

DISCLAIMER: This document contains the Whatcom County Council or Committee minutes, as approved. However, unless an attested signature page is attached, they are not the final approved minutes.

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2
3 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
4 **Finance and Administrative Services Committee**
5

6 December 6, 2005
7

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

10
11 Present: Absent:
12 Sam Crawford None
13 Sharon Roy

14
15 Also Present:
16 Barbara Brenner
17 Dan McShane
18

19
20 **COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**
21

22 **1. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2005 WHATCOM COUNTY BUDGET,**
23 **REQUEST #13, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$189,631 (AB2005-445)**
24

25 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.
26

27 Crawford asked if the attorney fees are to Brickland.
28

29 Nelson stated they are.
30

31 Roy stated everything except the Council request is funded from fees.
32

33 Crawford asked the subject of the Council defense.
34

35 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the subject is mushrooms.
36

37 *Motion carried unanimously.*
38

39 **2. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2006 WHATCOM COUNTY BUDGET,**
40 **REQUEST #1, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,832,558 (AB2005-446)**
41

42 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.
43

44 Brenner stated the information should say full-time equivalent (FTE) planners
45 and describe what they are doing. Don't put a name of an organization on the
46 County planners. It's outrageous. She will support the reason for funding, but not
47 if the name stays on there.

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2 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated they can take out the name. It
3 is about the work required of the Growth Management Hearing Board to address
4 the original complaint from Futurewise. Once staff is hired, they will be planners.
5

6 Brenner stated this group didn't have the public's good in mind. Remove the
7 name from the budget summary, "Futurewise."
8

9 Crawford asked if they are hiring Futurewise employees. Desler stated they
10 are not. The purpose of the name in the paperwork was to make it clear on what
11 the employees would work.
12

13 Roy stated she talked to Judge Grant about night court. She hopes they can
14 support this program. It's \$5,000. The District Court judges want to start a night
15 court option for people for one year, to see how it goes. Judge Grant is
16 volunteering to preside two nights per month, in addition to his day schedule. She
17 supports the program.
18

19 McShane asked the status of drug court. Desler stated the administration
20 and court are discussing the issue. There are decisions on how to fund this good
21 but expensive program. No money is appropriated in the 2006 budget. They will
22 fund it for two more months and come up with recommendations to continue the
23 program.
24

25 Roy asked if drug court is saving the County money in any way. Desler
26 stated some people may argue the entire society saves money. He doesn't think
27 the County specifically saves money. He hopes to get more funding from federal
28 and State sources, because they also have a benefit from the program.
29

30 Brenner stated these social programs cost a lot of money, and it takes some
31 time to realize the savings. Also, she compliments Judge Grant for volunteering to
32 serve on night court.
33

34 Nelson asked if there has be an evaluation of the impacts of having a night
35 court. Desler stated there is a modest fund called the Trial Court Improvement
36 Fund from the legislature to support it. The administration is also willing to provide
37 some funding.
38

39 Roy stated Judge Grant will measure the success and financial implications of
40 the program.
41

42 Desler stated a major portion of the budget request is the transfer of funds
43 to the jail fund.
44

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

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1 **3. ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW WHATCOM COUNTY FERRY**
2 **SYSTEM FUND (AB2005-442)**

3
4 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

5
6 *Motion carried unanimously.*

7
8
9 **COUNCIL "CONSENT AGENDA" ITEM**

10
11 **1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
12 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND BELLINGHAM**
13 **WHATCOM COUNTY TOURISM TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO PROMOTE**
14 **TOURISM IN WHATCOM COUNTY, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$95,000**
15 **(AB2005-452)**

16
17 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

18
19 Crawford stated Mr. Cooper does a fine job.

20
21 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the amount is a little more than
22 last year's amount. They will also use funds from the Convention Center fund.

23
24 Nelson stated the councilmembers are asked why they want to fund
25 increased growth. There are economic impacts. The funds are designed specifically
26 to generate tourism in the community. Also, they must prepare for 2010 when
27 Vancouver hosts the winter Olympics.

28
29 Desler stated the funding is from the hotel/motel tax, not the general fund,
30 and is supposed to be for marketing of the community.

31
32 Crawford asked if the reason it is called the Convention Center fund is
33 historical. Desler stated it is.

34
35 Roy stated she hopes this agency represents the entire county, not just
36 Bellingham. There are tourist destination areas in rural Whatcom County.

