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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
Finance and Administrative Services Committee

March 17, 2009

Committee Member L. Ward Nelson called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Present:

Sam Crawford
Bob Kelly

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Seth Fleetwood
Carl Weimer
Laurie Caskey-Schreiber
Barbara Brenner

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE HDR JAIL SITING CONTRACT (AB2009-113B)

The following people spoke:

- Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, gave a staff report and answered questions.
- Harris Falkin, HDR Principal and Project Manager, answered questions.
- Mike Russell, Administrative Services Department, answered questions.
- Mike Stimac, HDR, answered questions.

Discussion included the background of the siting process; the supplemental budget request for this expenditure; giving the public the ability to comment on and receive a response regarding issues; the process for screening candidate sites; cost estimates for each site; the policy question of developing a jail site horizontally versus vertically; wetland delineation studies for each site; whether the no-action alternative study would consider potential policy changes, and; phased construction and future development of the jail.

Kelly stated the report on the no-action alternative should discuss alternatives to incarceration, such as types of treatment.

Crawford moved to recommend approval of the supplemental budget request, which will be on the Council agenda in two weeks.

Motion carried 2-1 with Kelly opposed.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

1. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2009 WHATCOM COUNTY PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST #1, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$900,000 (AB2009-129)

The following people spoke:

- 1 • Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, gave a staff report.
2 • Mike Russell, Administrative Services Department, answered questions.
3 • Jan Eskola, 8895 Glacier Court, Glacier, asked whether the Resource Center
4 site is chosen.
5 • Heidi Doornenbal, 8154 Silver Lake Road, stated the national Boys and Girls
6 Club requires an ongoing commitment of \$250,000 annually to start a new
7 chapter.
8

9 Discussion included the larger scope of work; costs for architectural design; whether
10 the size of the facility will meet the needs of all the interested service providers;
11 participation in the community by the Opportunity Council's Head Start program and the
12 Interfaith Coalition; getting the Whatcom Alliance for Healthcare Access (WAHA) involved in
13 the project, and; the original intent of the Resource Center.
14

15 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend adopting the ordinance to the full Council.
16

17 ***Motion carried 3-0.***
18

- 19 **2. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A SALE
20 AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND PEEPLES
21 ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE BUILDING AT 215 N.
22 COMMERCIAL STREET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,800,000 (AB2009-119)**
23

24 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.
25

26 The following person spoke:
27

- 28 • Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, gave a staff report.
29

30 Discussion included the rental rate and how this project fits into the larger capital
31 facilities plan.
32

33 ***Motion carried 3-0.***
34

- 35 **3. WHATCOM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REQUESTS APPROVAL FOR THE
36 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON
37 STATE MILITARY DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION TO
38 PURCHASE EQUIPMENT THAT WILL AID IN THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF
39 COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING HIGH-PRIORITY CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
40 AND KEY RESOURCE (CI/KR) ASSETS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$579,090
41 (AB2009-139)**
42

43 The following people spoke:
44

- 45 • Bill Elfo, Sheriff, gave a staff report.
46 • Elizabeth Kilanowski, Bellingham, stated she is concerned about increased
47 militarization in the county and racial profiling. Many people in the
48 community have the same concerns.
49

50 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.
51

52 Discussion included Stonegarden funding and immigration issues; Jefferson County
53 experiences with federal immigration checkpoints; the contract's reference to federal

1 guidelines and regulations; storage of and staffing for the equipment; how the equipment
2 will be used; potential increases to ongoing costs;

3
4 Elfo stated the Council can be assured that the Sheriff's Office and Whatcom County
5 will not become engaged in enforcing immigration laws.

6
7 Nelson stated he would like to talk about infrastructure protection in the community,
8 possibly in executive session.

9
10 **Motion carried 3-0.**

11
12 **OTHER BUSINESS**

13
14 Kelly stated the Council update on permit revenue should include all budget matters.
15 Dewey Desler, Deputy administrator, stated the administration will provide that full
16 update in to the Council in April.

17
18 **COUNCIL "CONSENT AGENDA" ITEMS**

- 19
20 **1. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A GRANT**
21 **AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL**
22 **DRUG CONTROL POLICY FOR A GRANT AWARD TO SUPPORT THE NW HIDTA**
23 **BORDER TASK FORCE PROSECUTION INITIATIVE OF THE NW HIGH**
24 **INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,281**
25 **(AB2009-140)**

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

28
29 The following people spoke:

- 30
31
 - Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, gave a staff report.
 - Marvette Gwinner, Sheriff's Office, answered questions.

32
33
34 There was discussion on the sources of money.

35
36 **Motion carried 3-0.**

- 37
38 **2. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE WHATCOM COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION**
39 **DEPARTMENT TO DEMOLISH ELEVEN BUILDINGS AT BAY HORIZON PARK**
40 **THAT ARE IN DERELICT CONDITION AND CONTAIN ASBESTOS (AB2009-**
41 **141)**

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

44
45 The following person spoke:

- 46
47
 - Mike McFarland, Parks and Recreation Department Director, gave a staff
48 report.

49
50 There was discussion regarding whether anything in the building has a historical
51 value.

