

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

DECEMBER 2, 2008

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – County Engineer Bob Thuring 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 Drew Noble, Daniel Michener and Ken Wilson are seeking apointment to the TIP/CAP.
 - 4.1.2 Gary Fleming is seeking appointment to the Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council.
 - 4.1.3 Robert L. Gantenbein submitted his resignation from the Water Conservancy Board.
 - 4.1.4 Lorena "Renie" Ghylin expressed concerns regarding potential budget issues in the Sheriff's office.
 - 4.1.5 Comcast is making a number of changes to product offerings in Mason County.
 - 4.1.6 The Timberland Regional Library Board of Trustees submitted their preliminary budget and levy rate calculation sheet for 2009.
 - 4.1.7 Certification of levies for 2009 collection were received from the City of Shelton and Educational Service District 113.
 - 4.1.8 2009 budgets were received from Fire Districts #2, #3, #11, the Port of Grapeview and Harstene Pointe Water-Sewer District.
 - 4.2 Staff Recognition – Budget & Finance – Ione Siegler presented a Certificate of Merit to Todd Barr for meeting the Advanced Risk Manager requirements from the Washington Counties Risk Pool membership compact. This is a long process in which he completed five programs and five exams.
 - 4.3 Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste – Sheriff Salisbury noted that they had a large outpouring of people in support of law enforcement at the budget hearing before the County Commissioners. One thing he did not want to go unnoticed is they speak to people in the county of their concerns and budget cuts and the things they are all experiencing. The Sheriff's office gets recognition because they have stars out there and people notice them. There are always supporting cast that allows for an organization to keep moving forward. He hoped that when people come in support of the Sheriff's office, they also recognize that within the last year when they were running low on staff in their office the Auditor's office were supportive and held them up. He wanted people to also take a look at the whole system and consider it is not just one area of county government that is taking hits, it is all the areas. The only way to all survive is to have an equalization support for each one of those other entities. He stated that throughout their first year with the county, it was a challenging time for the sheriff and undersheriff. They did not have a finance person and the Auditor's office came and assisted during a difficult time. He wanted to remember the other elected officials and department heads are in the same challenging times.

He also shared that when he was sheriff elect, there were real challenges that faced him. The Chief of the Washington State Patrol came to him and notified that they will have more focus on the state roadways and it might leave the county sheriff's department short on law enforcement on the Mason County roads. He wanted him to think about ways to enhance the policing services on county roadways. It has been over 20 years since the county had a traffic unit and the County was suffering due to the numbers of fatalities, drunk driving, and speeding rates. They worked hard to get a traffic unit in Mason County. The WSP had offered to provide training for the traffic unit if the county got the staff. The K-9 Unit also was a result of the WSP reaching out and allowing the county to obtain a dog free of charge and training, saving the county a lot of money.

He shared some traffic statistics and noted they have a tremendous volunteer staff in the Sheriff's office. Last year the volunteers conducted 228 hulk vehicle inspections to assist the traffic unit, which

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is approximately 1 FTE. From January, they responded to 212 traffic accidents; 203 traffic complaints; 630 citations issued; 6 fatalities; 54 injury accidents; 154 property damage accidents. During that time there were 1,890 contacts to traffic incidents in Mason County with the new traffic unit. The K9 narcotics dog had a total of 105 searches of which they had 128 finds. The dog has been very productive for Mason County related to drug crimes. Numerous neighborhoods reported a reduction in problems. He introduced Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste.

Chief Batiste noted that he took his training as a trooper at the WSP Academy in Shelton. He congratulated Mason County for the decision to establish the traffic unit. They work very closely with the Sheriff. It is tough economic times for federal, state and local governments. It is their intent to continue to work closely with the local sheriff's department to support in any way they possibly can. Whether it is mutual aid or support for major incidents that may occur in the County the WSP will be there for the county. He commented that crime is mobile as things that are occurring in Mason County are not necessarily routed in Mason County, some is coming in from other areas of the immediate surrounding area. Traffic is one of the most convenient tools for law enforcement in their efforts in keeping the community safe.

