

ISLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - MINUTES OF MEETING
SPECIAL SESSIONS - JUNE 13 & 14, 2000

The Board of Island County Commissioners met in Special Session on June 13, 2000, between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m., in the Island County Courthouse Annex, Hearing Room, Coupeville, Wa.

The purpose of the special session was for representatives from Washington State Association of Counties [WSAC] and Washington State Association of County Officials [WACO] to meet with Island County Commissioners, Elected Officials, and appointed Department Heads.

Participants:

WSAC and WACO Representatives

Bill Vogler, Executive Director, WSAC
Fred Saeger, Executive Director, WACO

Island County Representatives

Phil Bakke, Planning Director
Robert Bishop, Coroner
Marilee Black, County Clerk
Mike Hawley, Sheriff
Dave Jamieson, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Jane Koetje, Public Defense Administrator
Mike Merringer, Juvenile Court Services
Tim McDonald, Health Services Director
Wm. L. McDowell, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners
Don Meehan, WSU Extension Agent
Paul Messner, Facilities Director
Margaret Rosenkranz, Budget Director
Maxine Sauter, Treasurer
Mike Shelton, Member, Board of County Commissioners
William F. Thorn, Member, Board of County Commissioners
Dick Toft, Human Resources Director

Hand-Outs:

- WSAC/WACO Legislative Wrap-Up – 200 Regular Session and Extraordinary Session
- State Budget MVET Replacement passed by the Legislature April 27, 2000
- Substitute House Bill 2392, Chapter 241, Laws of 2000, Joint Task Force on Local Governments, Effective Date: 6/8/00

Mr. Saeger and Mr. Vogler are visiting courthouses around the State, Island County being the 35th county visited. The purpose of the visit was to explain results of the recent legislative session; comment on distribution of the replacement revenues lost as a result of I-695; discuss efforts necessary in the next legislative session to continue the funding; and discuss some long-term plans regarding future funding for counties.

They discussed MVET percent replacement, which for Island County is 53.38% or \$464,797 for Fiscal Year 2001 funding and explained how the 53.38% figure was arrived at for on-going funding.

A joint meeting is planned of all local government officials February 14 in Olympia and expect some 500 to 600 elected officials and 100 members of the legislature, a one-time meeting in one place to lobby on behalf of important City and County issues, including the issue of not dividing cities and counties. Neither cities nor counties have the tax base they should and there are cities that are seriously impacted by the sales tax equalization formula. The redistribution of money from other parts of the state has to be addressed.

Commissioner Thorn pointed out the importance to identify and quantify what unfunded mandates currently exceed.

Commissioner McDowell brought up requirements of the State Department of Ecology under Shoreline Management: (1) inventory whole shoreline; (2) come up with ultimate build out. Mr. Saeger and Mr. Vogler confirmed their position this

falls under unfunded mandates. Added to that are impacts associated with ESA [Endangered Species Act]. The National Marine Fisheries Service appears unwilling to accept the level of protection in the State Shoreline guidelines so there will have to be a higher level of protection and what that cost will be for cities and counties is not yet known.

Commissioner Shelton reviewed Phase I building project for the County, the Law and Justice facility. He noted too that with regard to Rural Counties funding, Island County has a commitment from its Legislators to introduce a bill to include Island County in that funding.

Mr. Vogler and Mr. Saeger met after the meeting with individual county officials in their respective offices.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Wm. L. McDowell, Chairman

William F. Thorn, Member

Mike Shelton, Member

ATTEST: _____
Margaret Rosenkranz, Clerk of the Board

**ISLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - MINUTES OF MEETING
SPECIAL SESSION - JUNE 14, 2000**

The Board of Island County Commissioners met in Special Session on June 14, 2000, beginning at Noon, at the Oak Harbor City Hall, Oak Harbor, Wa., with Wm. L. McDowell, Chairman, William F. Thorn, Member and Mike Shelton, Member, present. Others present included: Patricia Cohen, Mayor, City of Oak Harbor; Nancy Conard, Mayor, Town of Coupeville.

The special session was called for the purpose of conducting a joint meeting with Elected Officials from the county, cities, town and port districts, to continue discussions on forming a council of governments in Island County; adopt a regular meeting schedule; and receive a legislative update.

Legislative Update: Commissioner McDowell reported on the impacts of I-695 to the County and noted MVET percent replacement for Island County is 53.38% leaving the County 47% short. Although the County is thankful the Legislature provided what it did, the County still needs to be made whole. Efforts are necessary in the next legislative session to continue the funding, and long term plans needed regarding future funding.

Formation of Council of Governments Organization and Regular Meeting Schedule.

To allow flexibility to discuss topics and issues that may come up, a regular meeting schedule needs to be established. A special session can always be called by the Chairman, but the agenda limited to only those to topics called out in a Notice to the Press provided 24 hours in advance of the session. Although there was no firm decision, the group is leaning toward meetings on a fixed schedule [i.e. they day the RTPO meets].

In concurrence with the City of Oak Harbor's 4-year plan to try to increase business activity, once formed the Council of Governments may be a good umbrella for the EDC. There needs to be further discussion next meeting about the pros and cons of this issue revolving around funding.

Presentation To Be Scheduled. County Commissioners agreed at the next meeting to ask that Jackie Henderson, Island County Human Services Director, make a presentation to this group concerning programs under her purview inasmuch as the programs affect the cities as well as the county.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m. Next meeting date and time yet to be determined.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Wm. L. McDowell, Chairman _____

William F. Thorn, Member _____

Mike Shelton, Member

ATTEST: _____
Margaret Rosenkranz, Clerk of the Board