

**BOARD OF ISLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 24, 2008 – SPECIAL SESSION**

The Board of Island County Commissioners met in Special Session on September 24, 2008 beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Board of County Commissioners Hearing Room (Room # 102B), Annex Building, 1 N.E. 6th Street, Coupeville, Washington. Wm. L. McDowell, Chairman, John Dean, Member, and Phillip Bakke, Member were present. The Special Session was called to allow action on general County business.

ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS, VOUCHERS, AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

By unanimous motion the Board approved the Electronic Fund Transfers and the following vouchers/warrants:

Vouchers (War) #s 296483-296768.....	\$633,555.62
Electronic Fund Transfers.....	\$4,604.32

AGREEMENT TO UNDERTAKE ACTUARIAL STUDIES FOR COUNTY INMATE PROGRAM AND COUNTY INMATE PROGRAM SERVICES AGREEMENT

Elaine Marlow, Clerk of the Board, explained that the mentioned program is operated by WSAC in an effort to help counties group together to reduce the cost of inmate health care. Bills are submitted through WSAC to Zenith and First Choice with prescriptions submitted through WellDyne Rx. The letter agreement was signed about two years ago and the agreements at issue formalize the partnership for an additional two years. Ms. Marlow said the contracts are with the Prosecuting Attorney for review as to form and are due to WSAC on September 30. She requested the Board authorize the Chairman to sign pending contract review.

Commissioner McDowell expressed a concern about the FSC (Financial Services Corporation), a new arm of WSAC, saying the FSC was formed to sponsor programs that would make money and ultimately reduce WSAC dues. He is concerned about the organizational method of providing the service and sees no reason for the FSC to continue beyond the initial formation of the health insurance program. Health insurance is managed by WCIF and WCIP and should not be merely a source of revenue for the FSC or WSAC.

Ms. Marlow indicated that the County may terminate the contract with 60 days' notice and De Dennis, Jail Administrator, genuinely believes there is a savings by participating rather than paying someone directly. When going through the preferred provider the preferred provider is entitled to a reduced rate because of the association with Zenith, First Choice, or WellDyne. There would not be any chance for savings unless the County participated.

Commissioner McDowell remarked that the contract indicates that the counties will receive 80% of the savings and the FSC 20%. He questioned why the counties would not receive 100% of the savings instead because each county is ultimately responsible for paying the fees. Does it make more sense to save the money up front as smaller premiums or does it make sense instead to pay 20% to FSC with reduced dues. He agrees there is a savings; he is just not sure why that savings should go to the FSC. That said, he will support signature of the agreements since the only choice is to sign as is or not participate in a program that will save money, albeit 80% of the real savings.

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By unanimous motion the Board approved signature by the Chairman of the County Inmate Program Services Agreement and Agreement to Undertake Actuarial Studies for County Inmate Program following contract review.

**WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND PURCHASE ORDER TO REPLACE CARD
READER SYSTEM IN LAW AND JUSTICE CENTER**

Ms. Marlow indicated that the card reader in the Law and Justice building has partially failed and there is only one vendor who supplies similar equipment; that is, SimplexGrinnell. Before awarding the contract to SimplexGrinnell the Board must adopt a resolution waiving competitive bidding.

By unanimous motion the Board approved Resolution C-93-08 Waiver of Competitive Bidding or Competitive Solicitation for Procurement of the SimplexGrinnell LP Access Control System and approved Purchase Order 7785 in the amount of \$21,669.16. (*Resolution on file with the Clerk of the Board*)

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Budget notebooks for Board members' use during budget workshops prepared by the Budget office are based on M&O and capital amounts at current levels. Department Heads and Elected Officials during budget workshops are to comment on requested increases and provide a brief explanation for the request. Budget narratives accompanied each department/office budget. Proposed budget and supplemental requests are taken under advisement by the Board with no final decisions expected as a result of budget workshops. Hand-outs are on file with the Clerk of the Board.

Staff Present

Elaine Marlow, Budget Director

Human Resources

Presentation by: Larry Larson, Director

Also present: Terry Chevront, Assistant Director

Mr. Larson is requesting increases in some areas of his budget as he feels some adjustment is necessary in 2009. Those being fuel, professional services, communication, travel, repairs and maintenance, with a reduction in advertising. In summary, the total increase is \$5,120, of that amount approximately \$3,000 is due to providing additional training to staff and also an increase in the DATANOW computer software licensing which is increased from \$195 a month to \$263.25 a month. Mr. Larson is not asking, nor does he expect to ask, for additional staffing.

Ms. Marlow said she contacted Betty Kemp to inquire whether the insurance reserve could pay for the proposed training. Ms. Kemp suggested Mr. Larson and Ms. Kemp discuss the proposed training in order to determine an answer to that question.

Island County Fair

Presentation by: Dan Ollis, Chairman
Island County Fair Association Board of Directors

Mr. Ollis is not requesting a change for 2009, the numbers remain the same. Attendance figures are running in line with 2006 and will beat 2007. Gate price, which has not been raised since 2000, was raised from \$6 for an adult to \$7 so revenue was up and attendance was not a factor. State Fair judge's

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report (score), which ultimately determines state funding, is slightly higher this year than last. Budgeted \$36,000 for 2009, received \$35,900 in 2008.

Ms. Marlow pointed out that the Board is contributing \$30,000 from real estate excise taxes to fund some buildings and structural improvements.

