

**BOARD OF ISLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF MEETING 33  
FEBRUARY 9, 2011 – WORK SESSIONS**

The Board of Island County Commissioners met in Regular Session on February 9, 2011 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at in the Board of County Commissioners Hearing Room (Room # 102B), Annex Building, 1 N.E. 6th Street, Coupeville, Washington. Angie Homola, Chair, Helen Price Johnson, Member, and Kelly Emerson, Member were present.

Others present included Elaine Marlow, Budget Director, and also in attendance throughout portions of the session were several Elected Officials, Department Heads, county employees and members of the public.

Commissioner Homola welcomed Paul Dziejdzic who will lead the facilitated discussion. Mr. Dziejdzic reviewed the purpose and agenda for today's meeting.

The Board identified the following steps to improve communication with the public:

- Move forward with video recording device (camera) in the Commissioner's Hearing Room
- Make some further improvements to current audio in Commissioner's Hearing Room
- Website - identify additional information and uses of the website with a focus on information and transparency – improve access to the functions of the county
- Improve phone tree – work with IT staff to revise recording for easier access to people/services
- Press Releases – Roundtable discussion

Elaine Marlow provided a brief recap of the County's fiscal picture.

The Board shared their priorities for the coming year besides improving communication with the public. Commissioner Emerson said stabilizing the budget crisis and improving public sentiment as well as performance audits for programs to make sure they are achieving the expected results are all important issues for her. Commissioner Price Johnson would like to move ahead with strategic planning for the County and move those forward with action plans that can provide structure to the County so it can function at a higher level with fewer people.

Commissioner Homola provided an extensive list of what she hopes to see accomplished in the future. Her top priorities include, improving the budget process to include easy to read information and early goal based planning; communications and informing the electorate; employee performance appraisals; County wide planning policy for land use methodology with cities/town; and consolidated Record Retention and File saving policies.

Melanie Bacon provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Reorganization Proposal. The goals for the reorganization are to improve communication and collaboration, accountability and efficiencies, coordinate delivery of services and strengthen the financial and organizational stability.

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A new Administrative Services Department, headed by an Administrative Services Director, would be created. The functions that are now performed by Facilities, Central Services and GSA would be moved under the Administrative Services Department. An IT Technical Lead would be hired. Other organizational changes include:

Health Department

- Natural Resources Department – for financial accounting of the Clean Water Utility (includes Conservation Futures, Salmon Recovery, Water Quality, Watershed Planning, Hydrogeology)
- Burn Permits

Human Resources

- Safety
- CDL/Drug Testing
- L & I

The Board's options are to adopt the proposal as recommended, amend the proposal or make no changes to the current structure.

Commissioner Emerson was adamantly against making any major structural changes for this budget cycle and perhaps the next. She felt there were improvements the Board could make to streamline their meetings and not take up as much staff time. She indicated that she was open to the concept of a Natural Resources Department and with some further research may be ready to discuss the details in the next couple of months.

Commissioner Homola was open to the concept of a Natural Resources Department housed in the Health Department, but expressed concern about including Conservation Futures. She wanted to ensure there is a mechanism that allows for an unbiased and fair playing field when it comes to the funding process.

Commissioner Price Johnson was ready to move ahead with the Natural Resources Department as proposed, but agreed to pull off Conservation Futures for now.

With regard to the Administrative Services Director position, Commissioner Price Johnson is ready to move ahead with the PAA. Commissioner Homola agreed with the concept of an Administrative Services Director and an IT Lead and combining some of the counties services, however prior to making a decision she would like to visit with the Human Resources and Budget Director to understand all the impacts.

Further discussion of the reorganization proposal was put on the February 16, 2011 work session. Melanie Bacon will draft a PAA for the Administrative Service Director position for the Board's review.

**BOARD OF ISLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF MEETING 35  
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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ISLAND COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Angie Homola, Chair

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Helen Price Johnson, Member

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Kelly Emerson, Member

ATTEST:

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Elaine Marlow, Clerk of the Board