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1 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
2 **Finance and Administrative Services Committee**
3

4 May 24, 2005
5

6 Committee Chair L. Ward Nelson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. in
7 the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.
8

9 Present:

10 Sam Crawford

11 Sharon Roy
12

Absent:

None

13 Also Present:

14 Dan McShane
15
16

17 **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**
18

19 **1. ORDINANCE AMENDING 2005 WHATCOM COUNTY BUDGET, REQUEST**
20 **#5 (AB2005-211)**
21

22 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the supplemental includes a
23 series of grant funding sources for the Sheriff's Office.
24

25 Another effort is to purchase a new AS400 mainframe computer. It is the
26 fundamental computer that drives County operations. After receiving bids, they
27 realized they did not appropriate enough money for it. Also, there is a proposal
28 from the Planning and Development Services (PDS) Department to respond to
29 extraordinary building activity. In addition, the Auditor has been working on a
30 proposal for which they have grant funds for a new voting system for the County.
31 The remaining issues from the Equipment Rental and Revolve (ER&R) fund are
32 regarding implementation of PDS operations. Staff is available to answer detailed
33 questions.
34

35 Nelson stated he is concerned that the County went through the two-year
36 budget so they wouldn't have to go through a series of supplemental requests
37 during the off years. He talked to the administration about this concern. It is
38 difficult to form a two-year budget if there are supplementals. There must be
39 diligence to put together a proper budget. He understands things come up. Make
40 sure they make accurate predictions and be prepared for these events ahead of
41 time.
42

43 Desler stated that during the budget process, the administration will predict
44 some things, but won't have full knowledge on the revenue and expenditures. For
45 example, they've received grants for law and justice items. Also, the
46 administration predicted staffing impacts for the new jail. In most cases, the
47 administration minimizes the new influences on the budget by prioritizing or

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1 delaying implementation of certain things that require spending the reserves. In
2 the case of PDS activity, the administration made predictions last summer, but they
3 have not been able to keep up with the rate of increase in permit activity. The
4 expenditures are matched by revenue. The administration will make sure the cost
5 of PDS services is covered by the enterprise activity using that service.
6

7 Nelson stated the committee would address each item individually. The first
8 item is from the Sheriff's Office.
9

10 Crawford stated he is not concerned with the items coming forward in the
11 request. When there are grant revenues or fee revenues, he's not losing a lot of
12 sleep.
13

14 Nelson asked about the \$2,000 increase for canine replacement.
15

16 Carey James, Undersheriff, stated the first dog did not meet their needs.
17 They returned the dog for a full refund. When put into the training, the dog did not
18 meet the requirements. They tested another dog. Due to increased demand for
19 police working dogs, they had to do an extensive search for a replacement. There
20 is much competition from Homeland Security and many other security places. They
21 found a younger dog that cost more.
22

23 Nelson asked if they work with specific breeders. James stated that out of all
24 the breeders they work with, none had a dog available. There is high competition
25 for those dogs.
26

27 Nelson stated the second item is for the AS400.
28

29 Crawford asked why they are spending an additional \$80,000. Desler stated
30 this is the backbone system for the government. It handles major software
31 applications for the County. Many, if not all, law and justice applications and
32 County financial records use that system.
33

34 The system is six years old. It's at the end of its use. The operation capacity
35 is degrading. The system does not support additional software upgrades the
36 administration needs to install. The administration analyzed the replacement
37 approach over the last 18 months. They decided it is appropriate to obtain the
38 AS400 I Series computer. They will be able to partition this system. A benefit is
39 that they can achieve a 24 hours per day, seven days per week operation. Now,
40 the administration must shut down the current system to maintain it. Initial
41 estimates for purchase were not as much as the bids that came in.
42

43 Crawford asked the total cost of the system. Desler stated the total cost is
44 \$364,000. The contracts are coming before the committee and Council later in this
45 meeting. This is a five- or six-year unit. They will amortize the cost of the
46 equipment over five or six years. The administration will make the initial purchase,
47 then charge back the cost to the ER&R fund.

