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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
Finance and Administrative Services Committee

February 13, 2007

Committee Chair Sam Crawford called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Present:

L. Ward Nelson
Dan McShane

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Barbara Brenner
Carl Weimer

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

1. **REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES IDENTIFIED IN THE LOCAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,000 (\$51,000 FROM STATE OF WASHINGTON DOE/\$17,000 FROM WHATCOM COUNTY) (AB2007-073)**

Bruce Roll, Public Works Department, stated councilmembers said to make sure this project compliments the work of ReSources.

Dean Fearing, ReSources, stated he and County staff have figured out how to work together on this program. They will develop some new programs with this money to salvage more latex paint.

Penny Lempere, Public Works Department, submitted and read from a list of questions and answers (*on file*).

Brenner stated the State's approval doesn't make her feel confident. The State is doing what they've done in the past, and isn't prone to change when things aren't working. She's glad to hear there will be a collaborative effort with the ReStore. She's not comfortable with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) being told instead of being involved in the decisions. The SWAC is not influential in the programs. The rate of recycling is not much better than it has been. It needs to be better.

Crawford moved to recommend approval to the full Council.

Weimer stated he was originally opposed to this project, but they've tried to work through his concerns. He is also concerned that SWAC wasn't involved. One question for SWAC is whether the County can spend the \$100,000 of EnviroStar money to help more businesses in another way.

McShane stated that at the last Council meeting, there were concerns expressed about the State grant program. Staff is doing a good job of putting in applications. The

1 question is whether the projects are most appropriate for Whatcom County. There seems to
2 be concerns about the State program.
3

4 Weimer stated that is a separate problem that the County has no control over. The
5 State spends a lot of money on promotion and advertising. It could spend the same
6 amount for setting up a facility to deal with paint in this part of Washington. They'd be
7 much farther along. However, the State won't let that money be used to fund a business
8 startup. They will spend more money to ship paint to Portland.
9

10 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

11
12 **2. ORDINANCE REGARDING PROJECT BASED BUDGET REQUEST NO. 2007-2**
13 **FOR CRP #998001 YEW STREET ROAD – PHASE 2 (AB2007-087)**

14
15 Joe Rutan, Public Works Department, gave a staff report. The cost has doubled to
16 about \$800,000, which is what they saw happen on the Lincoln Road project.
17

18 ***Nelson moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.
19

20 Brenner stated the purchasing system changed, but it wasn't broken in the first
21 place. The Council won't have an opportunity to review these contract awards.
22

23 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

24
25 **3. ORDINANCE REGARDING PROJECT BASED BUDGET REQUEST NO. 2007-3**
26 **FOR CRP #904016 HAMPTON ROAD – MORMON DITCH BRIDGE #261**
27 **(AB2007-088)**

28
29 Joe Rutan, Public Works Department, gave a staff report. This is 100 percent
30 federally funded.
31

32 ***Nelson moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.
33

34 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

35
36 **4. ORDINANCE REGARDING PROJECT BASED BUDGET REQUEST NO. 2007-4**
37 **FOR CRP #906001 BIRCH BAY-LYNDEN ROAD/BLAINE ROAD (SR 548)**
38 **INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS (AB2007-089)**

39
40 Joe Rutan, Public Works Department, gave a staff report. They will design a
41 roundabout. The estimated plans design costs are doubling.
42

43 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.
44

45 ***Motion carried unanimously.***
46
47

48 **COUNCIL "CONSENT AGENDA" ITEM**
49

50 **1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID #07-03 TO**
51 **THE LOW BIDDER, TRIMAXX CONSTRUCTION INC., FOR THE CONSTRUCTION**
52 **OF A PARKING LOT AT THE LUMMI ISLAND FERRY TERMINAL, IN THE**
53 **AMOUNT OF \$409,446.50 (AB2007-094)**