37
38 *Motion carried unanimously.*

39
40 **2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
41 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND WHATCOM**
42 **VOLUNTEER CENTER TO PROVIDE VOLUNTEER SERVICES TO**
43 **MULTIPLE COUNTY OFFICES AND SERVICE LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT**
44 **THE COUNTY, THE COURTS, COUNTY LIBRARY, SENIOR CENTERS,**
45 **COUNTY PARKS, ETC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000 (AB2005-453)**

46
47 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

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2 Brenner stated there are more volunteer hours worked than what is stated.
3 Many people don't submit the hours they actually work.
4

5 *Motion carried unanimously.*
6

7 **3. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
8 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND LAKEVIEW**
9 **TECHNOLOGY INC. TO PROVIDE SOFTWARE, IMPLEMENTATION AND**
10 **ASSOCIATED MAINTENANCE FOR THE NEW ISERIES MID-RANGE**
11 **COMPUTER SYSTEM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,418 (AB2005-454)**
12

13 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.
14

15 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated this is the main computer for the
16 County. It was traditionally called the AS/400. It will now be called the I series.
17

18 Brad Bennett, Finance Division Manager, stated this is the high availability
19 software that allows the system to be backed up while still operating. Now, the jail
20 is shut down while the system is backing up. They can't do anything. This
21 software will enable them to backup the system while still driving.
22

23 Desler stated the system can also be operational while there is system
24 maintenance.
25

26 *Motion carried unanimously.*
27

28 **4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
29 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND EVERTT E. BYERS AND**
30 **ASSOCIATES, INC. D/B/A BRAUN CONSULTING GROUP, FOR**
31 **NEGOTIATION OF EIGHT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS,**
32 **GRIEVANCE ARBITRATION, AND LABOR CONSULTATIONS AND SERVE**
33 **AS CHIEF SPOKESPERSON FOR THE COUNTY WITH ASSISTANCE**
34 **FROM A.S. HUMAN RESOURCES, FOR THE FULL RANGE OF**
35 **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ACTIVITIES, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$152,436**
36 **OVER THREE YEARS (AB2005-455)**
37

38 *Crawford moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.
39

40 Brenner stated they don't need this company to do the County's negotiation
41 because the County's staff can do it. The County doesn't benefit from the service.
42

43 Nelson stated it's difficult for large organizations to do contract negotiations
44 plus day-to-day business. If the County is going to have ongoing negotiation, make
45 sure there is expertise for the legal ramifications and to be available during
46 negotiations. Unions have specific staff for negotiations.
47

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1 Brenner stated the County staff sits in on all the negotiations anyway. The
2 County doesn't need outside help.

3
4 *Motion carried unanimously.*

- 5
6 **5. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN**
7 **INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE**
8 **WHATCOM CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY**
9 **OUTREACH AND EDUCATION REGARDING SMALL FARM BEST**
10 **MANAGEMENT PRACTICES TO SUPPORT THE WATER QUALITY**
11 **IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS IN THE SHELLFISH PROTECTION**
12 **DISTRICTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,345.96 (AB2005-456)**

13
14 *Roy moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

15
16 *Motion carried unanimously.*

- 17
18 **6. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
19 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND WILSON**
20 **ENGINEERING, LLC TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY ENGINEERING AND**
21 **PUBLIC OUTREACH SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A FERRY**
22 **PARKING LOT ON LUMMI ISLAND TO SUPPORT THE LUMMI ISLAND**
23 **FERRY SYSTEM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$95,446 (AB2005-457)**

24
25 *Roy moved* to recommend approval to the full Council. She asked how
26 much of the contract is for community outreach.

27
28 Crawford stated \$16,531 is for community outreach.

29
30 Roy asked why staff can't do community outreach.

31
32 Ken Richardson, Public Works, stated the issue is the need to have the
33 engineering and design background available to respond to the community.

34
35 Roy stated the County employees can present the design and bring
36 community questions to the designers.

37
38 Crawford stated the subcontractor is going to have public meetings. The
39 community requested to have input into the design.

40
41 *Motion carried unanimously.*

- 42
43 **7. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
44 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND INTERFAITH**
45 **COALITION TO PROVIDE 2060 REPAIR & REHABILITATION FUNDS TO**
46 **REPAIR WINDOWS, FLOORS AND ROOF AT THE DEEMER ROAD**
47 **PARTNERSHIP HOUSE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 (AB2005-458)**

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1
2 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council. Get it done as
3 soon as possible.