Cmmr. Sheldon thanked the Washington State Patrol. It was a tough decision for the Counties to take over the accident investigation. With the WSP help, the County has done a very good job at becoming ready. He thanked Chief Batiste for all the work on behalf of the WSP Academy, which Mason County is proud to be home to. The County is working hard with the City of Shelton and a regional group on the water and sewer project to make sure the academy stays in its location and stays strong. In 1960 the citizens decided they would like to compete for the academy, because it was a statewide competition to determine its location. The Chamber of Commerce raised a tremendous amount of money to buy a section of land from Simpson Timber Company to donate to the state. They did not get all the money needed, but Simpson Timber Company came in with a lower price and the property was donated to the state for that facility. All the benefits they had over the years are a great legacy.

Chief Batiste shared that they are in the process of purchasing an additional 300 acres next to the current facility. They aim to grow the facility in meeting the needs of the WSP for many years to come. All agencies within the State of Washington train at the Academy when it becomes to pursuit driving and other forms of traffic engagement. Every state trooper in the State of Washington has been trained in Shelton in how to be a state trooper.

5. Open Forum for Citizen Input

- 5.1 Nancy Moran thanked the Board for preserving the 4-H program. Her daughter has been a 4-H member for a couple years and it has been a valuable growing experience for her. This is a valuable program in our rural community.

Cmmr. Sheldon stated it is an unusual time as you look around the country and see all the trouble other states are having, counties, cities and companies.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson stated she has a lot of confidence in the Washington State University (WSU) Extension staff. Some of the things may look different, but she believed they would be able to preserve the programs. Through the enthusiasm and volunteerism in the community possibly they could get some of the service clubs involved to support this as well.

6. Adoption of Agenda – **Cmmr. Gallagher/Ring Erickson moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously. G-aye; RE-aye; S-aye.**

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7. Approval of Minutes – **Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to approve the regular meeting minutes for October 14, 2008 and briefing minutes for the week of November 17, 2008. Motion carried unanimously. G-aye; RE-aye; S-aye.**
8. Approval of Consent Agenda:
- 8.1 Approval to set a public hearing on Tuesday, December 23, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. to consider the 2007 applications for the Current Use Open Space and Current Use Timber taxation program.
 - 8.2 Approval of the Veterans Assistance Fund applications for: Ronald Ralstin (Billie) - utilities \$122.51 and burial \$600.00 and Bill Ewing - housing \$465.00 for a total of \$1,187.51 as recommended by the Veterans Assistance Fund Screening Committee.
 - 8.3 Approval of the resolution setting a second hearing date with the Hearing Examiner on Tuesday, January 27, 2009; 1:00 p.m. on the petition submitted by the U.S. Forest Service/Olympic National Forest, for vacation of a portion of Harrison Avenue, Plat of “Hoodsport” recorded in Volume 2, page 6, records of Mason County, Washington. **Resolution No. 126-08 (Exhibit A)**
 - 8.4 Approval for Public Works to advertise for Construction Project Inspector Services, Contract/Fee Appraisers, Negotiators, and Title Research Services, Geotechnical Lab Services, and Strategic Planning Services.
 - 8.5 Approval to set a public hearing on Tuesday, December 23rd at 9:30 a.m. to consider a supplemental appropriation to the 2008 Budget for the Parks & Trails Department in the Current Expense Fund in the estimated amount of \$20,000 due to a grant from the WA State Recreation and Conservation Funding Board for the Camp Govey Back Country Trail Plan. **Resolution No. 127-08 (Exhibit B)**
 - 8.6 Approval for the Equipment Rental & Revolving Fund Manager to purchase one new 2009 Ford Crown Victoria police car utilizing the Washington State contract.
 - 8.7 Approval the Equipment Rental & Revolving Fund Manager to call for bids to furnish Mason County with towing service for the year 2009. Date and time of opening to be December 23, 2008 at 11:00 am.
 - 8.8 Approval to set public hearing time on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. to review the request by Nathan & Debra Stout and Patrick Paradise to rezone four parcels (7.44 ac. area total) within the Rural Area from Rural Residential 20 zone to Rural Commercial 2 zone.
 - 8.9 Approval for the Environmental Health Manager to utilize the Post-for-Quotes/Telephone Bid Procedures to contract with a contractor from the Small Works Roster to secure the building and clean up the property at 27221 N US Highway 101, Hoodspport, WA at an approximate cost of \$2,500, subject to reimbursement by Layle Tahja, the property owner.
 - 8.10 Approval of Warrants

