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**MEETING MINUTES**  
**SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJC), WASHINGTON**  
**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020**

**Legislative Hearing Room, 55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA**

**09:00 AM CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE**  
**COAST SALISH ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*“Let us acknowledge we reside on the ancestral lands and waters of the Coast Salish people, who have taken care of these Islands since time immemorial.”*

Council Chair Hughes called the meeting to order at 09:00 AM. Present: Council Members Jamie Stephens (via videoconference), Bill Watson (via videoconference), and Rick Hughes; County Manager Mike Thomas (via videoconference), and Clerk to the Council Ingrid Gabriel.

**Approval of Agenda:** Added a recruitment item to the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to approve the San Juan County Council Tuesday, September 15, 2020 meeting minutes as written. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to approve the San Juan County Council Thursday, September 24, 2020 meeting minutes as written. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

**MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to approve the Consent Agenda of Tuesday, September 29, 2020:**

**Financial Items:**

The Auditor’s office requests approval for the following warrants issued the week of September 7, 2020:

- Warrant #232876-232886 Auditor claims in the amount of \$20,671.83
- Warrant #232888-232947 County claims in the amount of \$1,184,184.70

The Auditor’s office requests approval for the following warrants issued the week of September 14, 2020:

- Warrant #233014 Elections claims in the amount of \$400.00
- Warrant #233050-233057 Facilities claims in the amount of \$4,841.05
- Warrant #233058-233059 Health claims in the amount of \$61,881.80

- 51 • Warrant #233105-233233 County claims in the amount of \$267,745.69
- 52 Plus Use Tax in the amount of \$56.15 for a total expenditure of \$267,801.84
- 53 • EFT # 1909232020 Parks claims in the amount of \$2,981.14
- 54 • EFT # 190923202 Land Bank claims in the amount of \$565,000.00

55  
56 The Auditor's office requests approval for the interfund transfers issued the month of June,  
57 July and August 2020.

58  
59 **ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED**

60  
61 **Public Access (via videoconference):** Melora Hiller, Fred Klein (via email) and George  
62 Zwiebel (via email) gave public comment.

63  
64 **09:08 AM DISCUSSION:** COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update – Kyle Dodd, Emergency  
65 Operations Center (EOC) Incident Commander; Mark Tompkins, Director Health  
66 & Community Services

67  
68 **09:15 AM PUBLIC HEARING:**

69  
70 To Adopt an Ordinance of the San Juan county Council Granting a Nonexclusive Franchise for  
71 Water Distribution Facilities Authorizing Limited Use of the Public Roads Rights-of-Way in San  
72 Juan County, Washington, to Orcas Landing, Inc. - Mike Thomas, County Manager

73  
74 **Present:** Full Council, County Manager Mike Thomas, Clerk to the Council Ingrid Gabriel

75  
76 Chair Hughes opened the public hearing to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Thomas presented the  
77 Ordinance and answered Council's questions.

78  
79 Chair Hughes opened public testimony. The following individuals offered testimony (via  
80 videoconference): Richard Fralick.

81  
82 Chair Hughes closed public testimony with the right to reopen. After discussion, the Council  
83 took the following action:

84  
85 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to adopt an Ordinance of the San**  
86 **Juan County Council Granting a Nonexclusive Franchise for Water Distribution**  
87 **Facilities Authorizing Limited Use of the Public Roads Rights-of-Way in San Juan**  
88 **County, Washington, to Orcas Landing, Inc. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

89  
90 **09:25 AM DISCUSSION:** COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Emergency Response Update &  
91 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Funding – Mark  
92 Tompkins, Director Health & Community Services; Mike Thomas, County  
93 Manager

94  
95 Mr. Tompkins reported on the status of the following:

- 96
- 97 • COVID19 in the State and locally,
- 98 • County Phase and Risk Assessment;

- 99           • COVID19 disease activity;  
100           • Healthcare system readiness;  
101           • Coronavirus testing  
102

103 Mr. Thomas, Council, Economic Development Council Director Victoria Compton and Staff  
104 discussed the distribution of CARES funding. After discussion, the Council took the following  
105 action:

106  
107 **MOVED by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Watson to approve of the use of the CARES**  
108 **money as proposed by the departments excluding the storage facility for the**  
109 **Emergency Operations Center. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

110  
111 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to allocate \$30k for qualified CARES**  
112 **spending and authorize Mark Tompkins (Director Health & Community Services) to**  
113 **utilize that funding to satisfy funding requests from the three island food banks. ALL**  
114 **AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

115  
116 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to amend the existing contract with**  
117 **the Economic Development Council to broaden the qualifications for applicants to more**  
118 **fully relinquish funds within the parameters of the CARES funding for business support.**  
119 **ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

120  
121 **10:40 AM     DISCUSSION/ACTION:** To approve the filling of an Equipment Operator/Laborer  
122 vacancy on the Lopez Road Crew and a Mechanic position in ER&R – Colin  
123 Huntmer, County Engineer; Van Every, ER&R Manager

124  
125 After discussion, the Council took the following actions:

126  
127 **MOVED by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Watson to approve the Public Works request**  
128 **to fill a current vacancy for an Equipment Operator/Laborer on the Lopez Road Crew as**  
129 **shown. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

130  
131 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to approve the replacement hire for**  
132 **the San Juan Island mechanic in the ER&R maintenance shop. ALL AYES; MOTION**  
133 **CARRIED.**

134  
135 **10:50 AM     DISCUSSION:** 2021 Budget Discussion – Council; Milene Henley, Auditor; Mike  
136 Thomas, County Manager

137  
138 Ms. Henley and Mr. Thomas reported on the status of the 2021 Budget.