4
5 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 6
7 **8. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
8 **LEASE BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND RICK REICH FOR HOUSING**
9 **FOR THE POINT ROBERTS RESIDENT DEPUTY, ON A MONTH-TO-**
10 **MONTH BASIS BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2005, IN THE AMOUNT OF**
11 **\$1,000 PER MONTH (AB2005-459)**

12
13 **Crawford moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

14
15 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 16
17 **9. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
18 **LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND**
19 **WASHINGTON STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION, AMENDING THE 2005-**
20 **2007 WASHINGTON STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION COLLECTIVE**
21 **BARGAINING AGREEMENT (AB2005-460)**

22
23 **Roy moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

24
25 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 26
27 **10. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO**
28 **CONTRACT AMENDMENT 1 BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND**
29 **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES EXTENDING THE**
30 **ORIGINAL AGREEMENT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2006, IN THE**
31 **AMOUNT OF \$50,000, FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$94,500**
32 **(AB2005-461)**

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

35
36 Crawford asked if the amount is more or the same as last year.

37
38 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the amount is \$5,500 more than
39 last year. It was a recommendation of the Executive.

40
41 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 42
43 **11. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO**
44 **CONTRACT AMENDMENT 2 BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND**
45 **NORTHWEST HYDRAULIC CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR ON-CALL**
46 **HYDRAULIC MODELING ASSISTANCE EXTENDING THE COMPLETION**
47 **DATE OF THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT TO DECEMBER 31, 2006, IN THE**

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1 **AMOUNT OF \$75,000, FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$175,000**
2 **(AB2005-462)**

3
4 Nelson asked if it is also tied to the next contract and if the location is from
5 Deming on down the river.

6
7 Paula Cooper, River and Flood Division Manager, stated it is.

8
9 *Crawford moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

10
11 *Motion carried unanimously.*

12
13 **12. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO**
14 **CONTRACT AMENDMENT 2 BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND**
15 **BROWN AND CALDWELL FOR ON-CALL HYDRAULIC MODELING**
16 **ASSISTANCE EXTENDING THE COMPLETION DATE OF THE ORIGINAL**
17 **AGREEMENT TO DECEMBER 31, 2006, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,000,**
18 **FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$175,000 (AB2005-463)**

19
20 *Roy moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

21
22 *Motion carried unanimously.*

23
24 **13. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO**
25 **CONTRACT AMENDMENT 7 BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND**
26 **WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY TO CONTINUE THE SHARING OF**
27 **COSTS FOR FACULTY POSITIONS IN THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**
28 **THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2006, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,920.16, FOR**
29 **A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$518,337.90 (AB2005-464)**

30
31 Nelson asked the change and if this is in the budget.

32
33 Drew Betz, Acting Director, stated this is in the budget. The \$500,000 is the
34 amount spent since the original contract in 1999. It is an ongoing contract for the
35 past six years. The actual increase from last year is .03%. Also, the long time 4H
36 agent, Craig Fenske, will retire this year. He has served the County for 20 years.

37
38 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

39
40 *Motion carried unanimously.*

41
42 **14. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO APPROVE THE**
43 **AWARD OF BID #05-67 FOR A DIGITAL IMAGING SYSTEM FOR THE**
44 **JAIL TO SOLE BIDDER DYNAMIC IMAGING, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO**
45 **EXCEED \$41,045 (AB2005-465)**

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

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Motion carried unanimously.

- 15. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO APPROVE THE AWARD OF BID #05-93 FOR A 4X4 BACKHOE WITH LOADER FOR WHATCOM COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION TO LOW BIDDER FARMERS EQUIPMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$65,857.37 (AB2005-466)**

Nelson asked if this is a replacement backhoe.

Mike McFarlane, Parks and Recreation Department Director, stated it is.

Crawford asked if they can choose which model to purchase, in case one maker produces a product that lasts longer.

Eric Schlehber, Equipment Services Manager, stated they go out to bid and award the bid to the low bidder that meets specifications. They try to make the specifications generic enough for all to bid. The County has had good luck with New Holland equipment. The Parks Department is very happy with this bid.

Nelson moved to recommend approval to the full Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 16. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE FROM IBM OF CONSOLIDATED COMPUTER HARDWARE THAT WILL INCORPORATE THREE TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$79,752.60 (AB2005-467)**

Nelson moved to recommend approval to the full Council. He asked for information on the computer.

Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated they are moving to more server-based technology. The contract is to put these servers in line. It's more effective to support and maintain them. They have some grant funds to support this effort.

Motion carried unanimously.

- 17. RESOLUTION ORDERING THE CANCELLATION OF WARRANTS THAT ARE OVER A YEAR OLD AND HAVE NOT BEEN PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT (TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE CANCELLED IS \$17,198.18) (AB2005-468)**

Crawford moved to recommend approval to the full Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

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OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

L. Ward Nelson, Committee Chair