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1
2 Nelson stated the next item is the PDS request. This is a significant increase.
3 With the one-time budgeted full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, the employees
4 always wonder if their job will be funded, and will look for other jobs in the
5 meantime.

6
7 This is a significant amount of money. Those fee revenues aren't guaranteed
8 to come in. He asked what will happen in the future if those fees aren't generated.
9 The 2005-2006 budget considers a decrease in the number of FTE's in the Planning
10 Department. There isn't a change in the revenue prediction. Make sure all the
11 issues are addressed for the public to understand why this is a necessary increase.
12 He asked the reason for the increase, some of the elements they need to do to
13 address the increases, and how to actually decrease a position.

14
15 Hal Hart, Planning and Development Services Department Director, stated
16 there are factors contributing to an extraordinary population increase in
17 unincorporated Whatcom County. The numbers are also up for the cities. In the
18 County, there is stunning increase in single family residences. One possible reason
19 is that people can get a single family residence in a rural area that they cannot find
20 or afford in the city, if a city is constraining its urban growth area (UGA). There is a
21 significant demand in this region. The City and County policies may be off
22 regarding urban growth area issues. The unincorporated area has generally seen
23 increases. The five-acre areas in the rural county can absorb a significant share of
24 the population for years to come.

25
26 Therefore, the reasons for the increases are economic factors, the marketing
27 of Bellingham, the quality of life they've marketed in Bellingham, marketing to
28 active retirement, and because they're seeing a perception of a safe place. The
29 second, third, and fourth tier cities are the places that are growing. The Hart
30 Hodges report cited reasons people locate their homes and businesses here.

31
32 The differential in markets among Snohomish and King County is still great
33 enough that people are willing to commute. People are still working, haven't quite
34 retired, but are building their retirement homes. There are a lot of other things
35 causing the demand.

36
37 The regional British Columbia market has increased. It also has an impact,
38 including in commercial development. There are many condominium projects,
39 which take up a lot of staff time. As more of them come in, they will focus on
40 serving that building community.

41
42 The differential between Bellingham and Seattle is narrowing. There is also a
43 differential between Bellingham and rural areas in the county, including Kendall and
44 Birch Bay.

45
46 Roy asked if the differential between Bellingham and Birch Bay or other
47 outlying areas is explained simply by market forces, or because the County fees are

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1 much less in these areas. Hart stated it's true that the County doesn't have impact
2 fees. That's a significant contributing factor. The strategy to hold over a
3 temporary employee doesn't work anymore. The turnover is greater, and staff
4 spends more time trying to fill those temporary positions. Don't deal with continual
5 re-hiring. They are in the fourth year of this expansion. They have another year of
6 work ahead of them. Go ahead and give those people an expectation that they can
7 apply for a position. Whoever gets that position will be there on a regular basis.
8 That will stem the tide of loses they've seen in the department.
9

10 They are talking about five temporary positions. The other employees he's
11 asking for is to get the building department and enforcement team on track. There
12 are 894 enforcement cases they can't get to because the enforcement staff has
13 been moved to intake for the past six months. This request allows that
14 enforcement team to go back after the 894 open cases. Also, a result of this
15 situation is that builders will take the \$1,000 fine and build without a permit if they
16 have to wait eight months to a year.
17

18 There are people who have been around 23 years in key positions and are
19 near retirement. He needs to build in redundancy in the staff so they can keep all
20 those years of knowledge. The constraint of the system is that they would be
21 letting people go if the fees drop, but he hopes they would do it in a way that
22 makes sense and is strategic. There's been a lot of attrition and turnover now,
23 overall. That attrition rate is not sustainable for an organization of this size. People
24 are receiving other opportunities in the private sector with a large wage increase.
25 The department is developing excellent skill sets for its employees. Those skilled
26 and licensed positions are at a premium anywhere. They are employed with the
27 County to make a difference and because they like the quality of life in Whatcom
28 County. However, the volume of work is getting to people. For instance, the
29 watershed team is looking at a backlog of 150 to 160 permits right now. That
30 equals 1,500 person-hours. One request is for someone to help them through the
31 workload.
32

33 McShane stated the reality is that the private sector would actively recruit
34 someone from the County to hire. He can think of a few people he'd go after for his
35 business.
36

