

MINUTES

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY REGULAR MEETING

November 20, 2006

The Commissioners met in regular session in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, Administration Building, Montesano, Washington, on Monday, November 20, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. Commissioners Bob Beerbower, Al Carter and Mike Wilson were present. Also in attendance was Donna Caton, Clerk of the Board. James Baker, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney was excused.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Chairman Beerbower called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES

November 13, 2006: The minutes of the Commissioners' Meeting of November 13, 2006 were approved as presented.

BIDS

None

HEARINGS

1. **2006 Regular Property Tax Levy for 2007 Collection – General Fund, Road Fund, Pacific Beach Moclips Water System Bond Fund:** There was a public hearing to consider adoption of the Grays Harbor County 2006 Regular Property Tax Levy for 2007 Collection. Grays Harbor County Property Tax Levy Resolution for the General Fund, Road Fund and the Pacific Beach Moclips Water System Bond Fund would authorize a 1% increase in the regular property tax levy for the General Fund and Road Fund and no increase for the Pacific Beach/Moclips Water System Bond Fund in addition to any amount resulting from the addition of new construction and improvements to property and any increase in the value of state-assessed property for the 2007 levy, per the requirements of RCW 84.55. Copies of the Tax Levy Information and Budget were available for study in the County Auditor and Commissioners office notice of the hearing was advertised in *The Montesano Vidette* on November 9 and 16, 2006. Chairman Beerbower asked for a staff report. The Clerk of the Board read a letter from Rose Elway, Budget Director as follows:

The proposed resolutions, Grays Harbor County Property Tax Levy Resolution for the General Fund/Veteran's Fund, Road Fund and the Pacific Beach Moclips Water System Bond Fund, would authorize a 1% increase in the regular property tax levy for the

General Fund/Veteran's Fund and Road Fund and no increase for the Pacific Beach/Moclips Water System Bond Fund in addition to any amount resulting from the addition of new construction and improvements to property and any increase in the value of state-assessed property for the 2007 levy.

Grays Harbor County shall authorize the regular property tax levy for the General Fund/Veteran's Fund in the amount of \$7,850,000 which includes the Veteran's Fund of \$45,000 statutory amount. The funds increased \$250,000 over the previous year which is at a rate of an estimated \$1.70 per 1,000 AV.

Grays Harbor County shall authorize the regular property tax levy for the Road Fund in the amount of \$4,100,000 which increased \$150,000 over the previous year. This continues the rate at an estimated \$2.15 per 1,000 AV.

Grays Harbor County shall authorize the property tax levy for the Pacific Beach/Moclips Water System Bond Fund in the amount of \$44,000 which is the continued obligation voted in 1988 for general obligation bond debt service.

Rose Elway, Budget Director, recommended these resolutions be adopted.

Chairman Beerbower asked for public comment. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Resolution No. 2006-116 – Grays Harbor County Property Tax Increase Resolution General Fund/Veteran's Fund 2006 Tax Levy For 2007 Collection.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Resolution No. 2006-117 – Grays Harbor County Property Tax Increase Resolution Road Fund 2006 Tax Levy For 2007 Collections.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Resolution No. 2006-118 – Grays Harbor County Property Tax Increase Resolution Pacific Beach/Moclips Water System Bond Fund 2006 Tax Levy For 2007 Collection.

2. **Supplemental Budget – Fair Fund:** There was a public hearing to consider Supplemental Budget as follows: Supplemental Budget Fair Fund #103-600-000 in the amount of \$20,000. Notice of the hearing was advertised in *The Montesano Vidette* on November 9 and 16, 2006. Chairman Beerbower asked for a staff report. Debbie Adolphsen, Fair Manager, reported that the supplemental budget is in the amount of

\$20,000 for the Fair Recreation and Activities Fund as a result of revenue received from the 3% hotel/motel lodging. Funds will be used for graphic and website design, tourism brochures and advertising for a new hardcover Grays Harbor Visitor book. Chairman Beerbower asked for public comment. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Resolution No. 2006-119 – Authorizing A Supplemental Extension In The Budget Of The Grays Harbor County Recreation and Activities Fund #103-600-000.

3. Levy Resolution for the County Tax Refund Fund for Collection in 2007:
There was a public hearing to consider a levy resolution for the County Tax Refund Fund for collection during 2007, per the requirements of RCW 84.58. Notice of the hearing was advertised in *The Montesano Vidette* on November 9 and 16, 2006.

