

**BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' BRIEFING MINUTES**  
**Mason County Commission Chambers, 411 North 5th Street, Shelton, WA**  
**Week of January 25, 2016**

Monday, January 25, 2016

9:00 A.M. Closed Session – RCW 42.30.140 (4) Labor Discussion  
Commissioners Jeffreys, Sheldon and Neatherlin met in Closed Session from 9:00 a.m. to 9:48 a.m. with Bill Kenny for a labor discussion.

9:45 A.M. Support Services - Bill Kenny

Commissioners Jeffreys, Sheldon and Neatherlin were in attendance.

- Bill Kenny stated there will be a meeting on February 10 regarding a Rails to Trails proposal that Squaxin Island Tribe is involved in. The Board agreed that Cmmr. Jeffreys will represent the County at this meeting.
- Mr. Kenny stated 26 requests were submitted for reclass requests received in “Exceptional Window of Opportunity”. Binders with the requests and an analysis will be provided to the Commissioners by end of week. A briefing time will be scheduled in February for the Commissioners to make their determinations on the requests.
- Request to amend County Code Chpt. 2.88 to reflect changes to RCW 36.32.080 for regular meetings outside the County seat and joint regular meetings. Commissioners Jeffreys and Sheldon are in favor of scheduling a meeting in areas outside the county seat when there are agenda items that are germane to that area. Diane will place the resolution on the agenda to change the Code so meetings can be scheduled, when necessary.
- Cmmr. Sheldon left the briefing at 10:00 a.m.
- Veterans’ Advisory Board (VAB) is recommending minor changes to the operating policy; adding two members from the Disabled American Veterans to the VAB (total of ten members) and raising the annual limit from \$800 to \$1,000 per veteran. The County appropriates \$100,000 for indigent veterans and in 2015 \$66,678 was actual amount spent. Tom Davis provided some information regarding the request. Cmmr. Jeffreys requested additional information to support the request including the long range plan for this money and true cases when the current \$800 allocation is not enough to meet the request. She would like to talk to VAB members and Service Officers to better understand this request. Cmmr. Neatherlin expressed support of the increase to \$1,000. Diane will contact Jeff Thompson, Chair of the VAB, requesting additional information and ask VAB members and Service Officers to attend a briefing. The Commissioners are good with adding members from the Disabled American Veterans organization.
- Frank presented two Real Property offers for property at 240 & 250 E Evergreen Road in Belfair. The Commissioners requested information on any outstanding liens and property taxes before accepting the offer or making a counter offer.
- Frank provided paperwork on the refinance with State Treasurer for Public Works Buildings. Frank will provide information on the lease language in the paperwork.
- Frank has been in contact with Commerce regarding the \$1.455M grant that is to be used to pay down Belfair Sewer Loan(s). Additional information will be forthcoming.
- Frank stated that the State Auditor's Office identified an exit item in the 2014 audit regarding taxation of county vehicles used for personal use by county employees. The Vehicle Use Policy must be amended and all employees must be notified that the county will, in 2016, report to the IRS the taxable fringe benefit.
- Frank brought up a request from the Sheriff's office to place the inter-fund loan payment for the vehicles and radios in Non-Departmental since it is a three-year loan. Cmmr. Jeffreys expressed concern if the costs are not in the budget documents for the Sheriff's office although it can be coded in Non-Departmental to be captured. There is also concern with growing the Non-Departmental budget. Diane suggested including language in the inter-fund loan resolution committing to budget the installments in the Sheriff's budget. The paperwork will be drafted and Frank will talk to the Sheriff's office.