1
2 **Crawford moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.
3

4 Brenner asked what is going to happen to the house.
5

6 Ken Richardson, Public Works Department, stated a final decision hasn't been made
7 on the house. The design takes the house into account. Staff was told last year to design a
8 parking lot regardless of whether or not the house is there. Many ideas have been
9 presented for the use of the house. The contract is just to complete the parking lot.
10

11 Weimer asked if the costs have doubled. Richardson stated there was \$200,000 in
12 the budget this year, but now there is going to be \$400,000 in the budget. The reason only
13 \$200,000 was in the budget was because they had intended to be further along with the
14 project last year. There are sufficient funds in the road fund budget.
15

16 Weimer asked if leaving the parking lot gravel is an option. Richardson stated they
17 can't, based on environmental and County Code issues with stormwater.
18

19 McShane stated he's comfortable with people walking to the ferry. Any location on
20 the island isn't far from the ferry. The amount of money spent on this is too much.
21

22 Brenner stated not everyone can walk to the ferry. It would be a benefit to
23 everyone, not just people who live on the island.
24

25 **Motion carried 2-1 with McShane opposed.**
26

- 27 **2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID #07-06,**
28 **ANNUAL SUPPLY OF RIP-RAP ROCK, BY ACCEPTING ALL BIDS FROM THE**
29 **FIVE (5) BIDDERS AND PERMITTING SELECTION OF THE APPROPRIATE**
30 **VENDOR AS DICTATED BY THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE**
31 **PARTICULAR JOB, IN AN ANTICIPATED AMOUNT OF MORE THAN \$35,000**
32 **(AB2007-095)**
33

34 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council. He asked if they don't
35 get rock from outside the county.
36

37 Eric Schlehuber, Public Works Department, stated they generally don't because of
38 the additional haul cost.
39

40 Brenner asked if there is anything different from the way the Council usually
41 approves this. Schlehuber stated nothing is different.
42

43 **Motion carried unanimously.**
44

- 45 **3. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID #07-07,**
46 **ANNUAL SUPPLY OF MINERAL AGGREGATES, BY ACCEPTING ALL BIDS FROM**
47 **THE FIVE (5) BIDDERS AND PERMITTING SELECTION OF THE APPROPRIATE**
48 **VENDOR AS DICTATED BY THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE**
49 **PARTICULAR JOB, IN AN ANTICIPATED AMOUNT OF MORE THAN \$35,000**
50 **(AB2007-096)**
51

52 **Crawford and McShane both moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.
53

1 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 2
3 **4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
4 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND ACS – STATE AND LOCAL**
5 **SOLUTIONS FOR INTERNET DEPLOYMENT OF THE AUDITOR’S RECORDED**
6 **DOCUMENTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$97,200 (AB2007-097)**
7

8 Debbie Adelstein, Auditor’s Office, gave a staff report. This is the last step of the
9 process to get documents on the internet. This is included in the budget.

10
11 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

12
13 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 14
15 **5. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
16 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**
17 **SERVICES RECOVERY CENTER TO PROVIDE SUBSTANCE ABUSE EVALUATION**
18 **AND SERVICES UNDER THE CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY DISPOSITION**
19 **ALTERNATIVE (CDDA) PROGRAM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000 (AB2007-**
20 **098)**
21

22 **McShane moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

23
24 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 25
26 **6. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
27 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND SNOHOMISH COUNTY**
28 **DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO**
29 **LOCAL JURISDICTIONS TO ENHANCE THEIR CAPABILITY TO PREVENT,**
30 **DETER, RESPOND TO, AND RECOVER FROM INCIDENTS OF TERRORISM**
31 **INVOLVING THE USE OF CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL,**
32 **NUCLEAR, AND EXPLOSIVE (CBRNE) WEAPONS AND CYBER ATTACKS, IN**
33 **THE AMOUNT OF \$174,608, FUNDED FROM THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY**
34 **DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, WASHINGTON STATE**
35 **MILITARY DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**
36 **(AB2007-099)**
37

38 Don Boyd, Sheriff’s Office, gave a staff report. This is their 2006 Homeland Security
39 grant.
40

41 **Crawford moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

42
43 Brenner stated Mr. Boyd does a wonderful job. The County is lucky to have him.

