## NEWS RELEASE August 19, 2014

## MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 411 NORTH 5<sup>TH</sup> ST SHELTON, WA 98584

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Board of Equalization Begins 2014 Regular Convened Session

The Mason County Board of Equalization convened on July 15, 2014 at Shelton, Washington and met at least three (3) days within the following twenty-eight (28) days as required by state law. Following the 28-day time period, the Board will continue their work to hear appeals.

The Board of Equalization hears and makes decisions on property owners' appeal of their property assessments, including assessments of real and personal property, forest land, timber, and open space. The Board also considers appeals of senior citizen property tax exemption denials and other duties as authorized by state law.

The Board is made up of three members and one alternate member, who serve three-year terms. The members are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and represent each of the three commissioner districts.

The current Board of Equalization members include Robert McKibbin, retired real estate developer and business owner, Kevin Frankeberger, speaker and trainer on disability awareness, Gary Miner, retired civil engineer and alternate Deborah Reis, retired teacher and former Commissioner of Benton County.

Property owners will be receiving their notice of value from the Mason County Assessor this summer. Property owners who disagree with their valuation, and would like to appeal must petition to the Board of Equalization within thirty (30) days of the notice of value sent by the Assessor. After a petition is filed a hearing is scheduled where the petitioner can appear before the Board. Property owners are also encouraged to contact the Assessor's Office to discuss their concerns.

For more information and to obtain an appeal form, contact the Mason County Commissioners office at 411 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Shelton, WA. You may request the forms by phone: 360-427-9670, Ext. 397 (Shelton); 360-275-4467, Ext. 397 (Belfair); 360-482-5269, Ext. 397 (Elma), or visit the website: <a href="http://www.co.mason.wa.us/equalization">http://www.co.mason.wa.us/equalization</a>

Terri Jeffi Chair Randy Neatherlin

Tim Sheldon Commissioner