

## BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

JUNE 17, 2003

1. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairperson Herb Baze. It was announced that this is the first meeting that will be broadcast live over Hood Canal Communications' network on Channel 46.
2. Pledge of Allegiance - The Board was led by Herb Baze for the flag salute.
3. Roll Call - Present: Cmmr. Dist. 1, Herb Baze; Cmmr. Dist. 2, Wesley E. Johnson; Cmmr. Dist. 3, Jayni Kamin.
4. Approval of Minutes – **Cmmr. Johnson/Kamin moved and seconded to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 27, 2003; and the briefing meeting minutes of June 10, 2003. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; K-aye.**
5. Board's Calendar for week of June 17 – 24, 2003.
6. Correspondence and Organizational Business
  - 6.1 Correspondence
    - 6.1.1 Robert Supino submitted some questions concerning the North Bay/Case Inlet sewer system.
  - 6.2 Consolidation of dispatch and communications operations – Chief Richard Knight, FPD#5 and Chief Terry Davenport, City of Shelton were present to discuss the consolidation of the dispatch and communications operations. Chief Knight explained he has managed Firecom for several years and Chief Davenport manages Shelcom. For several months they have discussed the co-location, consolidation of the dispatch services. They plan to move Firecom into the Shelcom dispatch center and continue to operate a fire and EMS dispatch in cooperation with law enforcement. There are contract issues and money issues involved that the county and city would be asked to participate in the cooperative effort. They asked for the County's support by signature of a letter of intent. Gary Crane, Sheriff's Department, stated the Sheriff is in support of this plan. The Board stated the intent of the consolidation is to have better centralized communications. They commended all parties for the cooperative effort in this plan.
  - 6.3 Press Release – Juvenile Detention Center -- Bob Sauerlander, Manager of Detention Services, announced that the County's Temporary Juvenile Detention Center was converted to a permanent facility on May 27, 2003. The facility was opened in March of 1998 and has had 1,100 Mason County youth that have entered through the doors of the detention center. He thanked a number of groups that have provided cooperative efforts in this program.
  - 6.4 Proclamation – Amateur Radio Week -- Lloyd Tuffs read aloud a proposed proclamation declaring the week of June 23 - 29 as Amateur Radio Week in Mason County. He noted they are licensed by the FCC and they are an open club. They have ongoing classes in the County. The board commented that they are some of the unsung heroes in the County to keep things going.  
  
**Cmmr. Johnson/Kamin moved and seconded to adopt the proclamation declaring the week of June 23 - 29 as Amateur Radio Week. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; K-aye.**
  - 6.5 Introduction of new employee – Penny Orth, Environmental Health Dept. – Debbie Riley, Environmental Health Manager, introduced the newest member of environmental health. She noted that Penny Orth comes with a strong background in computers and education. Ms. Orth has taken on the task of grant work.
  - 6.6 Press Release - USDA Grant for the Belfair/Lower Hood Canal Water Reclamation Facility -- Gary Yando, Utilities & Waste Management, announced that Mason County has secured \$17,450 in grant funds from the United States Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service Economic Recovery Program that will be used to amend the Belfair/Lower Hood Canal Water Reclamation Facility

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Plan. The amendments will include an extension of the service area along Lynch Cove from Belfair to Belfair State Park and the surrounding area.

