

MINUTES

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

January 12, 2004

The Commissioners met in regular session in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Administration Building, Montesano, Washington, on Monday, January 12, 2004, at 2:00 p.m. Commissioners Bob Beerbower, Dennis Morrisette and Al Carter were present. Also in attendance was Donna Caton, Clerk of the Board and Jim Baker, Prosecuting Attorney.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the Commissioners' Meeting of January 5, 2004 were approved as presented.

BIDS

None

HEARINGS

Consider Amending Grays Harbor County Ordinance 147 Addressing Private Road

Signs: There was a public hearing to consider adopting provisions containing definitions and rules of construction applicable to all Grays Harbor County ordinances as a whole. The following summary provides a brief description of the ordinance presented to the Board of Commissioners of Grays Harbor County for consideration. An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 147 Addressing Responsibility to Post Private Road Signs. Ordinance 147 required the County to post and maintain road name signs on private roads. This requirement appears to conflict with constitutional prohibition against gift of public funds in maintaining such signage on private property and is costly to accomplish with scarce public funds; therefore it is necessary to amend Ordinance 147 to require posting and maintenance of private road signs by developers and or property owners upon whose property the private roadway is located. A full text of the proposed ordinance is available at the County Commissioners Office, County Administrative Building, Montesano, Washington. Chairman Morrisette asked for a staff report. Russ Esses, County Road Engineer, provided background information. Chairman Morrisette asked for public comment. Fred Hutchison, resident of East County, commented regarding the need for signage for emergency vehicle response and public safety. Paul Easter, Director of Public Services, explained that the County should not be providing and maintaining private road signs and only those for public County roads. The current provision may violate constitutional prohibitions on providing gifts of public funds. The proposed ordinance would require property owners or the developer to post private road signs, but eliminate the County's obligation to supply or maintain private road signs. Mr. Hutchison asked questions regarding posting street signs by individuals. There being no further public comment the hearing was closed.

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Action: Ordinance Amending Ordinance 147, Addressing Responsibility to Post Private Road Signs: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve **Ordinance 314 – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 147 Addressing Responsibility To Post Private Road Signs.**

PRESENTATION

None

COMMISSIONERS

Election of Chair Position: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Dennis Morrisette to serve as Chair for Board of County Commissioners for 2004.

DEPARTMENTS

AUDITOR

Request Approval, December 2003 Expenditures: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Payroll and Payable for the month of December 2003. Total Claims -- \$3,419,103.05; Total Salary -- \$1,961,947.05 for a monthly total of \$5,381,050.10.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Chairman Morrisette announced the following is a Board of Health item and the Board of County Commissioners serve as the Board of Health and that Board convened.

Set Hearing Date for January 26, 2004 Regarding An Ordinance On Solid Waste

Handling Standards: January 26, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. is the date and time set for a public hearing to consider an Ordinance on Solid Waste Handling Standards and Permitting of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities.

The Board of Health adjourned and the Board of County Commissioners reconvened.

FAIR

Request Approval, To Sign Entertainment Contracts: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve entertainment contracts with What Goes Up Juggling Productions and Nevada Slim and Rattlesnake Sue and authorize signing of the same by Fair Director Debbie Adolphsen.

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The Clerk of the Board announced the following Fairgrounds item received after the agenda was prepared.

Request Approval, Interagency Agreement between Washington State Department of Agriculture and Grays Harbor County: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve an Interagency Agreement between Washington State Department of Agriculture and Grays Harbor County. The agreement is for a Special Assistance Grant in the amount of \$9,750. The grant is for restroom and shower room upgrades for two of the fairgrounds restroom facilities. These restrooms are used year round for groups renting the facilities and staying in RV's as well as during the Fair and World of Outlaws. Improvements include new roofs, ceilings, lighting, sinks, faucets, stall dividers and paint. These improvements are specifically needed to improve the public health requirements and recommendations for the facilities.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Request Approval, Resolution Adopting Salary Schedule: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve **Resolution No. 2004-1 – Fixing Compensation of Employees From & After January 1, 2004.**

Agreement between the Higher Education Coordinating Board and Washington State Cooperative Extension/Grays Harbor County: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve an Interagency Agreement for the GEAR UP project for September 1, 2003 through August 31, 2004. This grant implements the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Program (GEAR UP) Scholars Project, a federal/state partnership grant program. The Scholars Project will serve 1,200 low-income, disadvantaged students (grades seven through twelve) and provide long-term, year-round, comprehensive support to motivate, encourage, and prepare students to enroll and succeed in post secondary education programs.

SHERIFF

Request Approval, Contract Addendum For Jail Services With The City Of McCleary: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve an addendum to the contract for jail services with the City of McCleary. This is the same addendum that the Board has previously approved for the cities of Aberdeen, Cosmopolis, Ocean Shores and Montesano.

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TREASURER

Request Approval, Cancel Personal Property Tax Rolls For 2003: Pursuant to RCW 84.56.240 a list of Personal Property Taxes were submitted and a request to issue an order that they be canceled from the Personal Property Tax Rolls. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the request as described.

ANNOUNCEMENT(S):

The regularly scheduled meeting for January 19, 2004 is canceled due to the Martin Luther King holiday. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, January 26, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk of the Board announced a correspondence dated January 12, 2004 received from Stanley J. Trohimovich, 1521 Simpson Avenue, Aberdeen, Washington. The subject is recant and repent or await a claim against your official bond (Part III). Chairman Morrisette reported the correspondence would be placed on file and forwarded to the Prosecuting Attorney.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Morrisette asked for public comment. Fred Hutchison commented on Grays Harbor County budget and the need to use money from the Reserve Fund. Mr. Hutchison commented on a proposal by Tim Eyman to reduce property taxes and how it would impact Grays Harbor. He asked for an update on the Oakhurst property and if it is back on the tax rolls.

Stanley Blunt, resident of 1813 Arnold, Aberdeen, Washington, read and submitted a letter and copies of marriage forms obtained from the Auditor's office. Mr. Blunt discussed illegal aliens and the process to obtain a marriage license.

STAFF MEETINGS

The Board held staff meetings on Monday, January 12, 2004, starting at 9:00 a.m. These staff meetings are advertised public meetings, held in the Commissioners' Conference Room. The Commissioners and Clerk of the Board reviewed calendars and pending daily office issues. The Board met with Paul Easter, Director of Public Services, Rose Elway,

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Budget Director, Larry Smith, Director of Forestry and Debbie Adolphsen, Director of the Fairgrounds.

RESOLUTION

The following resolution was approved and signed:

#2004-1 Fixing Compensation Of Employees From & After January 1, 2004

ORDINANCE

The following ordinance was approved and signed:

#314 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 147 Addressing Responsibility To Post Private Road Signs

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The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m. to Monday, January 26, 2004 at 2:00 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
for Grays Harbor County
This _____ day of _____, 2004

BOB BEERBOWER, Commissioner, District 1

DENNIS MORRISETTE, Chairman

ALBERT A. CARTER, Commissioner, District 3

ATTEST:

Donna Caton
Clerk of the Board