44
45 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 46
47 **7. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
48 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND LINSLEY,**
49 **KRAEGER ASSOCIATES, LTD. TO PROVIDE ONGOING ASSISTANCE FOR THE**
50 **HYDRAULIC MODELER THAT DEVELOPED THE MODEL FOR THE LOWER**
51 **NOOKSACK RIVER FLOODPLAIN, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$185,000 (AB2007-**
52 **100)**
53

1 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council. He asked if this went out
2 for bid.

3
4 Paula Cooper, Public Works Department, stated this is a continuation of an existing
5 contract.

6
7 Nelson asked if this work can be done in-house. Cooper stated they are working in
8 house as much as they can.

9
10 Nelson asked how much staff time is spent with this contractor, compared to other
11 contractors. Cooper stated this contractor wrote the modeling software many years ago.
12 The County hired the contractor to build the Nooksack model, using his software code. This
13 contract is to update that model. Update and calibrate the model with the more recent
14 events. The person who wrote the code is the most equipped to update the model. Two
15 other consultants are working through the alternatives analysis. It's an enormous amount
16 of work. All the models are linked together, so they don't end up with four different models
17 from four different consultants.

18
19 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 20
21 **8. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER AMENDMENT #5**
22 **TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND PARAMETRIX, INC.**
23 **TO DEVELOP A REDEFINED INVENTORY OF ECOLOGICAL PROCESSES AND**
24 **FUNCTIONS IN THE BIRCH BAY WATERSHED, FACILITATING THE**
25 **DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE REFINED RESTORATION PLAN, IN THE AMOUNT**
26 **OF \$98,000, FOR AN AMENDED TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$614,820**
27 **(AB2007-101)**

28
29 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

30
31 Alan Freidlob, Holeman Avenue, Birch Bay, Birch Bay Stormwater Management and
32 Shellfish Protection and Implementation Committee, stated they support the intent of this
33 application and compliment the work of the Planning Department and Public Works
34 Department as they move forward with implementation of the stormwater plan. When the
35 Planning Department implements the modification of the contract, Parametrix should work
36 closely with the committee. Any type of study or research to support the plan is what they
37 want to accomplish. Do this collaboratively. The degree of collaboration can be improved.
38 Collaborate with the committee on the intent, scope of work, objectives, and how it will be
39 executed. Don't wait until that's all done before there is a community meeting. They don't
40 need to modify the contract, just make everyone aware that there needs to be collaboration
41 from the beginning.

42
43 Nelson asked if task five is the task that will take input from the committee on the
44 results of the consultant's work, before there is a draft recommendation. Freidlob stated it's
45 important for the Planning Department to recognize the importance of getting the
46 committee's input at the beginning of the process, not at the end of the process. Over the
47 five or six month contract period, come to their meetings and provide updates, as did the
48 previous contractor.

49
50 Jeff Chalfant, Planning and Development Services, stated staff will work with Mr.
51 Friedlob and other community members to make sure there are multiple opportunities for
52 collaboration.

1 Brenner asked if this is a different contractor. The last consultant went to the Birch
2 Bay meetings and worked with the community. Chalfant stated the funding source is
3 different. The objectives are a little different. The timeline is very constrained.

4
5 Brenner stated she's confident that Mr. Chalfant will bring together all the interested
6 parties.

7
8 McShane asked if this money comes from the Puget Sound Action Team. Chalfant
9 stated it does, with cooperation from the State Department of Ecology. Folks around the
10 state have been looking at how Whatcom County has been achieving its shoreline program
11 update process, specifically the inventory and characterization work they've been doing.
12 They are also looking at the creative measures incorporated into the critical areas ordinance
13 and the shoreline master program. They see how there are ways to work with the
14 community. Also, the Birch Bay community is very engaged in the development of its
15 subarea plan and the comprehensive stormwater management plan. Because of that
16 involvement, there will be a pilot project.