37 Nelson stated there have been sizeable increases since 2000. There are
38 impacts on other departments. He asked if there is a review of the impacts to
39 other departments from the increase. Hart stated his review only included
40 immediate impacts to the hiring process. There will certainly be impacts on the
41 Engineering Division, such as with stormwater issues. The Engineering Division
42 must bring forward its own package if they feel its right. Over 60 percent of the
43 development is occurring in urban growth areas, so there isn't a septic issue and a
44 health impact. There are increase in the rural, five-acre parcels.
45

46 Desler stated the administration has strategic planning sessions with PDS
47 staff weekly because of new issues. The administration is working to assign

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1 additional resources to existing staff. It cuts into other things they do in County
2 government. They are trying to deal with retention and recruitment. They are also
3 trying to deal with space issues. The administration can deal with the issues, but it
4 will be rough over the next few months. The staff is trying to respond to customer
5 service requests as best as they can, within the laws of the county.

6
7 Nelson stated he's seriously concerned about impacts to other services.

8
9 McShane stated the wave of growth has become a tidal wave. It's prevalent
10 throughout the Puget Sound region. People working in permitting at all levels are
11 exhausted. He doesn't sense that the growth will slow down. Hart stated Pierce
12 County is considering planned communities of 20,000. That is the largest in
13 Washington State history. That is a long-term investment of big dollars. The
14 national folks have found Whatcom County recently. It's an indicator they are
15 going to be in a growth mode for a while. One theory is they are actually on a
16 series of upward steps, and they've reached the next step up. The question is how
17 big each step is. One compelling factor is that they only have to shoot for the set
18 population growth estimates. That's the requirement of State law. If they eat into
19 that 20-year land supply, they aren't going back and accommodating all that
20 growth.

21
22 McShane stated he is not so concerned about accommodating the growth
23 from that angle. They planned a certain rate of growth for next 20 years, but will
24 make a correction in seven years. He guesses the correction will be upward. The
25 Council allocated that population and rate to the cities, urban growth areas, and
26 rural areas. That allocated population and rate would have had an impact on many
27 County departments. He asked if there is ever any consideration of correcting the
28 rate to have a better number of employees. If they are out of balance with the
29 cities, all the growth will end up in the county. Hart stated the projected rate of
30 growth is about three percent countywide over next 20 years. They are just a little
31 over that rate now. That is a very high rate of growth. A key question is the
32 distribution of that growth. If a city isn't absorbing that rate, or is serving it
33 disproportionately, then there is an imbalance. Keep the distribution in balance.
34 They will have to ask the cities why the rates of growth are going down. The
35 County will be asking that question of Lynden and Ferndale next year. They are
36 working on Bellingham right now. This request is to slow the rate of decline of the
37 permit process.

38
39 Nelson stated he will support the request. The rate of growth is something
40 they must address. He has strong reservations about how they are processing this
41 to address the community and county needs. He's also concerned about future
42 impacts to the County. They won't be able to defend a three percent population
43 increase. If all the population goes into the unincorporated areas, there is a
44 concern with how the cities are handling growth. It's a planning issue.

45
46 McShane stated it's also an administration issue in terms of predicting the
47 staff they need. He guesses the cities have had the same problem.

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1
2 Nelson stated another question is the actual housing availability in the cities.
3 If the demand isn't met in the urban areas, it will spill over into the rural areas. He
4 hasn't seen that happen in the last two to three years, but is seeing it now. He'd
5 like to know why and how they must address it. Now, they are seeing the effect of
6 actions that have taken place in the last three to four years. Hart stated they
7 worked very hard to set up the Birch Bay urban growth area. They are very
8 successful. It's one of the last places with affordable access to shorelines.
9

10 Crawford stated that six or seven years ago, an infill lot in the City of
11 Bellingham was \$30,000 to \$35,000. A five-acre lot in the county was \$70,000.
12 Today, either of those lots costs \$100,000 to \$120,000, depending on availability of
13 services. Given the two equal costs, folks will opt to live on acreage.
14