52
53 **Motion carried 3-0.**

- 1
2 3. **REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
3 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND WHATCOM COUNSELING AND**
4 **PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC FOR SHELTER PLUS CARE HOUSING IMPLEMENTATION**
5 **SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,823.20 (AB2009-142)**

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

8
9 *Motion carried 3-0.*

- 10
11 4. **REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
12 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND SHAWN THOMPSON FOR THE**
13 **RESIDENTIAL LEASE OF 367 E. LAKE SAMISH DRIVE IN THE AMOUNT OF**
14 **\$985 PER MONTH (AB2009-143)**

15
16 *Crawford moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

17
18 The following person spoke:

- 19
20 • Mike McFarland, Parks and Recreation Department Director, gave a staff
21 report.

22
23 Discussion included the size of the house and the reason for providing drinking
24 water.

25
26 *Motion carried 3-0.*

- 27
28 5. **RESOLUTION TO SET HEARING AND NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE SALE OF**
29 **COUNTY TAX TITLE PROPERTY BY NEGOTIATION TO WHATCOM COUNTY**
30 **PARKS DEPARTMENT – REQUEST #TR2009-01 (AB2009-144)**

31
32 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

33
34 *Motion carried 3-0.*

- 35
36 6. **RESOLUTION TO SET HEARING AND NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE SALE OF**
37 **COUNTY TAX TITLE PROPERTY BY NEGOTIATION – REQUEST #TR2009-02**
38 **(AB2009-145)**

39
40 *Nelson moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

41
42 *Motion carried 3-0.*

- 43
44 7. **REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AN**
45 **AGREEMENT WITH SEATTLE CITY LIGHT FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECOVERING**
46 **IMPACT PAYMENTS RELATIVE TO SEATTLE CITY LIGHT POWER PLANTS AND**
47 **DAMS LOCATED IN WHATCOM COUNTY AND IN EXCHANGE WHATCOM**
48 **COUNTY WILL STATION ONE DEPUTY SHERIFF FOR GENERAL AND**
49 **EMERGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AND APPROPRIATE BACK UP AS**
50 **DETERMINED BY THE COUNTY SHERIFF (AB2009-146)**

51
52 *Kelly moved* to recommend approval to the full Council.

1 The following people spoke:
2

- 3 • Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, answered questions.
- 4 • Bill Elfo, Sheriff, answered questions.

5
6 Discussion included the amount of money the County is receiving and staff training.
7

8 **Motion carried 3-0.**
9

- 10 **8. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
11 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND LAKE WHATCOM**
12 **RESIDENTIAL AND TREATMENT CENTER FOR SHELTER PLUS CARE HOUSING**
13 **IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES FOR HOMELESS PERSONS WITH SERIOUS**
14 **MENTAL ILLNESS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,573.80 (AB2009-147)**

15
16 **Kelly moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

17
18 **Motion carried 3-0.**
19

- 20 **9. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
21 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND PIONEER HUMAN SERVICES**
22 **TO PROVIDE SHORT-TERM RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHERS FOR EX-**
23 **OFFENDERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,500 (AB2009-148)**

24
25 **Crawford moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

26
27 **Motion carried 3-0.**
28

- 29 **10. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
30 **CONTRACT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND STEWARD+KING**
31 **ARCHITECTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLANNING, DESIGN AND**
32 **CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION OF THE EAST WHATCOM REGIONAL**
33 **RESOURCE CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450,000 (AB2009-149)**

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

36
37 **Motion carried 3-0.**
38

- 39 **11. RESOLUTION AMENDING CRP#904016 AND AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL**
40 **FUNDS AND APPROVAL FOR THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO AWARD THE**
41 **CONTRACT FOR HAMPTON ROAD/MORMON DITCH BRIDGE #261**
42 **REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO LOW BIDDER MAX J. KUNEY COMPANY IN THE**
43 **AMOUNT OF \$2,579,824.78 (AB2009-150)**

44
45 **Kelly moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.
46

47 The following people spoke:
48

- 49 • Jim Karcher, Public Works Department, answered questions.
- 50 • Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, answered questions.

51
52 Discussion included the location of the bridge, the engineer's estimate and other bids
53 received, funding sources, and future bridge funding.

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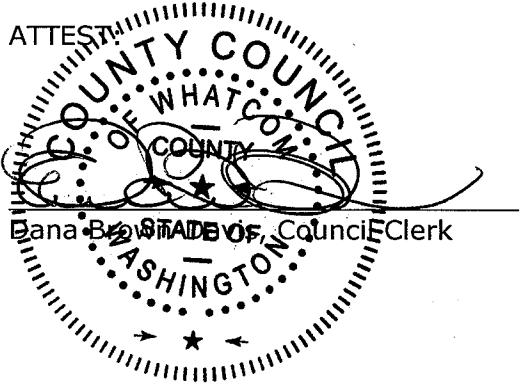
Motion carried 3-0.

ADJOURN

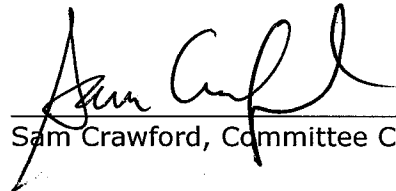
The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.



Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

ATTEST

Dana Brown, Council Clerk

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Sam Crawford, Committee Chair