

**SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES
SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJC), WASHINGTON
COUNTY COUNCIL
April 16 and 17, 2007**

Monday, April 16, 2007 – Orcas Island Senior Center, Eastsound

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Myhr called the special meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Council members Ranker, Peterson, Rosenfeld, Knapp, and Lichter; County Administrator, Pete Rose; Prosecuting Attorney, Randall Gaylord; Clerk to the Council, Carolyn Morrison; Deputy Clerk, Lisa Brown; and interested members of the public were present.

PUBLIC MEETINGS/WORK SESSIONS

10:00 a.m. – The Council held a Staff Meeting and a general work session to discuss County business. No action was taken. A lunch break was taken at 11:15 a.m.

12:15 p.m. – (Due to the set-up time required, this hearing began at 12:15 p.m.) A continued Public Hearing for deliberations only was held to consider the Rosario Resort Master Plan and Map Redesignations from April 10, 2007. Present: Randall Gaylord, Prosecuting Attorney; Ron Henrickson, Community Development and Planning Department (CDPD) Director; Shireene Hale, CDPD Senior Planner; Donovan Kehrer, SJC Land-Use Consultant; Mike Usen and Laurie Cameron, agents for the applicants; Roger Pearce, legal counsel for the applicant; and interested members of the public. Mr. Myhr welcomed all present, introduced the Council and staff, and made a statement for the record. Because he had been absent for the first two hearings, he had been provided with the audio of those hearings which he had listened to, and had been provided with copies of all written material, which he had read. He announced he would be participating in this decision regarding consideration of the proposed plan if there were no objections. There were no objections from any person present. At that time, Ms. Hale, Mr. Gaylord and Mr. Kehrer referred to new written material provided to the Council to answer questions posed at the last hearing and answered specific questions as each item was addressed. Ms. Hale presented a synopsis of the material for the Council and audience. Mr. Usen also addressed questions which had previously been asked of the applicant. Mr. Gaylord explained that the Council could address each portion of the proposal and made individual motions on specific items to assist in moving forward. He also explained that individual conditions of approval could have specific language omitting parts of the proposal or adding new conditions. The Council addressed several issues before actually beginning their deliberations. Mr. Gaylord and staff members attempted to address the details of each issue, alternative solutions, and to explain current applicable regulations. The Council acknowledged that they had read and listened to all testimony from the public. Deliberations then began. During this phase of the hearing, the Council discussed individual sections of the proposed Plan. Each Council Member expressed his opinion of the plan and any concerns with it. The Council reserved the right to ask questions of Counsel when necessary. Various actions were taken as follows:

Mr. Knapp – Regarding the renovations and improvement to the existing mansion: The Council wants language in the approval that deals with this issue. The Council was in agreement by consensus.

Mr. Knapp – Regarding the reference to the helipad: The Council wants this language specified in the Plan with regard to the emergency area for take-off and landing. The Council was in agreement by consensus.

Mr. Knapp – Regarding road expansion as a responsibility of the Rosario Resort as identified in the FEIS and EIS: The Council wants language addressing this issue to be a condition of approval. Additionally, the Council is requesting the Prosecuting Attorney to “nail down” all Resort obligations as tightly as possible in documents. The Council was in agreement by consensus.

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Knapp, to accept all the SJC Planning Commission recommendations as listed in the documents provided. Motion carried.

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Rosenfeld, to accept the new Section 5.8 from the Staff Report from CDPD dated April 10, 2007, regarding fire protection. Motion carried.

The Council wanted to confirm, as a condition, that Rosario abide by the language of the final EIS (referencing Page 6 and Page 40 in particular).

The Council again wanted a solution to guarantee mansion restoration; a way to preserve public access and shoreline access; to have language to address the description of helicopter landing areas for emergency purposes; and, to have the Prosecuting Attorney and Planning Department determine all of Rosario's obligations as discussed.

Moved by Knapp, seconded by Ranker, that as a condition of approval, Rosario Resort acknowledges the language of the Long Plat regarding Rosario to Olga Road. Motion carried.

Moved by Knapp, seconded by Ranker, to have a method to guarantee mansion renovation; and, staff is to work with the applicant to develop a method of mansion renovation. Under discussion, Mr. Lichter requested that this be legally binding. Mr. Gaylord stated that this can be part of the plan or in a separate agreement and that language would be brought back to the Council. Motion carried.