15 Nelson stated there are additional expenses to building on five-acres.
16

17 Roy stated the costs may be equal, but people will choose to live on the five
18 acres and feel like they live in the country.
19

20 Crawford stated that, from his perspective, the availability of urban parcels in
21 Whatcom County is very low now.
22

23 *(Clerk's Note: End of tape one, side A.)*
24

25 Nelson stated there may be other factors. The point is they must solve these
26 issues. Hart stated the Council will have a direct impact on the City urban growth
27 area this year. He will provide those growth estimates for the cities and County.
28

29 Nelson stated he hoped this is done in a way to not impact all County
30 departments. He is very recalcitrant about these budgetary concerns that are
31 brought up mid-budget cycle. Be more proactive in understanding the fiscal
32 impacts of all Council decisions. He would like further discussion on the fiscal
33 impacts.
34

35 Nelson stated the next item is the election reserve fund. He's received many
36 emails from citizens about this particular contract. There are concerns about hand-
37 counts.
38

39 Shirley Forslof, Auditor, stated there are four ballot counting systems
40 authorized by the Secretary of State of Washington. The County received bids from
41 two of them, including Sequoia. The citizen's email addressed the open source
42 code for ballot counting. None of the voting systems, or any system allowed in the
43 United States, have an open source code. They're all proprietary.
44

45 The Sequoia voting system was the favorite choice of the Citizens Election
46 Advisory Committee. They chose this contractor. Her staff also chose this
47 contractor.

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1
2 The County is going with a paper ballot for vote-by-mail only. The voters will
3 send the ballot back to the Auditor's Office. The voting device counts the actual
4 paper ballot. They can audit a certain percentage of the ballots, which was a
5 recommendation of the advisory committee.
6

7 Nelson asked if there is a system in place for verification and actually hand
8 counting tabulation, if necessary. Forslof stated there is.
9

10 Nelson stated the last item is the additions to the fleet. They are hybrid cars
11 for staff.
12

13 ***Nelson moved*** to recommend approval of the ordinance.
14

15 ***Motion carried unanimously.***
16

17 **2. REQUEST FOR FUNDING APPROVAL FOR 2060 REHABILITATION**
18 **PROJECTS (AB2005-216)**
19

20 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council. He asked if
21 these are the recommendations of the committee.
22

23 Nelson asked how often they do this.
24

25 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, handed out information (*on file*) and
26 stated this is a new program. They divided the program into operating funds,
27 rehabilitation, and capital reconstruction. This is the second phase of a series of
28 recommendations. If approved, the staff will bring forward final contracts to the
29 Council.
30

31 Crawford asked the money coming into the program. Desler stated they
32 receive approximately \$375,000 per year. There is a fund balance they plan to
33 spend down over time.
34

35 Crawford stated the citizens want the dollars spent, not held on to.
36

37 ***Motion carried unanimously.***
38

39 **3. REPORT FROM THE WHATCOM COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
40 **INVESTMENT PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD (AB2005-217)**
41

42 McShane stated the Economic Development Investment (EDI) Board met
43 recently to discuss two projects. One is a City of Sumas request to build a Haul
44 Road into several properties for hauling lumber out of Canada. The EDI Board
45 recommended approval to the Council.
46

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1 The second item was the Kendall Community Center. The EDI Board
2 recommended approval also.

3
4 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, handed out information (*on file*) and
5 stated the EDI Board asks the Council to review the basic grant proposal. If the
6 Council accepts the program, the administration will prepare agreements that the
7 Council will ultimately review and approve. He described the four projects. The
8 City of Sumas will seek grants for the Haul Road project that rely on community
9 match funds.

10
11 Roy asked if there is information on grants that weren't approved. Desler
12 stated all projects have been approved. The County receives about \$2.2 million per
13 year for this fund. There is more money in the fund now than these projects will
14 use. The EDI Board expects to receive additional applications.

15
16 Nelson asked if they considered the population increase. Desler stated they
17 are evaluating that now. They don't anticipate receiving more than \$2.2 million,
18 but the difference is in how they decide to use the funds.