10:15 A.M. BREAK

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- 10:20 A.M. Public Health & Human Services – Vicki Kirkpatrick  
Commissioners Jeffreys and Neatherlin were in attendance. Cmmr. Sheldon was absent.
- Debbie presented the interlocal agreement for the regional septic loan program. This agreement continues and expands the Hood Canal Regional Septic Loan Program that offers loan assistance to citizens of the participating jurisdictions to address failing or malfunctioning onsite sewage systems to protect public health and water quality. The Board approved adding it to tomorrow's agenda in order to meet a deadline.
  - The Board approved moving forward Amendment 6 to the Consolidated Contract.
  - Vicki presented the contract with Mental Health Professionals, LLC for Veterans Services. One proposal was received from this vendor for mental health and chemical dependency intensive case management for veterans. The contract is for \$100K to maintain the client load of 63 as well as add two part-time (.5 FTE and .25 FTE) Clinical Peer Support Counselors to augment the work of the one Case Manager (1 FTE Social Worker – MSW or Equivalent). The additional Clinical Peer Support Counselors will be veterans that have relevant experience to the clients served. The Commissioners questioned why the significant difference in the price per client compared to NW Resources contract.  
Adrian Magnuson-Whyte, Mental Health Professionals, LLC explained that substance abuse/chemical dependency counselors historically have been recovered clients and they can have an associates level of education. The mental health counselors must have master level of training and the pay for mental health is higher.  
NW Resources provides intensive case management for chemical and mental health but not the additional clinical peer support.  
The proposed budget was reviewed. The budget is increased due to more clients and they frequently transport veterans to American Lake. The Commissioners requested the mileage reimbursement be set at the IRS reimbursable rate.  
Cmmr. Neatherlin stated he has no problem moving forward with the contract but asked if there are any areas that can be adjusted in the budget.  
Mr. Magnuson-Whyte stated it is unusual to negotiate on a proposal that was submitted in response to the RFP. Costs have increased. He already is not billing the county what they believe they should. This contract brings the amount to the original amount.  
Vicki noted the current contract has not been covering the cost of the services.  
Cmmr. Jeffreys asked if the decision to go to 63 clients was a decision of Mental Health Professionals, since the RFP was for 35 clients.  
This contract goes to the end of year; if the mental health tax is extended then an RFP would go out mid-year 2016 for 2017 services.  
Cmmr. Jeffreys stated she is not willing to put on tomorrow's agenda.  
Cmmr. Neatherlin would like a counter offer and suggested the contractor reduce the client load.  
Mr. Magnuson-Whyte stated that he would not reduce client load; he would not continue the contract. He could not decide who to get rid of for clients and does not wish to administer a program that puts clients on the streets; he believes it is better to not provide the service.  
Tom Davis interjected that he can't do his mentoring job without Leon. He believes the Commissioners are nitpicking this contract and it is the best money the county spends.  
Cmmr. Jeffreys stated she would like to be briefed again on Monday. She needs to understand what this contractor is providing that the other contractor is not providing.

- 11:00 A.M. Parks & Trails Advisory Board Interviews  
Commissioners Jeffreys and Neatherlin interviewed the two applicants Jeff Nunnemaker and Brad Bryant for vacant positions on the Parks & Trails Advisory Board.

Commissioner Discussion

Commissioners Jeffreys and Neatherlin were in attendance. Cmmr. Sheldon was absent.

- Cmmr. Jeffreys inquired about the status of the Friends of the Park fund raiser for the TPL survey. Cmmr. Neatherlin stated he isn't supportive of some of the survey questions. Jeff Vrabel stated the County also needs to know the status of fundraising for MCRA Field 6 and 7.

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The Commissioners directed staff to request the status of the fundraising from the Friends of the Park.

- Jeff then brought up a citizen concern with alleged damage at Larimer's Landing from commercial use. He stated there are dock improvements that could be made to better accommodate commercial use. He will ask for assistance from commercial users.
- Commissioners Jeffreys and Neatherlin are in favor of appointing both Mr. Nunnemaker and Mr. Bryant to the Parks & Trails Advisory Board. This will be placed on the agenda.
- Cmmr. Jeffreys updated Cmmr. Neatherlin on the following items:
  - \$100,000 appropriation for veteran housing and the discussion with Homes First and identifying property. Cmmr. Neatherlin was aware of this project.
  - Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Organization - Cmmr. Jeffreys is starting to attend the meetings. Local affected parties are meeting to address the issues and they are working on developing a mobile response teams for mental health services from the BHO funding. Discussion of a facility. Cmmr. Neatherlin expressed concern with a county-run facility and the potential liability.
  - Cmmr. Jeffreys stated she had a discussion with Mayor Lent who brought up the possibility of moving funding to the Bypass and Cmmr. Jeffreys asked for information.
- Cmmr. Neatherlin stated he has met with Belfair citizens. He has concern with the price per client cost in the Mental Health Professionals contract.

BREAK – The Commissioners recessed from 12:35 p.m. to 2 p.m.

2:00 P.M.

Public Works - Brian Matthews & Melissa McFadden  
Utilities & Waste Management - Brian Matthews/Erika Schwender  
Commissioners Jeffreys and Neatherlin were in attendance. Commissioner Sheldon was absent.

- News release to announce the public meeting to discuss the speed limit on Pickering Road will be placed on January 26 agenda. The meeting will start at 6 p.m.
- Approval of CRP's for Bear Creek Dewatto projects (clear zone project and guardrail project) and Arcadia Road (guardrail project) and call for bids will be placed on an agenda.
- Melissa reviewed how Public Works processes citizen's requests.
- Erika provided an update on the Utilities collection efforts.
- Brian informed the Board they are working with DNR on a public records request to DNR.
- Melissa provided information on the recent North Shore Road slide.
- Brief discussion of property owner who has sandbagged his property on North Shore Road. Staff continues to work with the property owner.
- Cmmr. Neatherlin asked staff to contact WA State Department of Transportation (DOT) to encourage repairs be done on Highway 300; address "swamp" area past Sandhill Park that affects the highway and Ridge Motor Sports needs assistance to place signage on Highway 101. Melissa can provide name of DOT staff who manages advertisement in the right of way.

Commissioner Discussion – as needed

- Discussion of legislative process and Melissa's recent participation with WSAC's lobbying efforts.


Respectfully submitted,

Diane Zoren, Administrative Services Manager

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Terri Jeffreys  
Chair

  
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Tim Sheldon  
Commissioner

  
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Randy Neatherlin  
Commissioner