

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

JUNE 24, 2008

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – The Mason County Treasurer, Lisa Frazier, led the flag salute.
3. Roll Call - Present: Cmmr. Dist. 1 – Lynda Ring Erickson; Cmmr. Dist. 2 – Tim Sheldon; Cmmr. Dist. 3 – Ross Gallagher.
4. Correspondence and Organizational Business
 - 4.1 Correspondence
 - 4.1.1 Mr. and Mrs. James Wilkinson expressed concerns regarding the proposed WA Renaissance Fantasy Faire.
 - 4.1.2 The City of Shelton Historic Preservation Board recommends that attempts be made to preserve the St. Edwards Church building for future viable uses.
 - 4.1.3 The Washington State Liquor Control Board sent notice of assumption for Bayshore General Store in Shelton.
 - 4.1.4 The Olympic Region Clean Air Agency sent notice that Mason County's contribution for calendar year 2009 is \$20,567.
 - 4.1.5 Donald R. LeMaster is seeking appointment to the Mason County Planning Advisory Commission.
 - 4.1.6 Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific and Thurston Counties concur with the appointment of Stephen Hardy to fill a term on the Timberland Regional Library Board of Trustees.
 - 4.1.7 The Mason County Association of Realtors support the formation of a Storm and Surface Water Utility to serve the Belfair and Allyn Urban Growth Area.
 - ~~4.2 Mason County Rodeo Queen's Court – Julie Gray removed from agenda~~
5. Open Forum for Citizen Input (5 minutes per person, 15 minutes time limit)

Pamela Zehe, Shelton Matlock Road, expressed her frustration of the doubling of her property assessment and how expensive the cost of living has become. She stated houses are not being sold and companies are laying off employees. She believes the County should reconsider how it is determining the values of property due to the economy.

Cmmr. Gallagher noted there is the Board of Equalization process to appeal her assessment.

Steve Griswold, Dunbar Drive of Gig Harbor and property owners on North Shore Road, stated he has suffered property damage from the December 2007 storm and has spent \$70,000 in clean up. He has been working with the Department of Community Development (DCD) without success. He has not been able to complete his storm damage clean up. He feels there are deficiencies in DCD. He read a statement into the record referring to Mason County Title 17. He believes he does not have a development project but a clean up project.
6. Adoption of Agenda

Items appearing on the agenda after “Item 9. Public Hearings”, may be acted upon before 6:30 p.m.

Cmmr. Gallagher/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; G-aye.
7. Approval of Minutes – briefing minutes for the weeks of June 2 and June 9, 2008.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to approve the briefing minutes for the weeks of June 2 and June 9, 2008 as drafted. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; G-aye.
8. Approval of Consent Agenda:
 - 8.1 Approval of the resolution for the Limited Tax General Obligation Bond Series 2008A and Series 2008B (payable from sewer revenue) in the principal amounts of \$831,000 and \$525,000 to finance the

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- cost of constructing sewer improvements for the Rustlewood Sewer System. **Resolution No. 82-08 (Exhibit A)**
- 8.2 Approval of a contract with Foster and Williams Architects to prepare specifications and bid information for an ADA accessible office building at Mason County Recreation Association (MCRA).
 - 8.3 Approval to set a public hearing on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. to consider approval of the Oakland Bay County Park Master Site Plan.
 - 8.4 Approval of the Veterans Assistance Fund applications for: Douglas Drinkall - utilities \$174.26 as recommended by the Veterans Assistance Fund Screening Committee.
 - 8.5 Approval for the Chair to sign contract #0863-44367 with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services to continue the Mason County Foster Care Public Health Nurse Services program.
 - 8.6 Approval to set a public hearing on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. to consider franchise agreements between Mason County and Hartstene Island Estates, Trails End Water System and Clifton Pebble Beach Water System and Private Line Utility Occupancy Permits with Seventh Day Adventist Church, Dan Holman Water System and Hood Canal Highlands Water System.
 - 8.7 Approval to set a public hearing on July 15, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. to consider revising Mason County Code Title 16 by adding Section 16.36.028 Short Subdivision Alteration and Section 16.38.058 Large Lot Subdivision Alteration.
 - 8.8 Approval of the Retrospective Rating Program Memorandum of Understanding between Washington State Association of Counties and Mason County for the period of July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. This is an optional program offered by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.
 - 8.9 Approval of Warrants
Claims Clearing Fund Warrant #s 142549-142833 \$619,275.83
 - 8.10 Approval of the WA State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Loan No. L08000017 for the Belfair Water Reclamation Facility Design. This is in the amount of \$1,577,420 and is the balance of the approved \$3.3 million dollars.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to approve Consent Agenda items 8.1 to 8.10 as read. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; S-aye; G-aye.

9. 6:30 p.m. Public Hearings and Items Set for a Certain Time

There are no public hearings scheduled.

10. Other Business (Department Heads and Elected Officials)

10.1 Ione Siegler, Budget & Finance, presented a financial review as of May 31, 2008. She reported that the Department of Community Development (DCD) and sales tax are not meeting revenue projections for 2008. As of May 31st, DCD revenue is at 90% of the amount collected during May 2007. If that trend continues, she projects it could result in \$800,000 less being collected than budgeted for 2008. She did note that DCD expenditures are down 11% than the benchmark for May 2008, which should result in \$400,000 less being spent than budgeted, if that trend continues.

Sales Tax revenue is averaging 98% of the amount collected during the same period for 2007. If this collection rate continues, the result would be \$400,000 less collected than budgeted for 2008. Timber revenues are coming higher than expected and may be sufficient to offset the decrease in Sales Tax revenue.

Other major revenue not meeting original projections are the State Assistance to Cites & Counties which is down \$100,000 and interest income in the Treasurer's Office is also down about \$100,000.

Ms. Siegler pointed out that Mason County did finish 2007 with about \$200,000 more cash than expected which can be used to offset the downturn in revenues.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson asked when sales tax streamlining will begin.

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Ms. Siegler replied the collection will begin in October and \$300,000 was projected for an entire year.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson also noted the 1/10 of 1% sales tax was approved by the voters for supporting emergency communications.

Ms. Siegler stated the collection for that tax begins June 30th and will be used for emergency communications which was a Current Expense expenditure.

Cmmr. Sheldon noted Mason County has a hiring freeze. The Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) measures real estate sales, which are down. He noted the regional sewer project is in the County and WA State Department of Transportation projects are starting which will generate sales tax. He noted that he recently attended the WA State Association of Counties (WSAC) conference and other counties' revenues are also down.

Cmmr. Gallagher stated he believes Mason County is financially better prepared than other counties.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson agreed that Mason County is doing better, financially, than surrounding counties. She appreciates the cooperation of staff and elected officials.

Lisa Frazier, Treasurer, stated she recently attended the WA State Association of Treasurers and a major topic of discussion was the revenue shortfalls. She stated she has cautious expectations that Streamlined sales tax will help. She noted that housing sales are down which affects the Real Estate Excise Tax and permitting revenues. She stated that Mason County is in fair financial shape, but to stay that way it is imperative to explore all avenues to produce efficiencies and cost savings. She noted that Enterprises Funds and Special Funds need to be self-sufficient.

Cmmr. Sheldon commented that unfunded state mandates also make it difficult for counties.

11. Board's Reports and Calendar

The Board shared highlights from the past week's calendars (6/17-6/24/08) and announced meetings for the upcoming week (6/25 – 7/1/08).

12. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m. due to no further business.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Tim Sheldon, Chair

ATTEST:

Lynda Ring Erickson, Commissioner

Rebecca S. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

Ross Gallagher, Commissioner