19
20 This program is a new way of doing business. The County has grant-making
21 authority from State law. They are going through a process that includes
22 applications and review by a committee before coming to the Council. If the Council
23 likes the applications, the administration will work on the final contracts to bring
24 back to the Council for final approval.

25
26 ***Nelson moved*** to accept the report.

27
28 Crawford asked if the zoning is industrial all the way around the Haul Road
29 project.

30
31 David Davidson, City of Sumas, stated it is.

32
33 Crawford asked if the western area is the potential new area that can be
34 opened up. Davidson stated it is.

35
36 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

37
38
39 **COUNCIL "CONSENT AGENDA" ITEM**

40
41 **1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN**
42 **AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND WASHINGTON STATE**
43 **UNIVERSITY FOR FOOD STAMP NUTRITION EDUCATION IN**
44 **WHATCOM COUNTY, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,277.62 (AB2005-218)**

45
46 Craig MacConnell, Cooperative Extension, stated this request uses no new
47 money. The request is for authorization to pledge existing budgeted money to

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1 Cooperative Extension to bring in additional federal money to conduct an expanded
2 effort in food, nutrition, and education. The program with all school districts except
3 Blaine.

4
5 Roy asked if there is a way to measure the success of this kind of program.
6 MacConnell stated the behavior outcomes section of the handout shows the kinds of
7 data on changes in performance indicators. He's confident they will see changes in
8 behavior.

9
10 Roy stated there is evidence that obesity is spreading to people in the
11 middle- and upper-classes.

12
13 Nelson stated there are increases nationwide in obesity, type II diabetes, and
14 cardiovascular diseases. He asked if they are evaluating the lunch programs
15 themselves. MacConnell stated changes are driven by the participants. This
16 program does not exclusively target low income people, but there must be a
17 minimum participation level of low income people.

18
19 Nelson stated all these programs are great.

20
21 ***Roy moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

22
23 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

24
25 **2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
26 **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**
27 **AND SARGENT ENGINEERS, INC. FOR DESIGN OF INNIS CREEK ROAD**
28 **DRAINAGE AND FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF**
29 **\$46,791 (AB2005-219)**

30
31 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

32
33 McShane asked if anyone has done a cost-benefit analysis of this option
34 versus closing the road.

35
36 Chris Brueske, Engineering Manager-Environmental/Special, stated the
37 primary concern of this location is an area on the other side of this project that is
38 flooded also. There are houses between the two locations.

39
40 Roy asked if staff ever discusses other options, or if the assumption is to
41 engineer fish passage.

42
43 Joe Rutan, County Road Engineer, stated staff looked at other options. An
44 issue of this project is the folks who would be cut off during floods. Another benefit
45 is to prevent the fish from spawning in the road bed. There is an issue bigger than
46 the road work. It's a good fish passage project.

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1 *Motion carried unanimously.*

2
3 **3. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
4 **CONTRACT FOR SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY**
5 **AND DAVID EVANS & ASSOCIATES FOR THE HANNEGAN ROAD/SR**
6 **544 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, CRP #904002, IN THE**
7 **AMOUNT OF \$19,843 (AB2005-220)**

8
9 *Crawford moved* to recommend approval to the full Council. He thought
10 this would be a State project.

11
12 Joe Rutan, County Road Engineer, stated the state supports this project in
13 every way but funding. The State Department of Transportation (DOT) is frustrated
14 because money from the State is not forthcoming. This is phase one of the
15 contract. There will be an alternatives analysis including a full signal, roundabout,
16 or a temporary signal to get them through the Guide Meridian project and 2010
17 Olympics. This project moved up a year because they wanted to get turn lanes
18 done before the DOT begins work on Guide Meridian. Staff will bring forward the
19 results of phase one and design contract, with an estimate of construction costs.

20
21 Crawford stated make sure the State pays for projects on state roads, given
22 the \$.095 tax increase. Rutan stated there was \$1.4 million in the State legislative
23 package on Friday, and none on Monday. That was specifically for the roundabout.
24 They would like to do a roundabout, but not smaller than the roundabouts on the
25 Guide Meridian.

26
27 Crawford stated he is for either signalization or a roundabout. The State
28 needs to contribute funds, which is a State legislative issue.

