

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

February 16, 2010

1. Call to Order – The Chairperson called the regular meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Ken Wilson led the flag salute.
3. Roll Call – Present: Commissioner District 1 - Lynda Ring Erickson; Commissioner District 2 – Tim Sheldon; Commissioner District 3 – Ross Gallagher.
4. Correspondence and Organizational Business
 - 4.1 Correspondence
 - 4.1.1 Ken VanBuskirk expressed concerns regarding the Pacific Northwest Salmon Center project.
 - 4.1.2 The Washington State Liquor Control Board sent notice of a special occasion liquor license application for the Humane Society of Mason County.
 - 4.1.3 Comcast sent notice of changes to their on screen cable guide for digital cable customers in Mason County.
 - 4.2 Staff Recognition for WSU Extension Office. Mo MacCracken was recognized for her leadership in the 4-H program. Commissioner Gallagher presented her with the Green Star Award.

Cmmr. Sheldon excused himself from the meeting at 9:10 a.m. to attend the Legislative Session.

5. Open Forum for Citizen Input – There was no citizen input.
6. Adoption of Agenda - **Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to adopt the agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; G-aye; S-absent.**
7. Approval of Minutes – February 1, 2010 briefing minutes and February 9, 2010 regular meeting minutes.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to approve the February 1, 2010 briefing minutes and February 9, 2010 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; G-aye; S-absent.

8. Approval of Consent Agenda:
 - 8.1 Approval of the affidavit presented by the Mason County Treasurer for uncollectible personal property taxes in the amount of \$1,533.05, pursuant to RCW 84.56.240.
 - 8.2 Approval to cancel the March 9, 2010 Commission meeting.
 - 8.3 Approval of the agreement for the Mason County Recreation Area (MCRA) Attendant with Tiger and Darlene Free. This is for a two-year term ending February 2012.
 - 8.4 Approval to appoint Bev Voss-Petredis to the Mason County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) as a representative of a business that is required to collect the lodging tax (generator).
 - 8.5 Approval of a resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board of Commissioners to sign a contract with Engineering Services Associates, Inc. (ESA) of Belfair, Washington to provide technical assistance and comprehensive mapping services for the construction of side sewers. ESA was selected from the Small Works Roster as provided in Mason County Code Chapter 3.48. The cost for the proposed services is \$102,865 and is grant funded.
Resolution No. 08-10 (Exhibit A)
 - 8.6 Approval of agreement with the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) to provide \$10,000 to build the capacity of a local Medical Reserve Corps.

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- 8.7 Approval of the interlocal agreement with Clark County to provide \$27,591 to continue the Mason Counties HIV Prevention and Case Management efforts. There are no matching requirements and this is budgeted.
- 8.8 Approval of Change Order Number 2 for County Road Project 1379-3, Grapeview Loop Road culvert replacement project, with Five Rivers Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$110,537.00.
- 8.9 Approval for the Chair to execute the Addendum to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Mason County Public Works and Teamsters Local Union No. 252 and Operation Engineers Local Union No. 302 that indicates annual holidays that shall be paid regardless of which day of the week they fall on.
- 8.10 Approval to execute Supplemental Agreement No. 2010-3 to Consultant Agreement 09-01 with Tetra Tech changing the completion date to December 31, 2010 for providing consultation on geomorphic conditions and fish biologic services for the Lower Elfendahl Pass Road repair. There are no additional costs.
- 8.11 Approval of the interagency agreement with the Washington State Department of Corrections to develop an on-site food waste composting system for the Washington Corrections Center. The County was awarded a \$118,313 grant from the Department of Ecology for this project.

Ken VanBuskirk asked that items 8.5 and 8.10 be removed for further consideration.

An audience member asked that items 8.6 and 8.8 be removed for further consideration.

Item 8.5

Emmett Dobey explained that this contract is to provide assistance to individual homeowners in connecting to the Belfair Sewer System.

Mr. VanBuskirk asked if this was done when the Allyn system was built.

Mr. Dobey explained that it was not done in Allyn and there were difficulties, which is why it is being done now.

Mr. VanBuskirk asked if the hookup would remain the homeowners' responsibility.

Mr. Dobey stated it would remain the homeowners' responsibility to hook up, this contract would just provide technical assistance so the hookup is done correctly.

Mr. VanBuskirk noted that some people aren't sure if they will be able to hook up yet. He thought they should be the priority.

Mr. Dobey clarified that the issue Mr. VanBuskirk is eluding to is that there are a number of properties that are within 500 feet that are required to connect to the sewer line that are situated in a way that makes it difficult for them to connect. He is aware of the problem and he wants to make sure there is a policy for that situation.

Brenda Hirschi commented that there is a \$400,000 budget for public involvement for this project. She asked what the remaining dollars would be spent on.

Mr. Dobey explained that this contract would take \$100,000 of that money. Some of it has already been spent and the rest will be for environmental issues.

Item 8.6

An audience member asked what this item would accomplish and if it is budgeted.

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Vicki Kirkpatrick explained that this is an award that is provided to jurisdictions with Medical Reserve Corps that are certified by the Federal Government. The funding is for ongoing recruitment, training, support and enhancement. It wasn't in the original budget because they didn't know if they would be getting the grant.

The audience member asked what the Medical Reserve Corps does.

Ms. Kirkpatrick replied that the Corps is a group of volunteers that go through a substantial amount of training. They can be deployed to provide assistance to communities in need and they work under the authority of the local Health Officer.