139  
140 **10:55 AM     DISCUSSION/ACTION:** To Approve Recommendations from the Housing  
141 Advisory Committee re 2020 Home Fund Applications – Ryan Page, Housing  
142 Program Coordinator

143  
144 Mr. Page presented the Recommendations and answered Council's questions. Mr. Hughes  
145 announced that he is on the Opportunity Council Board. After discussion, the Council took the  
146 following actions:

147 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to approve the \$151,000 rounded**  
148 **number allocation from the Home Fund to the Opportunity Council for the Harbor View**  
149 **Apartment maintenance project. VOTE: 2:0:1 (Hughes abstained); MOTION CARRIED.**  
150

151 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to approve the Housing Board**  
152 **recommendations for 2020 Awards and future commitments. ALL AYES; MOTION**  
153 **CARRIED**

154  
155 **11:55 AM RECESS**

156  
157 **01:00 PM DISCUSSION:** Fee Resolution; Vacation Rental Certificate of Compliance - Erika  
158 Shook, Director Community Development

159  
160 Ms. Shook presented the Resolution and answered Council's questions. The Resolution is  
161 scheduled for Council action on October 13.

162  
163 **01:15 PM DISCUSSION:** Non-Represented Wage Scale Proposal – Mike Thomas, County  
164 Manager; James Wolf, Human Resource Manager

165  
166 Mr. Wolf presented the Proposal and answered Council's questions.

167  
168 **01:30 PM DISCUSSION:** Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) 2021 - Mike Thomas, County  
169 Manager; James Wolf, Human Resource Manager

170  
171 Mr. Thomas presented the Adjustment and answered Council's questions.

172  
173 **01:35 PM DISCUSSION:** Resolution re: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion – Council

174  
175 Council discussed the proposed Resolution. After discussion, the Council took the following  
176 action:

177  
178 **MOVED by Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Watson to approve a San Juan County**  
179 **Resolution Affirming Commitment to a Safe and Inclusive Community**  
180 **as revised for September 29, 2020 and presented as a revised copy in today's meeting.**  
181 **ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED**

182  
183 **01:55 PM DISCUSSION/ACTION:** Schedule Public Hearing on Shoreline Master  
184 Program Ordinance for Tuesday, October 27 at 9:15: AM - Erika Shook,  
185 Director Community Development

186  
187 After brief discussion, the Council took the following action:

188  
189 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to schedule a public hearing on the**  
190 **Shoreline Master Program Ordinance for Tuesday, October 27 at 9:15: AM. ALL AYES;**  
191 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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195 **02:00 PM COUNCIL MEMBER & COUNTY MANAGER UPDATES:**

196  
197 **Mr. Stephens:** sitting in on an oil response briefing with the Department of Ecology; reported  
198 that the Ecosystem Coordination Board is making an effort to streamline state regulations  
199 regarding the Growth Management Act and the Shoreline Master Program.

200  
201 **Mr. Hughes:** reported on the status of ferry service.

202  
203 **Mr. Thomas:** reported on the status of the 2021 Budget and reduction of working hours for  
204 American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employee (AFSCME) Local 1849.

205  
206 **Mr. Watson:** presented recent information on the coronavirus vaccine development.

207  
208 **Ms. Gabriel:** Advisory Committee Appointments/ Reappointments

209  
210 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to appoint Annie McIntyre to the**  
211 **Agricultural Resources Committee position #6. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

212  
213 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to reappoint Winnie Adams, David**  
214 **Kane and Meike Meissner to the Agricultural Resources Committee ALL AYES; MOTION**  
215 **CARRIED.**

216  
217 **MOVED by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Stephens to appoint Laura Rensberry to the**  
218 **Noxious Weed Board for Area #1 West Orcas. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

219  
220 **MOVED by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Stephens to Appoint Nicholas Knoellinger to**  
221 **the Planning Commission Orcas Island Position #7. ALL AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

222  
223 **02:15 PM CLOSED SESSION & EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

224  
225 At 2:15, Mr. Hughes announced that the Council would be holding an Executive Session to  
226 discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and  
227 a Closed Session to discuss matters pertaining to collective bargaining pursuant to RCW  
228 42.30.140(4)(b) estimated to last approximately 50 minutes in total followed by adjournment.

229  
230 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

231  
232 Present (via videoconference): Council, Prosecuting Attorney Jon Cain, and County Manager  
233 Mike Thomas.

234  
235 **CLOSED SESSION:**

236  
237 Present (via videoconference): Council, Human Resource Manager James Wolf and County  
238 Manager Mike Thomas.

239  
240 The sessions ended at 3:25 PM for a total executive session time of 70 minutes.

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242 **No action was taken.**

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**03:25 PM      ADJOURNED**

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**COUNTY COUNCIL  
SAN JUAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**These Minutes were approved and signed on October 13, 2020. The original document is retained in the Council's permanent proceedings file. Attest: Ingrid R. Gabriel, Council Clerk.**