

MASON COUNTY LEOFF DISABILITY BOARD

**MEETING MINUTES
MASON COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
September 1, 2015**

Members Present: Mike Longan – Firefighter Representative; Nick Patterson – Law Enforcement Representative - Chair;; Randy Neatherlin – Mason County Commissioner; Mike Olsen – City of Shelton Commissioner; Diane Zoren, Secretary. Absent: Sylvia Florez-Milsom – Member at Large

Chairperson Nick Patterson called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Longan/Olsen moved and seconded to approve the August 4, 2015 meeting minutes as circulated. Motion carried.

Old Business: Consideration of Costco Membership for Access to Hearing Aids

Discussion of whether or not to allow the reimbursement of the minimum Costco membership fee when a member purchases hearing aids at Costco.

Diane discussed with Mason County Chief Prosecuting Attorney Tim Whitehead and he stated it is a tenuous argument to pay the membership fee but because it has the potential to save the jurisdictions a significant amount of money, he would be ok with it. There is nothing in the law that supports this, but he wouldn't oppose it. He said absolutely the fee can be paid only in the event the member is purchasing hearing aids.

Cmmr. Olsen does not support this expense because it is not a medical expense.

Mike Longan supports paying the fee because the LEOFF Board recommends LEOFF members use this service at Costco and it does provide a significant savings.

Randy Neatherlin supports paying the fee only with the purchase of hearing aids.

There was discussion of paying the minimum Costco membership fee only when it is included on the hearing aid invoice. There is no retroactive coverage and if the member already is a Costco member, the fee is not paid.

Neatherlin/Olsen moved and seconded to implement the policy, effective 9-1-15, to reimburse the minimum Costco membership fee when hearing aids are purchased at Costco. Motion carried. 3 – aye; 1 – nay.

New Business: Executive Session - Review of Bills

The Board met in Executive Session for three minutes to consider the bills submitted for payment.

Neatherlin/Olsen moved and seconded to pay the bills as submitted. Motion carried.

Calendar: Next LEOFF meeting will be October 6, 2015

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Diane Zoren
LEOFF Board Secretary

Nick Patterson
Chair