

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

FEBRUARY 12, 2002

Chairperson Wesley E. Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the flag salute. Commissioners Herb Baze and Bob Holter were also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded to approve the briefing minutes of January 8; 14; 28; & 29, 2002. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 13, 2001 and December 3; 7; 18 & 28, 2001 and as corrected for January 8, 2002. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E

JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLOCK GRANT (JAIBG)

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services announced that Mason County is eligible to receive a JAIBG allocation of \$16,382.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

A letter was received from the Tillery, Anderson, Price family expressing concern for more law enforcement. Copy referred to the Sheriff's Department.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT

State Representatives Kathy Haigh and Bill Eickmeyer thanked the Commissioners for the work regarding growth management at the local level and noted their support. They expressed interest in bringing a program to the community this spring to help work together to build a common vision and strategic plan. The Board read the letter into the record.

Mildred Warnaca also submitted a letter thanking the Commissioners for proceeding with compliance with the Growth Management Act.

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM CITIZENS ADVISORY PROGRAM - APPLICANT

James Egan

B U S I N E S S

COUNTY ROAD ADMINISTRATION BOARD – RURAL ARTERIAL PROGRAM CERTIFICATION

Jerry Hauth, Public Works Director, recommended the Board sign the certification of the 2001 Road Fund expenditures for traffic law enforcement for Mason County as required by the County Road Administration Board for participation in the Rural Arterial Program.

Cmmr. Baze/Holter moved and seconded to authorize the chairperson to execute the Rural Arterial Program Certification of Road Fund Expenditures for Traffic Law Enforcement in Mason County. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

TAHUYA RIVER BRIDGE FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIR

The Public Works Director recommended the Board execute the proposal for the low bid for the repair of the Tahuya River Bridge with Huston Excavating.

Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded the Board authorize the Chairperson to execute the proposal with Huston Excavating in the amount of \$47,435.40 (tax included) for flood damage repair on the foundation of the Tahuya River Bridge on the Belfair Tahuya Road. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

CRP 1525, BELFAIR -TAHUYA ROAD

It was recommended the Chairperson sign the construction plans and related documents for the Belfair Tahuya Road

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Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded the Board set the bid opening date/time for CRP 1525, Belfair pertinent thereto. The bid date and time are subject to contract approval by the Washington State Department of Transportation. Motion carried unanimously. B -aye; J -aye; H -aye.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Bob Fink, Community Development Lead Planner, introduced Kim Klint, Mason Matters, who has been working on a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Ms. Klint explained that they need to complete a Housing Needs Assessment and asked for authorization to sign the contract as well as identifying authorization for requests for reimbursements on the contract.

Cmmr. Baze/Holter moved and seconded to enter into a contract No 01-64021-083 with the Washington State Office of Community Development in the amount of \$29,775 to complete a housing needs assessment. Motion carried unanimously. B -aye; J -aye; H -aye.

Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded to authorize the chairperson or designee to approve matters related to the project. Motion carried unanimously. B -aye; J -aye; H -aye.

HEARING SET – RURAL LAND USE REGULATIONS

Bob Fink, Community Development/Planning, recommended the Board set a public hearing to consider the changes to the Development Regulations and the Mason County Comprehensive Plan as it relates to land use.

Cmmr. Baze/Holter moved and seconded that the Board hold a public hearing for consideration of proposed changes to the Mason County Development regulations, Ordinance No. 82-96 as amended, and to the Mason County Comprehensive Plan to be held on February 26, 2002 at 6:45 p.m. in the Commission Chambers. Motion carried unanimously. B -aye; J -aye; H -aye.

2001 YEAR END REPORT

Lisa Frazier, Treasurer, presented the 2001 year end report noting the percentage of taxes collected; total dollar amount collected for year 2001 taxes; percentage of delinquent taxes collected through 2001; total dollar amount collected for delinquent taxes through 2001; interest and penalty received on delinquent taxes for 2001; Current Expense unencumbered cash balance as of 12/31/01; Treasurer's Daily Cash investment earnings for 2001; fee received for doing other district investments in 2001; Treasurer's office excises tax collection fee as of 12-31-01; and Treasurer's office \$2.00 fee for processing exempt excise in 2001.

USDA – RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT – GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

Gary Yando, Utilities & Waste Management Director, explained that in early 1994 the County applied for grant and loan funds from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Division to assist in the construction of North Bay/Case Inlet Water Reclamation Facility and sewer collection system and also pay back portions of loans secured from the Washington State Department of Ecology.

The County is now at the stage to close out the use of the grants and loans received from Department of Ecology and is eligible to use the funds secured from Rural Development Division in the amount of \$3,740,000.

The loan is in the amount of \$5,206,200 which will be used to pay back the Department of Ecology loans. The Board is being presented a General Obligation Bond to repay the loan over a 40-year period at 4.75 percent interest. The first interest payment will be due one year after the date of closing.

Lisa Frazier, Treasurer, noted that the 40 year bond is unusual and at a very competitive rate of 4.75%.