Item 8.7

Cmmr. Gallagher asked if this item is a renewal of a contract.

Ms. Kirkpatrick answered that it is a renewal of the annual HIV contract.

Item 8.8

Cmmr. Gallagher commented that there was a misspelling on this item.

An audience member asked how this has changed from the original budget.

Bob Thuring explained that the original engineer's estimate for the project was \$559,621. The original construction contract was \$421,707.09. This bring it is up, but it continues to be less than the original estimated price for the construction project.

Item 8.10

Mr. VanBuskirk asked how much has been spent on this to date.

Mr. Thuring replied that it is in the range of \$100,000 and FEMA pays 75% of the cost.

Mr. VanBuskirk asked if there have been any preliminary findings.

Mr. Thuring answered that a draft study report has been submitted.

Mr. VanBuskirk commented that he is preparing a report for the TIPCAP regarding this project. He has walked the area and there are 19 culverts that go under this road within 2 miles. His ultimate goal is to get this removed from the County's 6-year Plan and to convert the road to a walking trail.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson/Gallagher moved and seconded to approve Consent items 8.1 through 8.11. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; G-aye; S-absent.

9. 9:30 a.m. Public Hearings and Items Set for a Certain Time – There were no public hearings scheduled.

10. Other Business (Department Heads and Elected Officials) –
10.1 Consider 2010 Lodging Tax Awards.

Cmmr. Gallagher noted that the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee has prepared their recommendations and the document has been made available to the public. They are recommending denial of 3 applicants.

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Cmmr. Ring Erickson stated that she has spent a lot of time looking over this and has received a lot of emails regarding the Chambers. She had never considered changing the Chambers awards. When she talked to the members of the LTAC over the years she was told that this was an opportunity to extend the shoulders of the tourist season. She has tried to look at this through that prism. She would also like to hear people's comments on the proposal.

Brenda Hirschi commented that on January 5th she stated to the Board that she could not see clear criteria for consideration of these applications and she had concerns over possible conflicts of interest. On January 18th she sent the Board further analysis that she had done on the LTAC recommendations and a list of questions. Her questions haven't been answered to date and she would like her questions responded to.

Ms. Hirschi went over her list of questions. The Board and audience members, including the Directors of the Chambers of Commerce, responded to her questions.

Ken VanBuskirk agreed that there should be clear criteria for consideration. He would recommend approval of all of the awards, including those that were recommended for denial. He noted that he has been following the LTAC since the VIC was moved from the Theler Center to the Chamber office. There is still a sign in front of Theler that says it's a VIC and he would like the LTAC to consider putting the VIC back at Theler. He also received a letter from the North Mason Chamber that their VIC might be closed and that their Lodging Tax money was at risk. He further noted that the North Mason Rotary doesn't want to do a 2-day event.

Jolene Black, Harmony Hill, commented that she has applied for grants for 8 years and she is used to being declined. This process should be different because it is funded by tax dollars. There needs to be stated criteria for how people are declined. She doesn't understand why she got a letter that she should be here to answer questions if the Board is just going to approve the list of recommendations.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson noted that State law dictates the spending of these funds.

Ken Wilson stated that he has been on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for about 5 year. He would take any suggestions to make the process better, but to give the suggestion that there are no procedures or thought to the process is ludicrous. The Commissioners have ensured that the group uses the monies according to State law. Every county does this differently. Some even use the money as part of their budget and there isn't a chance to vie for the dollars. The Commissioners send out an application for funding that is very specific. 80% of the time the application isn't completed correctly, information is missing and no representative is present at the meetings to provide the information. There are procedures in place to make sure the dollars are spent wisely and there is a return on the investment. There are opportunities for the Committee to make judgments, which is to the benefit of the applicants. Groups that don't fit every procedure, but that have provided a service to the community for many years can still be approved. The Committee is much more concerned about the return on the investment in new events that want to come on board in the middle of August. For example, he is a firm advocate of Harmony Hill, but they have nothing to do with tourism. The Committee has a limited amount of dollars to spend and they need to be fair. People need to understand the total procedure.

Cmmr. Ring Erickson commented that she has always heard about heads in beds and increasing visitors in the shoulder months. There are 4 or 5 events on the list that don't put heads in beds, but probably raise awareness about Mason County. There are two other events that haven't been funded before that she believes present an opportunity to increase visitors during the holiday season.

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Cmmr. Ring Erickson moved and seconded to approve a \$205,341 appropriation of Lodging Tax funds as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, with the addition of a \$1,000 award to Anna's Bay Center for Music and a \$1,000 award to the Harstine Island Community Choir, for a total of \$207,341. Motion carried unanimously. RE-aye; G-aye; S-absent.

- 10.2 Charlie Butros announced that Public Works has submitted a request for appropriations for Simmons Road/Lynch Road safety improvements. The estimated cost has been reduced.
- 10.3 Bob Simmons announced that there is a group of Mason County 4-H youth that went to a "know your government" forum last week. The groups all worked on bills or amendments to existing bills. Mason County's group was one of the 8 groups selected to have their bill move forward.
11. Board's Reports and Calendar - The Commissioners reported on meetings attended the past week and announced their upcoming weekly meetings.
12. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Ross Gallagher, Chair

ATTEST:

Lynda Ring Erickson, Commissioner

Shannon Goudy, Clerk of the Board

Tim Sheldon, Commissioner