



DRAFT

MINUTES

Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners

Regular Meeting – June 17, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Jefferson County Courthouse – Commissioners' Chambers
1820 Jefferson Street, Port Townsend, WA (Hybrid)

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Kate Dean, Commissioner Greg Brotherton and Commissioner Heidi Eisenhour participated in the meeting. Chair Dean called the meeting to order at the appointed time. She noted changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Chair Dean called for public comments, and five comments were received. The Commissioners addressed the comments.

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Eisenhour moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Brotherton seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

1. **AGREEMENT** re: Update and Maintain the Informational Disability Website; In the Amount of \$4,950; Public Health; Cold Pizza/Creative LLC
2. **AGREEMENT, Change Order No. 1** re: Center Road 2R Overlay Project No. 1802096, County Road No. 931507, CRAB R.A.P. Project No. 1622-01; Additional Amount of \$58,983.23 for a total of \$1,171,566.88; Public Works; Lakeside Industries
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2024 and Special Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2024 (Behavioral Health Consortium)
4. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT:** Dated June 17, 2024 Totaling \$2,831,705.90

COMMISSIONERS' BRIEFING SESSION: The Commissioners discussed recent meetings they attended, miscellaneous topics, and reviewed upcoming meetings.

The meeting was recessed at 10:12 a.m. and reconvened at 10:17 a.m. with all three Commissioners present.

UPDATE re: Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) 1st Quarter County Income Report: DNR Pacific Cascade Region Natural Areas Manager Renee Mitchell, DNR Straits District Manager Brian Turner, and DNR Olympic Region Management Forester David Hurn were present. Forester Hurn provided a review of the 1st Quarter County Income Report, indicating revenues came in higher than expected. DNR staff answered questions posed by the Board. DNR Cascade Regional Manager Mitchell provided an update on current acquisitions and grants.

COMMISSIONERS' BRIEFING SESSION - Continued: The Commissioners reviewed upcoming meetings.

HEARING re: New Burn Regulation Adopting a Fire Danger Risk and Restriction

Model: Chair Dean opened the public hearing. Fire Marshal Phil Cecere, Deputy Fire Marshal Brian Tracer, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney (DPA) Philip Hunsucker, and Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Melissa Pleimann were present. Fire Marshal Cecere provided a presentation. He explained that the purpose of this hearing is to regulate open burning, bonfires, and recreational fires and to protect people and property, especially when fire danger is high. The Board held two workshops on this topic on April 1, and May 6, 2024.

The draft ordinance is a result of efforts that began in 2022 to enhance and formalize burn regulations and restrictions. Fire Marshal Cecere reviewed the draft ordinance key points which included:

- No change to fireworks language; pathway for public display is unaffected
- Establishes new JCC Chapter 8.72 re: regulations for outdoor burning, bonfires and recreational fires in unincorporated Jefferson County
- Establishes new graduated fire danger risk levels and corresponding restrictions
- Recurring annual moderate restriction July 1-Sept 30
- Enables authority of the Fire Marshal to set or alter danger levels and restrictions with consultation with Fire Chief's Association and BOCC notification
- Enhanced definitions to aid in public education and transparency
- Establishes an enforcement and penalties section to aid in violation mitigation with an emphasis on education and awareness
- Provides a publication requirement to establish current danger and restrictions levels
- Establishes an appeal process through hearing examiner for ongoing violations

Staff answered questions posed by the Board. Commissioner Brotherton noticed a scrivener error in 8.72.010 (1) and suggested adding the word "to" before "protect." Civil DPA Pleimann explained additional edits made to the draft version, after publication. For enforcement, the Fire Marshal will be first point of contact, or their designee, which will be Deputy Fire Marshal Brian Tracer and Sheriff deputies.

Fire Marshal Cecere reviewed the five risk levels of increasing severity. The ordinance would enact a "Moderate Risk Level" as of July 1st every year. Commissioner Brotherton inquired about fire cap kilns and staff answered questions.

Chair Dean opened the floor to allow for public testimony. The following individuals provided testimony: Shellie Yarnell – Brannon, and Tom Thiersch - Unincorporated Jefferson County. Staff incorporated edits to the draft ordinance. After deliberations, Chair Dean closed the hearing.

Commissioner Eisenhour moved to adopt **ORDINANCE NO. 04-0617-24** re: Repealing and Replacing Resolution No. 42-05 and Establishing Updated Regulations for Outdoor Burning, Bonfires and Recreational Fires in Unincorporated Jefferson County, with the corrections to scrivener errors as outlined today. Commissioner Brotherton seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

COMMISSIONERS' BRIEFING SESSION - Continued: The Commissioners worked out a scheduling conflict so that there will be a quorum for an upcoming Board of Health meeting.

DISCUSSION re: Emergency Shelter: Contracts for Leasing the American Legion Shelter: Commissioner Brotherton explained that the County needs to approve a lease, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and Guest Rules, prior to holding a Customer Assistance Meeting (CAM) with the City of Port Townsend. The American Legion will hold a general membership meeting to also review the documents. He reviewed funding, and noted that additional funds would be needed to make this happen.

Chair Dean opened the floor to allow for public comments, and four comments were received. The Commissioners addressed the comments.

After continued discussion, Commissioner Brotherton moved that the BOCC sign the lease and appendixes as amended here today, including the guest rules for presentation to the American Legion and Bayside Housing, inclusive of the MOU. Commissioner Eisenhower seconded the motion. Chair Dean noted that she supports this good work, and is grateful to Bayside Housing for stepping up, but she has fears that future funds may need to be taken from other housing projects, potentially down the road. She called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Chief Civil DPA Hunsucker will work with staff to get finalized documents prepared for signature.

WORKSHOP re: Applications for Grant Assistance to the Recreation and Conservation Office for the Dosewallips Powerlines Final Design and Rocky Brook Final Design Projects, and Related Authorizing Resolution: Natural Resources Program Coordinator Tami Pokorny reviewed proposed projects for spawning and rearing salmon which included adding engineered log jams to split flows. Natural Systems Design staff member Tim Abbe was present for discussion. Chair Dean noted that the Hood Canal Coordinating Committee participated in scoring and ranking of projects.

After discussion Commissioner Brotherton moved approve **RESOLUTION NO. 33-0617-24R** re: Authorizing Person(s) to Act as the Authorized Representative/Agent on Behalf of Jefferson County and to Legally Bind Jefferson County with Respect to the Dosewallips Powerlines Final Design and Rocky Brook Final Design, Projects #24-1095 and #24-1096. Commissioner Eisenhower seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

PRESENTATION re: Salmon Sustainability and Coast Salmon Partnership (CSP) Roles and Priorities: Natural Resources Program Coordinator Tami Pokorny, and Executive Director of Coast Salmon Partnership Mara Zimmerman were present for discussion. Director Zimmerman provided a presentation on the goals and history of the CSP, and their plans to facilitate collaborative decision making in support of salmon restoration and sustainability on the Washington Coast. She also reviewed the Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Plan which includes: Educate and conduct outreach, protect and restore habitat, support hatchery and harvest practices that are consistency with wild salmon sustainability, use economic tools, and improving regulatory effectiveness.

ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION ITEMS: The Commissioners and County Administrator reviewed the following:

- Housing; grant opportunities
- Public Works update
- Closing remarks

NOTICE OF ADJOURNMENT: Chair Dean adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m. until the next regular meeting or special meeting as properly noticed.

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEAL:

Kate Dean, Chair

ATTEST:

Greg Brotherton, Member

Carolyn Gallaway, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Heidi Eisenhour, Member