Claims Clearing Fund	Warrant #s 150629-150944	\$1,427,038.21
Salary Clearing Fund	Warrant #s 2025-2065	\$ 272,407.02
Direct Deposit Fund	Warrant #s 8287-8712	\$ 625,679.51

It was asked that Item 8.6 be removed for further discussion.

Cmmr. Sheldon referred to Item 8.9 and noted that the property that is being cleaned up on Highway 101 and north of Rest-A-While. He thanked the Public Health Director and Mark Core Permit Assistance Center Manager and Barb Adkins, Planning Manager, for all working hard to get this property cleaned up.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to approve the consent agenda items 8.1 through 8.5 and 8.7 through 8.10. Motion carried unanimously. G-aye; RE-aye; S-aye.

Item 8.6 Further Discussion

Approval for the Equipment Rental & Revolving Fund Manager to purchase one new 2009 Ford Crown Victoria police car utilizing the Washington State contract.

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Cmmr. Gallagher noted that a while back they notified all the elected officials and department heads that they need to curtail the purchases so they have a better ending balance. Right now \$29,000 is a lot of money. They are trying to balance the budget and need every dollar possible to balance the budget.

Undersheriff Barrett he felt they could get through the end of the year with the fleet they have. They would have to put a deputy in an older car. They will need to sit down at the beginning of the year with the Commission to discuss what they need to do.

Cmmr. Gallagher/Ring Erickson moved and seconded not to approve Item 8.6. Motion carried unanimously. G-aye; S-aye; S-aye.

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

- 9.1 A public hearing to consider supplemental budget appropriations to the 2008 Current Expense Fund Budget for the Sheriff's Department due to unanticipated grant revenue in the amount of \$133,452.

Ione Siegler, Budget & Finance Director, presented the staff report. She noted the supplemental budget appropriation would add several grants and revenue to the Sheriff's budget. The following funds would be added:

\$40,150 from Washington State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) grant to reimburse Mason County Sheriff's office for some of the costs of incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens.

\$75,589 Washington State Patrol Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP) for equipment.

\$17,713 Washington State Department of Justice Grant for small tools and equipment. For a total of \$133,452 in unanticipated grant revenue.

Cmmr. Gallagher questioned if any particular grants require a match.

Ms. Siegler replied these grants do not require a match. They are reimbursing expenditures made.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to approve supplemental appropriations to the 2008 budget for the Sheriff's Department in the Current Expense Fund in the amount of \$133,452. Motion carried unanimously. G-aye; RE-aye; S-aye.

10. Other Business (Department Heads and Elected Officials)

- 10.1 Charlie Butros, Public Works Director, stated they received word from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on the North Shore Road project 11.6 milepost project. They should be getting comments shortly. The comments will be providing with questions and information on what it will take to get the final approval to move forward. It has taken longer than they anticipated to get the feedback on the project. On the Tahuya River Bridge replacement project they just completed the backwater study which was requested by the Department of Fish and Wildlife and is ready to submit for final approval. They are making progress. The Finch Creek Bridge project in Hoodspport he does not have much in the way of current information. They had submitted information and have not heard back yet with permitting approval. Today and tomorrow will mark the one-year anniversary of that storm. They have done quite a bit of repairs and completed the majority of the work. They are still working on the larger and more complex projects.

Cmmr. Sheldon asked that he put together a list of expectations for start dates on some of those projects.

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11. Board's Reports and Calendar - The Board members reported on meetings attended the past week, November 25 – December 2, 2008. Also, they announced their upcoming schedules for December 2 – 9, 2008.
12. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m. The next regular meeting is December 9, 2008.

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

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