

RESOLUTION NO. 47-08  
A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A MASON COUNTY  
WATER CONSERVANCY BOARD

WHEREAS, water conservancy boards are authorized by the Washington State Legislature in Chapter 90.80 of the revised Code of Washington;

WHEREAS, the principal objectives of the water conservancy boards are to facilitate voluntary water rights transfers through local water resource management and review and to acknowledge the property right features inherent to existing water right permits and certificates;

WHEREAS, water right transfers can provide an incentive for investment in water conservation efforts by Mason County water right holders and provide needed water for new uses where new water rights may be difficult to expeditiously acquire;

WHEREAS, a local water conservancy board can expedite an administrative process for water right transfers proposed to be diverted within Mason County; and

WHEREAS, counties can authorize the creation of a water conservancy board by resolution as described in RCW 90.80.020 and the Mason County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing to consider the establishment of a water conservancy board on April 15, 2008.

WHEREAS, the Mason County Commissioners have found that the creation of a Mason County Water Conservancy Board is in the public interest;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mason County Water Conservancy Board is hereby created, with three members and two alternate members, to function within the geographical borders of Mason County, exercising administrative powers enumerated within Title 90 RCW, with funding to be by an application fee that will be established by the Water Conservancy Board, and with the initial by-laws contained in Attachment A.

DATED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rebecca S. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Sheldon, Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Monty Cobb, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting  
Attorney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynda Ring Erickson, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ross Gallagher, Commissioner

**ATTACHMENT A:**  
**BY-LAWS OF THE MASON COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY BOARD**

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**ARTICLE 1, MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of the Mason County Water Conservancy Board (the Board) shall consist of a three-member board; all members will be appointed by the Mason County Commissioners, according to the provisions of Chapter 90.80 RCW. The County Commissioners may also appoint two alternates to serve when the regular members are not available.

**ARTICLE 2, MEETINGS**

Meetings of the Board shall be held monthly at such a time and place within Mason County as shall be designated by the Chairperson. Special meetings may be held upon the call of the Chairperson. The initial agenda shall be set by the Chairperson, but may be amended at the meeting without special notice. Three days written notice of meetings and the meeting agenda shall be provided to each member and the Shelton Journal as the local paper record. Meetings are covered under the Washington Open Meetings Law.

**ARTICLE 3, QUORUM**

A majority of two members and/or alternates shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business that may come before any monthly or special meeting of the Board.

**ARTICLE 4, VOTING**

Each regularly appointed member, or duly appointed alternate serving in the stead of a regularly appointed member, shall be entitled to one vote on any matter that may come before the Board; provided that no member shall participate in a record of decision of the Board until he or she has successfully completed the necessary training required as provided in Chapter 90.80 RCW. The majority vote of quorum present of the Board shall be necessary to decide any question.

**ARTICLE 5, OFFICERS**

The elected officers of the Board shall be the Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer. The officers shall be elected at the regular meeting in January of each calendar year and shall hold office until their successors have been elected and qualified. The officers shall qualify as regularly appointed members of the Board. The duties of the officers shall be those usually pertaining to their respective office. A chair pro term can be selected by the Board when the Chairperson is absent.

**ARTICLE 6, RECORDS AND CORRESPONDENCE.**

The Board shall establish and maintain an official mailing address to receive correspondence and applications, which will be the Mason County Department of Utilities, PO Box 578, Shelton, WA 98584. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep a written record of all meetings, resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations of the

Board. Said written records shall be public record and shall be available for inspection at reasonable times.

#### ARTICLE 7, APPLICATION FEE

A fee will be charged by the Board to cover all costs of their deliberations. The Board shall establish an application fee and professional review fee and it shall be receipted by the Mason County Department of Utilities and deposited with the Mason County Treasurer. The Board will review the fees annually to determine that they truly cover the costs to review the applications.

#### ARTICLE 8, REGISTERED PROFESSIONALS

The Board shall use the Mason County Small Works Roster to obtain services for registered professionals in the permit review process.

#### ARTICLE 9, TRAVEL

The Board shall approve all travel expenses for board commissioners prior to the initiation of travel. The Mason County Department of Utilities shall voucher any approved expenses. Travel to other Conservancy Boards is approved to observe meeting protocol as the Conservancy Board starts its initial work.

#### ARTICLE 10, QUASI- JUDICIAL HEARING

The review of applications before the Board will be conducted as a Quasi-Judicial Hearing. Minutes of Board meeting will be kept and all Board decisions will be recorded and available for public review.

#### ARTICLE 11, AMENDMENTS

The Board, on thirty days written notice to the membership, may amend these By-Laws at any regular or special meeting.