7. Open Forum for Citizen Input - No comments were received.
8. Adoption of Agenda - **Cmmr. Kamin/Johnson moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; K-aye.**
9. Approval of Consent Agenda:
  - 9.1 Approval of Veterans Assistance Fund applications for Kenneth M. Allyn - housing \$325.00; and James C. Mustain - housing \$400.00 = \$725.00
  - 9.2 Appointment of Tom Springer to the Lower Hood Canal Watershed Implementation Committee.
  - 9.3 Approval of the Organizational Chart for the Department of Public Works.
  - 9.4 Approval for the Chairperson to execute amendment #1 to the agreement with Universal Field Services, Inc., extending the term of the agreement to December 31, 2003. This is for right of way acquisition and relocation services for the Old Olympic Highway. There is no change in the contract amount.
  - 9.5 Approval for the ER&R Manager to utilize the Post for Quotes/Telephone bid procedures to purchase eight transaction printers for the Treasurer's financial system. Approximate cost is \$6,000 plus tax.
  - 9.6 Approval of Personal Services contract between Mason County Department of Health Services and Amelia Cobb to provide Nutritional Counseling and Psycho/Social services.
  - 9.7 Approval of Consolidated Contract amendment #3 between Department of Health and Mason County Department of Health Services in the amount of \$48,477.
  - 9.8 Approval of Amendment to Nurse-Family Partnership Program contract to remove University of Washington from the contract because the U of W lost the funding from DSHS to support this program.
  - 9.9 Approval of contract amendment #4 between Department of Ecology and Mason County Department of Health Services to extend the period of performance five years to June 30, 2008. The contract pays Mason County \$50 for each well drilled in Mason County.
  - 9.10 Approval to release all ownership, service maintenance responsibility, and control of the MAARS/Plant ANI/ALI Controller and its E911 – specific peripheral equipment installed at FIRECOM to the ownership of MCFPD No. 5 effective January 1, 2004 and sign the letter stating this intent.

The Board read aloud the above consent agenda items.

Cmmr. Johnson noted that Agenda Item 9.3 needs a change to add the Administrator to the organizational chart.

Cmmr. Kamin referred to Agenda Item 9.6 and asked about how the billing will be handled on the contract.

Public Health Services Director Steve Kutz explained that the First Steps Program; Maternity Support Services and case management program DSHS is redesigning. Their new requirement, which will be effective October 1, 2003, that applications be turned in by December 31, 2003 with a complete package. No longer can an organization provide some of the stand-alone services. Organizations, in order to provide services, must hire individuals or have the missing components under contract. There is a billable amount for the counseling and psycho/social services.

**Cmmr. Johnson/Kamin moved and seconded to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.10 with the understanding that Item 9.3 will be amended to include the County Administrator. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; K-aye.**

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

- 10.1 Public hearing to consider a supplemental appropriation to the Current Expense Fund in the estimated amount of \$314,780. This is from unbudgeted beginning fund balance and is necessary because of unanticipated wage and benefit settlements -- Ione Siegler, Budget & Finance Director, presented the supplemental appropriation and recommended approval. Ms. Siegler explained the day the Board adopted the budget was the day the contract was approved and they did not include the amount in the budget at that time.

**Cmmr. Johnson/Kamin moved and seconded to approve the supplemental appropriation to the Current Expense Fund in the estimated amount of \$314,780 for unanticipated wage and benefit settlements. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; K-aye. Order signed (Exhibit A)**

- 10.2 Public hearing to consider increasing the connection fees for the North Bay/Case Inlet Sewer Collection System -- Utilities & Waste Management Director Gary Yando explained that the original connection of \$1,800 was established in 1994 and was increased in 2000 and then increased again to the current fee of \$2,253 which was adopted in 2002. The rates were increased based on the Engineering News Record (ENR) which is a widely recognized index used to adjust prices and costs from year to year. It was recommended that the connection fees be increased effective July 1, 2003 starting at \$5,000 and up to \$9,000 at year 2013.

Harry Sellers, Gray & Osborne Engineers, explained he has worked on this project in excess of ten years. He gave a little background on how they came up with the individual connections of the North Bay utility. For approximately two years they tried to contact all the residents in Allyn, Victor and Lakeland Village with the dual purposes of retaining a right of entry and come up with a site plan to make that particular connection. The right of entry serves a couple of different purposes. It allowed the county to enter the property and perform the necessary work. In the event of grinder pump systems, it made the county responsible for future operation and maintenance of that particular pump unit. They were able to secure approximately 900 right of entries and there are approximately 50 they have not been able to secure. The issue of the connection fees goes to the maintenance of the utility in forthcoming years. In general it is fair to say the connection fees are new customers and growth pays for growth.

Virginia Fisk stated she lives in Allyn and is one of the individuals who participated in the lawsuit against the sewer system. She related some of the history. In the early 1990's there was a health problem with some of the septic systems. At that time, all of her neighbors on Case Inlet were required to put in new septic systems. Many people spent \$15,000 - \$20,000 on the systems because they thought it would be for a lifetime. The County at that time had contracted with Gray & Osborne for studies for a sewer in the area within the decade.