29
30 *Motion carried unanimously.*

31
32 **4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
33 **MITIGATION GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND**
34 **WASHINGTON STATE MILITARY DEPARTMENT FOR THE JONES CREEK**
35 **ALLUVIAL FAN ACQUISITION PROJECT, IN THE AMOUNT IF \$435,000**
36 **(AB2005-221)**

37
38 Nelson asked if there are two elements.

39
40 Paula Cooper, River and Flood Division Manager, stated they hope the
41 Council will grant the Executive authority to enter into a Purchase and Sale
42 agreement and a contract for demolition. They propose that the purchase and sale
43 and demolition can all be completed within the \$435,000 grant budget. This is
44 solely for the purchase of a home and demolition.

45
46 *Roy moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

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1 *Motion carried unanimously.*
2

- 3 **5. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO APPROVE THE**
4 **CHANGE OF VENDOR TO WILSON MOTORS FOR THE PURCHASE OF 8**
5 **HYBRID SEDANS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$177,274.30 (AB2005-222)**

6
7 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

8
9 *Motion carried unanimously.*

- 10
11 **6. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID #05-**
12 **25 FOR AN IBMA/400 MODEL I520 COMPUTER SYSTEM TO THE LOW**
13 **BIDDER, PACIFIC SOFTWARE ASSOCIATES, IN THE AMOUNT OF**
14 **\$364,557.29 (AB2005-223)**

15
16 *Crawford moved* to recommend approval to the full Council. He asked if
17 moving away from Compu-Tech affects the County negatively.

18
19 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated it does not. The County is
20 receiving some grant money to pay for this project.

21
22 *Motion carried unanimously.*

- 23
24 **7. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
25 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND SEQUOIA VOTING**
26 **SYSTEMS, INC. FOR AN ELECTION TABULATION SYSTEM AND**
27 **ELECTRONIC VOTING DEVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, IN**
28 **THE AMOUNT OF \$533,449.82 (AB2005-230)**

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

31
32 *Motion carried unanimously.*

33
34
35 **OTHER BUSINESS**

36
37 **DISCUSSION WITH THE ACME/VANZANDT FLOOD CONTROL SUB-ZONE**
38 **DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGARDING CONCERNS WITH WORK**
39 **BEING DONE ON THE NOOKSACK RIVER (AB2005-083)**
40

41 Jeff Monsen, Public Works Director, stated they have been working with the
42 community, Lummi Nation, and agencies to create a project everyone will be
43 comfortable with. They've done that. To move ahead with the project and have a
44 good shot at getting over \$2 million in Salmon Recovery Fund (SRF) funding, they
45 must tell a consultant to get started now on writing the grant application. Waiting
46 until June 7 is problematic. The estimate to assist the County on the grant
47 application is about \$40,000. They have gone through the consultant selection

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1 process because of previous work with this firm, relative to this project, but they
2 don't have a contract in hand for the Council. By tonight, he can write a letter
3 summarizing the scope and estimate. This work is on the grant application and to
4 write a scope for design and permitting. The cost of design and permitting is
5 \$200,000 to \$300,000.

6
7 Roy stated Mr. Monsen should make sure the Acme/Van Zandt Flood Sub-
8 Zone Advisory Committee is okay with it. Monsen stated he can bring forward
9 more information on June 7.

10
11 Nelson stated this approval does not tie the County to a particular project.
12 Monsen stated it does not, but they need to spend about \$15,000 to not lose the
13 opportunity, and \$40,000 in the next month to get together a grant application.
14 The best he can do is request a motion for tonight.

15
16 ***Nelson moved*** to recommend to the full Council that the administration
17 proceed with funding to develop the scope of work and grant application. The
18 committee also reflects the community's concerns about the project. Continue a
19 process that involves all parties.

20
21 Monsen stated any hesitation from anyone will doom this project.

22
23 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

24
25 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the hesitation Mr. Monsen
26 referred to is related to the grant application.

27
28
29 **ADJOURN**

30
31 The meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

32
33
34 _____
35 Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

36
37
38 ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

39
40
41
42
43 _____
44 Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

L. Ward Nelson, Committee Chair