17
18 *(Clerk's Note: End of tape one, side A.)*

19
20 Chalfant continued to state that the administration has given staff the opportunity to
21 work with Birch Bay.

22
23 McShane stated Whatcom County is considered a leader on shoreline issues, due to
24 the administration, the Council, and the public. It's good to see that acknowledgement.

25
26 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

27
28 **9. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A GRANT**
29 **AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE SALMON RECOVERY**
30 **FUNDING BOARD TO FORMULATE DESIGN ALTERNATIVE AND PREPARE**
31 **PREFERRED PROJECT DESIGN TO RESTORE IN-STREAM HABITAT FOR ESA-**
32 **LISTED EARLY CHINOOK SALMON AND REDUCE FLOOD RISKS AT AN**
33 **ERODING STREAM BANK NEAR ACME IN THE SOUTH FORK NOOKSACK**
34 **RIVER, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$86,178 (AB2007-102)**

35
36 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

37
38 McShane asked the location.

39
40 John Thompson, Public Works Department, stated the site is on the left bank, looking
41 downstream. It is upstream of the Riverview recreational vehicle (RV) park.

42
43 McShane asked if this is the local district's number one priority. Thompson stated it
44 is. It was also identified as a priority in a risk assessment done for the County a couple of
45 years ago.

46
47 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

48
49 **10. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A LEASE**
50 **AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND BLACK ROCK CABLE FOR**
51 **THE PROVISION OF DARK FIBER OPTICS BETWEEN THE COURTHOUSE AND**
52 **PARKS & RECREATION HEADQUARTERS, FOR A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS,**
53 **IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,547 (AB2007-103)**

1
2 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

3
4 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 5
6 **11. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A LEASE**
7 **AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND TRANCERT MARKETING,**
8 **INC. TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR THE RESIDENT POINT ROBERTS DEPUTY**
9 **SHERIFF, FOR A TERM OF ONE (1) YEAR, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,956**
10 **(AB2007-104)**

11
12 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

13
14 **Motion carried unanimously.**

15
16
17 **OTHER BUSINESS**

18
19 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the unified fee schedule will be
20 introduced tonight. A public hearing will be in two weeks. Any changes can be proposed
21 after the public hearing.

22
23 McShane stated schedule time at the next Finance Committee meeting to discuss the
24 priorities for lobbying efforts during the upcoming trip to Washington D.C. Desler stated
25 they are working on continued funding to support the cost of law and justice related to the
26 border; stormwater funding for Lake Whatcom; radio interoperability for What-Comm, and;
27 the Kendall Community Center. The administration is still working with the State on that
28 issue. Also, they are working on the 2010 Olympics.

29
30 Crawford stated he will put those lobby items on the next committee agenda.

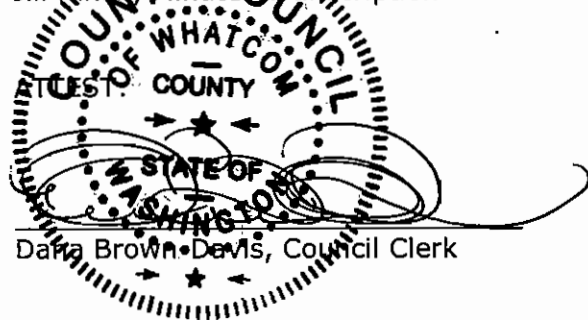
31
32 Nelson stated he is working with Congressman Larsen on Medicare and healthcare
33 issues. He will work on healthcare issues.

34
35 McShane stated put those lobby items in a Council letter to carry to Washington D.C.
36 Also, see if they can get a letter from the City of Bellingham, the Sudden Valley Community
37 Association, and Water District 10 about stormwater around Lake Whatcom.

38
39
40 **ADJOURN**

41
42 The meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

43
44
45 Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription



WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sam Crawford, Committee Chair