They felt that the only option was to sign up because there was not sufficient money for the project. There was only 50% of the grinders for those who were required to do this. Everyone that signed up, 50% of the grinders were given to those people and after the grinders were gone people had to pay for the grinder and hook-up fee.

She understood the property owners will be picking up the expenses for the shortfall from Department of Ecology. She felt that was not fair. The connection fee effective July 1, 2003 is \$5,000 and the grinder is \$3,500 and the engineering expenses. The grinders seemed to be given to those who came first to pick up the equipment.

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She stated her septic system is in good working condition and would like to know what benefit it would be for her to pay the \$5,000 connection fee. There seemed to be inequities and the procedure was not democratic.

Jerry O'Hail concurred with Mrs. Fisk's frustration for lack of notice. The letter, which went to the Lakeland Village people, indicated that the \$1,800 connection fee has been modified to \$2,400. A lot of people have existing residences with good sewer systems. At this point, if they would hook-up immediately it would cost those with grinder pumps approximately \$8,000 to hook-up to the sewer system. The system has attracted people to the county. A portion of the system is under pressure and requires a grinder pump and costs \$3,000. He questioned why they would need to pay for a grinder pump or why the fee has changed for an existing residence. He would like to see some consideration of a fee structure that is more equitable and does not penalize the existing people.

Cheri Dieckman also known as Cheri Henderson has lived in Lakeland Village since 1982 and has been active in the community. She stated she was not part of the lawsuit. However, she does not want to hookup to the sewer system. She has several lots and does not live next to the lake or Case Inlet. She felt it should not be mandatory to hook up to a sewer system when she recently had a new pressurized system put in that has been inspected and approved for operation.

The Board commented that the sewer system is to benefit the community and not necessarily the County.

Steve Rose stated he lives at milepost 7 on the Grapeview Loop Road. He contests the fee increases. Initially, the plan was for the sewer system to go through to Nelson Road; however, they stopped short of 300' from his home. He would rather pay the \$1,800 for the installation fee now and not wait until later. He would like the County to consider filling in the places which were left. Initially, it was not feasible because there were not enough homes to support it. Currently, there are over nine people in the area, which would be interested.

Roger DeBritz noted he has lived at Lakeland Village since 1977 and was also part of the lawsuit. He has a low pressurized system, which was put in five years ago. He has a lot to lose by having to hook up to the sewer system. There was a comment that the sewer system was running efficiently. He questioned about why there is discussion about raising the rates. Two weeks is a short notice to come up with the money on a fixed income.

Wendy Ervin explained this system does not affect her personally. She commented that it appears the County has developed a best case scenario budget and the revenue did not come through. She suggested that revisions should be made to the original plan. The cost of the system appears to be set, but the hookup fees are being increased and it does not seem to be equitable.

Dorothy Ariens agreed with the frustration that has been communicated, but she felt that frustration is very polite when they actually are extremely angry. They felt their rights have been violated and were left out of the communication loop. They don't have the money that is being asked in the next two weeks. Her current septic system is functioning properly.

Steve Kutz, Public Health Services Director, clarified that they are still working on water quality problems in the North Bay/Case Inlet area. They are spending large amounts of money in staff time. They are interested in hearing reports of sewage problems in the area so they can check into them. They are having problems finding out where the contamination sources come from. The intent of the sewer system was to get all the people hooked up, because eventually the septic

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systems will fail. He encouraged the owners to hook the systems up to try and make the water better.

Virginia Fisk stated that she understood only 6% of the owners are not on the sewer system that is running around the Bay. If they are still having problems, she questioned if they have looked to the sewer system, as they are not fail safe. The new developers seem to be getting a financial break compared to those that have lived in the area for many few years. She asked that the County check back with the State Department of Ecology on this issue.

Cheri Dieckman added that right after the main access was put in on Lakeshore Drive in front of Bob Anderson's home next to the lake there was a failure system, which came bubbling up. It could have gone into the lake. There was also a failure by the area that used to be a play area. Just this week on Lakeland Hill there was a lot of work going on and there was a sewer system failure.

