 2001.

Port of Shelton Commissioner Henry Trusler talked about the oath of office he took as a Port Commissioner. He cited RCW 36.75.47 which talks about discouraging the siting of incompatible uses adjacent to aviation airports. He concluded that the law states the airport shall be protected. He stated he attended a fairgrounds advisory meeting, when there was 22 years on the lease, and told them the lease would probably not be renewed. He stated he was then contacted by the convention center committee who said they did not want them to attend any more meetings. He believes the fairgrounds should be moved to the County-owned 80 acres that is within two miles of the current location. If a fly-in convention center is wanted, he suggested it be coordinated with Mason Transit to transport the people from the airport to the new location. He stated they will honor the lease to the end of lease. He talked to the FAA and they stated the lease will not be renewed.

Cmmr. Cady asked for a formal notice in writing from the Port that the lease will not be renewed. She stated the 80 acres is owned by Mason County Public Works and was purchased with road dollars so it is not owned with Current Expense (general fund) dollars and the County would have to purchase it at fair market value.

Cmmr. Trusler stated the fair value of the property that is now being used at the Port, is \$23,416 a month.

Rahn Redman supports revitalizing the fairgrounds at the current location. He believes an open air arena and motor sports park would be beneficial. He will be meeting with the manager of the Jackson County motor sports in Medford, Oregon to gather information about federal funding they used to rebuild their program.

Dick Oltman believes the regulations can be worked around. He stated the options are the following: to let the present lease expire on 12-31-13; extend the lease at the present location; extend the lease with the understanding the

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Greg Hasbrouck, doesn't believe the cost of building a new fairgrounds would be feasible. He believes there are variances and mitigation that could be pursued.

Sunni Wood stated many youth use the fairgrounds and to look to the future a decision has to be made.

Steve (last name unknown), also believes the rules can be worked with. He stated maintenance is needed at the airport and it could be moved as it is improved. Also, if a permanent structure was added to the fairgrounds, it could be moved. His point was that everyone needs to work together.

Fred Ehrlich urged everyone to be objective and be willing to compromise.

Gary Steinman stated they moved from Tacoma because of the unique culture of the community. He has been to the Mason County Fair and Oysterfest. He thinks it would be a terrible mistake to relocate the fairgrounds because the community couldn't afford it. He supports fixing the fairgrounds at the current location. He believes it is too unique of a facility and draws too much money to give up.

Becky Penoyer stated from the testimony she has heard she concludes the community wants a fairground, a meeting place, the tourism and the business that the fairgrounds brings to the county. The Port has to deal with FAA but she believes the Port can turn the property over to the County so the people can use the land for what they want since the Port property should also be owned by the citizens. She is hopeful this can be worked out so everybody has what they need.

Port of Shelton Commissioner Rose Nye stressed that not only the FAA but State aeronautics have safety concerns on where buildings are located. Her duty, as a commissioner, is to protect the public. She stated any time there is a large gathering, it is a safety concern with FAA. She stated she has attended many meetings where the Port has stated the fairgrounds is not in the right location. She stated what might happen, is there would be a convention center, but no air field.

Cmmr. Cady stated one of her frustrations since she has been in office is the County has tried to get an answer from the Port regarding the lease.

Ms. Nye pointed out the fairgrounds can be moved, the airport cannot.

Shirley Hasbrouck talked to the safety issue about there being too many people close to the airport. She commented that if Seattle can deal with it, there must be a way Mason County can.

Port of Shelton Commissioner Marv Faughender talked about the committee that is being formed by the Port regarding the fairgrounds location. His hope is that the committee will thoroughly research all issues on all sides.

Cmmr. Cady stated they have decided to reactivate the Fairgrounds Convention Center Board to work on what their vision might be and she wanted to be sure it isn't in conflict with the Port's board.

Shari Fleshman, Fairgrounds Convention Center employee, pointed out the community doesn't have a lot of youth activities, however the fairgrounds does have youth activities besides 4H which include the BMX track, PSER, and ATV training. She questioned the actual number of air traffic that use the airport. She pointed out the fairgrounds support comes from the community. She encouraged the County and Port to work together to keep the fairgrounds at the present location.

Fred Barthe asked if the Port has checked with the state and FAA to see what it would take to keep the fairgrounds at the present location. He doesn't believe the safety issue is a big concern.

John Borgert asked if any of the plans or proposals have been checked to see if they meet the rules and regulations. He urged the County to not make a decision based on emotion.

Cmmr. Cady stated the purpose of this hearing is to get information and she has learned more about the law from this hearing. She stated they are not taking a stand on this issue at this point.

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<b>FUND NAME</b>	<b>WARRANT NUMBER</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Claims Clearing	25806-25996	13,658.67

**ADJOURNED**

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Mary Jo Cady, Chairperson

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Herb Baze, Commissioner

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Wesley E. Johnson, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Rebecca S. Rogers, Clerk of the Board