Mr. Ollis said there still remains an issue with the County versus Fair and respective responsibilities; that is, challenges concerning insurance quotes and legal name. Additionally a zoning change, which ultimately could be a technical issue, is in the process. Mr. Ollis is representing the County's property and interest in that effort.

Follow-up: Commissioner McDowell suggested that Ms. Kemp review code language and work with Mr. Ollis on possible revision to the code or an agreement between entities concerning the issue between the County and Fair and respective responsibilities.

General Services Administration – Dog Control

Camano Animal Shelter Association

Presentation by: Chris Mesher

Also Present: Robert Peterson, Marty Bloom

Hand-out: Slide Presentation

Mr. Mesher presented a brief slide presentation:

- Since 2005, CASA has taken in 795 dogs; only 187 of these were impounds.
- Since 2005, CASA has taken in 1159 cats/kittens.
- Disposition report of animals 2008 through August.
- What is needed to care for the animals – 2008 expense budget - \$123,000, excluding Island County fees.
- Where will the income come from to meet the 2008 expenses of \$123,000?

Supplemental Request

Annual payment be increased to \$38,580 to help bridge the gap and account for 3% increase in cost of living.

Chairman Dean suggested notice be included with dog licenses, as an idea, to give people an opportunity to make a contribution in addition to the license fee to help support CASA. Another suggestion is a license plate similar to the plates created for the WSU Lighthouse funding project. Options were discussed.

Concerning the contract, Ms. Kemp said the agreement currently requires the shelter to deposit all revenues with the County and then the County stabilizes the shelter each month by giving so much a month back. The code, however, only addresses dogs but the money received by the County is for both dogs and cats.

Follow-up: It was agreed Ms. Kemp would work with the shelter in better defining the language in the code and agreement so the appropriate amount is deposited.

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Whidbey Animal Improvement Foundation

Presentation by: Stephen Paysse, Executive Director

Mr. Paysse is the new Executive Director of WAIF, recently recruited from Port Townsend. Unknown is the fact that WAIF works with at-risk children who put in community service time at the thrift stores in an effort to learn business and work skills. They then get to work with the animals. Hundreds of volunteer hours are created through this community service, a contribution back to the community.

Mr. Paysse said the biggest cost to WAIF is energy for maintaining the facility, which has doubled in the last year.

Supplemental Request

WAIF is requesting an increase of the annual contract amount from \$55,125 to \$58,869 to account for increase in energy charges to sustain the facility.

Follow-up: Betty will determine the estimated 2008 energy cost.

Whidbey Island Animal Control (Barnes)

Camano Animal Shelter (Young)

Presentation by: Betty Kemp, General Services Administration Director

Supplemental Requests

Camano Animal Control (Young) is requesting an increase of approximately \$2,382 (4%).

Whidbey Island Animal Control (Barnes) requests an increase of approximately \$3,500 a month (5%) along with a request for a part-time employee at a cost of about \$21,000.

General Services Administration - Other

Public Defense

Presentation by: Tom Pacher

Mr. Pacher believes he has raised the level of service to the County, bringing in experienced people, and he is hearing nothing but good feedback from the courts. Ms. Kemp mentioned that Mr. Pacher has had the responsibility of taking on matters not covered by the contract but he has stepped up to the plate.

Supplemental Request

Mr. Pacher requests a contract amount of \$186,000 for salaries and related expenses for three additional employees plus an additional sum to help bring salaries at least close to parity with the prosecutor's office.

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Board of Equalization

Presentation by: Jim Johnston, Chairman

Mr. Johnston reviewed the responsibilities of the Board of Equalization and the reasons for BOE's supplemental budget request.

Supplemental Request

Due to the increased cost for personal transportation and meals Mr. Johnston is requesting that the per diem for members be increased from \$100 to \$200 for each day of hearings attended.

Motor Pool

Ms. Kemp's proposed vehicle replacement schedule for 2008 recommended not to replace any vehicles except for the Sheriff's requested 10 vehicles. However, included thereafter was a 250 truck for Parks, a trailer, and a vehicle for Human Services. In an attempt to play catch-up, the Sheriff is requesting 14 cruisers versus the 10 scheduled for replacement. Discussion ensued with the Sheriff and Sheriff staff concerning the fleet, uses, and request for additional vehicles.

With an ever increasing fleet of vehicles, 343 for the County as a whole, a large number in comparison with other counties, Ms. Kemp raised the idea of reviewing assigned vehicles to determine which vehicles are not used each day.

Follow-up: Ms. Kemp will review vehicle policies of other counties, including a determination as to who in the County takes home vehicles.

Olympic Security Services, Inc.

Supplemental Request

Requesting \$3,450 increase in hourly rate, last increase was in 2004.

Veteran's Assistance

No need to levy in 2008. One decision the Board may want to make is that it levy a small amount each year to keep the fund at the statutory level. Currently, there is significantly more than the statutory level in the fund so Ms. Marlow does not recommend a levy in 2008 but possibly next year if the fund drops by \$4,000-\$5,000. The result is smoothing out the number of tax levies.

Other GSA managed funds and programs

Ms. Marlow stated that the proposed budgets for other GSA programs and funds are straightforward, indicating nothing unusual.

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There being no further business to come before the Board at this time the Special Session adjourned at 3:22 p.m. The Board will reconvene in Regular Session on October 6, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON

John Dean, Chairman

Phillip Bakke, Member

Wm. L. McDowell, Member

ATTEST:

Elaine Marlow
Clerk of the Board