Dick Grillo lives at Lakeland Village and was part of the lawsuit. He would have liked to know more of the figures before the hearing. He stated that he did not mind paying the fee, but would like to know how the figure came up to \$5,000. He questioned if they are required to hook up.

Gary Yando stated that in 1999 when the original resolution was adopted it stated that anyone within 200 feet of the main collection system or within the boundaries of the Bay or Lake Anderson were required to connect. They didn't know of the outcome of the lawsuit until May 2003. Utilities & Waste was directed by the attorneys to not send any letters out to the parties in the lawsuit until 30 days had passed. They did send notice to some of the people who had refused to sign right of entries because property had been sold. At the end of 30 days the Prosecutor's office advised to send a letter which was around the first week of June. At that time, the connection fee was listed as \$2,462 which the schedule to increase on July 1. They were offered to pay the existing connection fee through July 1, 2003, which was adopted in 1999.

Cmmr. Johnson asked if the only difference between the previous resolution and 145-99 was the connection fee.

Mr. Yando stated it also does not have a couple of paragraphs, which did not have any more implication for this requirement. The fees are the same except for the connection fees.

Cmmr. Kamin asked how many existing residences are not connected to the sewer system.

Mr. Yando responded there are approximately 50 residences not connected.

Cmmr. Kamin questioned if they will have to pay the \$5,000.

Mr. Yando stated that if they do not pay within the next two weeks they would be required, per the resolution, to pay the full rate. Having a failed septic system or not has nothing to do with the fee. If someone came in before July 1 and made half a payment he would not raise it to \$5,000.

**Cmmr. Johnson/Kamin moved and seconded to accept the recommendation of the Director of Utilities & Waste Management and approve Resolution No. 63-03 which establishes the applicable North Bay/Case Inlet sewer connection assessments. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; K-aye. (Exhibit B)**

**RECESS**

The Board recessed until 11:00 a.m. for the next schedule hearing.

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- 10.3 Public hearing continued from May 20 and June 3, 2003 – proposed parking restriction to off street parking on Craig Road from milepost 0.14 to milepost 0.19.

Public Works Director Jerry Hauth reported that there has been an-ongoing problem with vehicles being parked along the eastern shoulder of Craig Road. It was suggested that 750' be restricted. There is a history of vehicles parking along the shoulder and some of the vehicles were large enough to obstruct the view of the stop sign. There were a number of local residents and businesses which came forward and indicated they could not support what Public Works was trying to accomplish. Public Works has looked at a number of alternatives and tried to minimize the imposition of restrictions upon the parking in the area.

They are proposing a restriction that no vehicles beyond 6' in height from the radius of the second driveway which would extend to the corner could not park there. The stop sign would be elevated and enlarged as much as possible and still be in accordance with the regulations. The stop ahead sign would be moved to 250' from the stop sign. He recommended the Board adopt the proposed resolution.

Cmmr. Johnson asked if initially the distance for restriction was longer than is proposed.

Mr. Hauth stated they are at 264' for proposed restriction.

Cmmr. Kamin noted her concern is pedestrian traffic. She asked if there is any stipulation on how far they need to be from the white line.

Mr. Hauth responded the proposal does not address the pedestrian traffic.

Cmmr. Kamin asked how high an average pickup is.

Mr. Hauth stated it could be a little higher than 6'. They were trying to make allowance for average single family type commuter vehicles.

It was questioned how this will be enforced.

Mr. Hauth commented that the Sheriff's Department will enforce this regulation.

Jim Throckmorton stated he owns Blue Bear Park. He thanked Public Works and the County for being willing to work with them on the parking restriction. He stated he has a Chevy 1 ton pickup which is 4-wheel drive and is over 6' at the top of the cab.

**Cmmr. Kamin/Johnson moved and seconded the Board approve Resolution No. 64-03 to restrict parking on vehicles exceeding six feet (6') in height on that portion of Craig Road between milepost 0.14 and 0.19. Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; J-aye; K-aye. (Exhibit C)**

- 10.4 Other Business (Department Heads and Elected Officials) - None

12. Administration - None

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13. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Herb Baze, Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Wesley E. Johnson, Commissioner

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Rebecca S. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

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Jayni L. Kamin, Commissioner