Chairman Beerbower asked for a staff report. The Clerk of the Board read the following from a letter received from Ron Strabbing, County Treasurer.

A levy resolution is being made pursuant to RCW 84.58 to fund the tax refund paid to Qwest Corporation, Inc. earlier this year.

On January 17, 2006 a Stipulated Judgment was filed in Kittitas County Superior Court finalizing a dispute between Qwest Corporation, Inc. and the Washington State Department of Revenue. The decision affects the utility values used to calculate property taxes paid in 2002-2005 in 36 of 39 counties.

As a result of the ruling, a refund from the county tax refund fund was issued to Qwest Corporation, Inc. Under the process prescribed in statute, the County issues the taxpayer a refund from the tax refund fund. Then, “at the time required by law for the levying of taxes for county purposes, the proper county officers required by law to make and enter such tax levies shall make and enter a tax levy or levies for said county tax refund fund, ...”(RCW 84.68.040). Basically, the taxes collected from this refund levy are used to repay the county tax refund fund for the monies paid to the taxpayer.

Chairman Beerbower asked for public comment. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Resolution No. 2006-120 – Stipulated Judgment in Kittitas County Superior Court Under Case Number

03-2-00382-7 A Refund Of Taxes For Tax Years 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005 Was Made To Qwest Incorporated.

4. Pacific Beach/Moclips Water System Plan and Ocean City Area Water System Plan: There was a public hearing for the purpose of taking public comment on two water supply plans. The plans that are available for review include the Pacific Beach/Moclips Water System Plan and the Ocean City Area Water System Plan. Both plans were available for review at the County's Public Services Department, 100 West Broadway, Suite 31, Montesano, Washington. Notice of the hearing was advertised in *The Montesano Vidette* on November 9, 2006.

Chairman Beerbower asked for a staff report. Kevin Varness, Director of Utilities and Development Division, reported that they have completed the water system plans for the Pacific Beach/Moclips area and the Ocean City area. The plans have been approved by the State Health Department. The Pacific Beach/Moclips plan was initiated to address increasing development including Seabrook, and the Ocean City plan was prepared to address the area served by the systems that have recently been acquired. Mr. Varness stated the purpose of this hearing is to receive public comment on the two water supply plans.

Chairman Beerbower asked for public comment. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Water System Plan for Pacific Beach/Moclips.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Water System Plan for Ocean City.

PRESENTATION

None

COMMISSIONERS

1. Facility Lease/Caretaker Agreement for Vance Creek Park: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Caretaker/Living Unit Agreement between Grays Harbor County and Dustin and Natalie Hensley for Vance Creek Park.

The following item was added after the agenda was prepared.

2. **Request Approval, Joint Resolution 06-001:** A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve **Joint Resolution #06-001 of Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties Filling Vacant Senate Position In 19th Legislative District.** This resolution appoints Brian Hatfield to fill the vacant position of Senator for the 19th Legislative District.

Chairman Beerbower announced that the Board of County Commissioners would recess and convene as Commissioners for Drainage District #2 to consider the following:

1. **Hearing to Consider Emergency Budget Appropriation:** There was a public hearing to consider Emergency Budget as follows: Drainage District #2, 686-002-000 in the amount of \$9,986. Notice of this hearing was advertised in *The Montesano Vidette* on November 9, 2006. Chairman Beerbower reported that it has been brought to the attention of the Drainage District #2 Commissioners that emergent conditions require that an appropriation and expenditure of funds be authorized in the Grays Harbor County Drainage District #2 Fund, #686-002-000. The monies will be used to cover repairs needed for the drainage ditch. Chairman Beerbower asked for public comment. There was no public comment and the hearing was closed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve **Resolution No. 2006-01 – Authorizing An Emergency Appropriation In The Budget Of Grays Harbor County Drainage District #2 Fund #686-002-000.**

The Commissioners adjourned the meeting of Grays Harbor County Drainage District #2 and reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

DEPARTMENTS

FAIR

1. **Request Approval, Fairgrounds & Event Center 2007 Rental Fee Schedule:** A motion was made seconded and passed to approve **Resolution No. 2006-121 – Establishing The 2007 Fair Fee Schedule For the Grays Harbor County Fair Event Center.** The proposed Rental Fee schedule was reviewed and approved at the October Fair board meeting. The Fair Board recommended approval by the Grays Harbor County Board of Commissioners.