Nancy Neraas stated she is a municipal bond attorney with Preston/Gates/Ellis. She explained that the Department of Agriculture requires certain documentation. Under state law, in order to evidence a loan a bond is needed to Rural Development. It is a tax-exempt rate and they need an opinion that the interest is tax exempt. They may at some point transfer it to someone who cares about having a tax-exempt rate. It is a little unusual to issue a General Obligation Debt, but it made sense for a number of reasons. The County is expressing they intend to pay it out of assessments on the property in North Bay/Case Inlet. If for some reason they are short the County would look to sewer revenues and ultimately, if not enough assessments in sewer revenues, the County would look to general fund. It is not expected this will be done. The County can prepay this in whole or in part at any time. The County likely

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General Obligation capacity it is very unlikely to ever have to access the general fund. The County would just be required to make the annual payment on or prior to the date it is due each year.

The board asked how this would effect the County's bonding capacity.

Mrs. Frazier responded the County has a very low outstanding bonding capacity. There is only one general obligation bond for the purchase of the building.

Ms. Neraas interjected that the capacity to issue General Obligation debt without a vote is 1.5% of assessed value.

There was concern raised whether the County's bonding capacity would cover the issue of Belfair's sewers.

Ms. Neraas added the county would have the capacity to cover this project.

Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded to approve Resolution No. 11-02 which provides for the issuance and sale of a limited tax general obligation bond (payable from sewer revenue) of the county in the aggregate principal amount of \$5,206,200 to finance the cost of constructing sewer improvements; and fixing the form, terms and covenants of the bond. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye. Resolution No.11-02 (Exhibit A) (Resolution number corrected to prevent duplication of numbers)

COORDINATED PREVENTION GRANT AGREEMENT

The Utilities & Waste Management Director recommended the Board approve a grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology in the amount of \$168,777 of which the State's share is \$126,583 and the County's share \$42,194 for waste reduction and recycling activities.

Cmmr. Baze/Holter moved and seconded to approve coordinated prevention grant agreement No. G0200252 between the Washington State Department of Ecology and Mason County whereby Ecology provides \$126,583 for our waste reduction and recycling activities and also our household hazardous waste collection and disposal program. These funds are matched by the County in the amount of \$42,194.00 and be signed by the chairperson. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

RUSTLEWOOD CARETAKER

The Board was presented a contractual employment agreement for Rustlewood Sewer & Water System Caretaker with Fred Geiger at \$8.00 per hour in 2002 and \$8.25 per hour for 2003.

Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded to approve and sign the contractual agreement with Fred Geiger as caretaker for the Rustlewood Sewer & Water System for the duties and hourly rates by the Director and within the agreement. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – COURTROOM DIGITAL AUDIO RECORDING

Dave Loser, Equipment Rental & Revolving Fund Manager asked for Board's consent to request for proposals for a courtroom digital audio recording. He explained that the existing Superior Court, District Court and Chambers recording systems are nearing the end of their service life.

Cmmr. Baze/Holter moved and seconded the Board of County Commissioners authorize the Equipment Rental and Revolving Fund to advertise a Request for Proposals for the Courtroom digital audio recording systems as requested. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

POST FOR QUOTES – FAIRGROUNDS

The Tourism & Recreation Director Mike Byrne requested authority to post for quotes for repair work on the roof at Fairground Buildings #10, #12, #15 and #23. A grant was received from Department of Agriculture that will cover the work if they are able to get some volunteers to supplement.

Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded to authorize the Director of Tourism and Recreation to post and receive quotes for roof repair at the Mason County Fairgrounds buildings #10, #12, #15 and #23. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

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Cmmr. Baze/Holter moved and seconded to approve the veterans assistance applications listed above in the amount of \$2,412.57. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 9:59 until 10:13 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Bob Fink, Department of Community Development/Planning Division, noted that in response to the Growth Management Hearings Board the Board of Mason County Commissioners has held a public hearing on amendments proposed concerning the Fish & Wildlife critical areas. The Department recommended two minor changes to the previous drafts proposed. One change would increase buffer width requirements on salt-water shorelines and lakes over 20 acres in areas designated as conservancy environment in the Shore line Master Program. Increasing the buffers from 75' to 100'. The second change would allow the buffer requirements to be increased in an onsite specific basis for areas feeding substantial material to the net shore system after a public hearing.

It was recommended the Board open the record for written comment on these changes until February 25, 2002; 5:00 p.m. It is the intent to advertise this process for the public to comment on the changes. Also, it is requested the Board schedule action at the February 26, 2002 meeting on this issue.

Cmmr. Holter/Baze moved and seconded the board reopen the record for written public comment for consideration of proposed changes to the Mason County Resource Ordinance, regarding Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas until February 25, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

Cmmr. Baze/Holter moved and seconded to schedule for consideration of action on the Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas on February 26, 2002 at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; H-aye.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

The following warrants were approved for payment:

FUND NAME	WARRANT NUMBER	AMOUNT
Claims Clearing	35229-35558	\$1,258,941.97
	35559-35566	\$15,287.43

ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Wesley E. Johnson, Chairperson

Bob Holter, Commissioner