The 2007 rate changes for Interim Events (non-fair time) are:

- RV/Boat/Vehicle Storage Rates increased \$5 per unit for the 2007/2008 season.

- Interim Food vendors (non-fair) pay 20% of gross food sales, excludes food booths for Pavilion events.

The 2007 rate changes for Fair are:

- All food vendors pay the same percentage rate, including non-profits (current percentage 15%).
- The percentage on food sales increased from 18% to 20%.
- Daily parking fees increased from \$3 to \$5, and season parking from \$10 to \$15.

These increases are based on rate comparison surveys with surrounding fairs and facilities. The increases are also necessary to cover cost of staffing, insurance, supplies, and maintenance and repairs.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

1. Request Approval, Resolution to Transfer Within the Commissioner's

Budget: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve **Resolution No. 2006-122 – Transferring Items In The Grays Harbor County General Fund Commissioner's Office #001-015**. This resolution transfers \$4,445 from various categories to salaries, travel and interfund communications to cover the remainder of the year.

2. Request Approval, Resolution to Transfer Within the Extension Office

Budget: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve **Resolution No. 2006-123 – Transferring Items In The Grays Harbor County General Fund Extension Office #001-000-022**. This resolution transfers \$1,650 from salaries to benefits for the Extension Office to cover the remainder of the year.

3. Request Approval, ORV Park Use Agreement – Rally America: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve an ORV Park Use Agreement for the Rally America for the dates of December 1st and 2nd, 2006. SCCA will operate scheduled events providing Grays Harbor County with insurance and 50% of the gate fees.

ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

A motion was made, seconded and passed that Grays Harbor County Board of Commissioners will not hold a regular meeting on November 27, 2006 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

CORRESPONDENCE

A claim (#C-521-06) was received from Sedgwick Claims Management Services, Inc. The claimant is CenturyTel, Inc. The claim was forwarded to the Prosecuting Attorney's office and the Claims Review Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Beerbower asked for public comment. Ron Armstrong, Hoquiam, Washington commented on the 2007 Fair Fee Schedule and on a proposed ordinance.

There was no additional public comment.

STAFF MEETINGS

The Board held staff meetings on Monday, November 20, 2006, 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; Maryann Welch, Public Health and Social Services, Debbie Adolphsen, Fair, Paul Easter, Kevin Varness and Brian Shea, Department of Public Services.

The Board approved the following resolutions:

RESOLUTIONS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| No. 2006-116 | Grays Harbor County Property Tax Increase Resolution General Fund/Veteran's Fund 2006 Tax Levy for 2007 Collection. |
| No. 2006-117 | Grays Harbor County Property Tax Increase Resolution Road Fund 2006 Tax Levy for 2007 Collections. |
| No. 2006-118 | Grays Harbor County Property Tax Increase Resolution Pacific Beach/Moclips Water System Bond Fund 2006 Tax Levy for 2007 Collection. |
| No. 2006-119 | Authorizing a Supplemental Extension In The Budget of the Grays Harbor County Recreation and Activities Fund #103-600-000. |

No. 2006-120 **Stipulated Judgment in Kittitas County Superior Court Under Case Number 03-2-00382-7 a Refund of Taxes for Tax Years 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005 was made to Qwest Incorporated.**

No. 2006-121 **Establishing the 2007 Fair Fee Schedule for the Grays Harbor County Fair Event.**

No. 2006-122 **Transferring Items in the Grays Harbor County General Fund Commissioner's Office #001-015.**

No. 2006-123 **Transferring items in the Grays Harbor County General Fund Extension Office #001-000-022.**

Joint Resolution

#06-001 **Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties Filling Vacant Senate Position in 19th Legislative District.**

Drainage District 2

2006-01 **Authorizing an Emergency Appropriation in the Budget of Grays Harbor County Drainage District #2 Fund #686-002-000.**

ORDINANCES:

None

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS:

None

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m. to Monday, December 4, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
For Grays Harbor County
This _____ day of _____, 2006

BOB BEERBOWER, Chairman
Commissioner, District 1

MIKE WILSON, Commissioner, District 2

excused
ALBERT A. CARTER, Commissioner, District 3

ATTEST:

Donna Caton
Clerk of the Board