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Knapp, that staff come back with language to address rehabilitation of the shoreline, public access to the shoreline, and other public access as discussed. Motion carried.

Moved by Knapp, seconded by Ranker, to direct staff to confirm and define public access to the mansion. Motion carried.

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Rosenfeld, that the WA State Parks letter of recommendations as identified in the record by Ms. Hale which outlines an agreement, and the new map and site plan presented, be included in the paperwork to be brought back. Motion carried.

Moved by Knapp, seconded by Rosenfeld, that there be a designated landing zone for the helicopter as per the Fire Chief's recommendations. Motion carried.

A motion was posed by Mr. Knapp and withdrawn related to the marina portion of the plan. It was the consensus of the Council after hearing language already approved in the Planning Commission recommendations that this language is accepted without a formal motion.

Moved by Knapp, seconded by Ranker, that all the Rosario Resort obligations be clearly spelled out. Under discussion, Mr. Gaylord stated the there would be careful review to be certain that they were enforceable in conformity with the language in the existing Long Plat. Motion carried.

Another Motion was offered by Mr. Lichter, seconded by Mr. Rosenfeld for discussion purposes only, which failed regarding establishing penalties/compensation for code enforcement. All Councilmen were opposed except for Mr. Lichter.

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Rosenfeld, to direct staff to work with the Prosecuting Attorney and applicant to develop a recommendation on how to do development (units) within the shoreline. Motion carried with Knapp and Peterson opposed.

Another motion was offered by Mr. Myhr regarding employee housing, which was withdrawn. This issue was then discussed further.

Moved by Myhr, seconded by Ranker, to have specific mention of the use of the hilltop housing in the Rosario Resort Master Plan as discussed. Motion carried.

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Lichter, to continue the hearing for additional deliberations to 10:00 a.m., Monday, May 7, 2007 in Friday Harbor. Motion carried.

RECESS - At 3:12 p.m., Council Chair Myhr recessed the meeting until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 17, 2007.

Tuesday, April 17, 2007 - Council Hearing Room
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CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Myhr called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Council members Ranker, Peterson, Rosenfeld, Knapp, and Lichter; County Administrator (CA), Pete Rose; Prosecuting Attorney (PA), Randall Gaylord; Clerk to the Council, Carolyn Morrison; Deputy Clerk, Lisa Brown; Deputy PA, Charlie Silverman; Deputy PA, Karen Vedder; and interested members of the public were present. The flag salute was conducted.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Moved by Lichter, seconded by Rosenfeld to excuse **Councilman Ranker** at 3:30 p.m. The motion passed with Councilmember Myhr abstaining.

CITIZEN ACCESS TIME

No matters were brought before the Council

ANNOUNCEMENTS/SCHEDULE CHANGES

The posted Council Session Agenda and Discussion/Other Action Agenda were revised.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Lichter, seconded by Rosenfeld, to approve the minutes of **April 9 and 10, 2007**. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Lichter, seconded by Ranker, to approve the Final Consent Agenda of **April 17, 2007** as follows:

A. Resolutions/Ordinances:

1. Resolution 10-2007 - Adopt the resolution affirming the motion passed by the County Council on April 10, 2007, accepting the bid to supply 3/8-inch chiprock and 1/4-inch choke stone at a total price of \$72,688.00 or \$22.00 per ton including delivery as shown on Attachment "A," submitted by Glacier Norwest of DuPont, Washington, as the most responsive bid submitted; and, authorizing the County Administrator to sign the contracts necessary to affect the delivery of said rock to facilitate the timely road-sealing projects for San Juan County, pursuant to the bid opening held on April 10, 2007.

B. Contracts/Agreements:

1. Agreement 07HC27 – Sign the Interlocal Agreement between SJC and Whatcom County to provide detoxification services for citizens in need of said services, under the terms and conditions as outlined therein, between January 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009, in the total amount of \$41,265 funded through the WA State Department of Social and Health Services Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse through a biennial agreement (grant), which has been included in the adopted 2007 SJC budget.

2. Agreement 07HC28 – Sign the Interlocal Agreement between SJC and North Sound Mental Health Administration [#NSMHA-SANJUAN-ADMIN-07] pursuant to RCW71.24, for specific mental health services as required by SJC, between January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007, in an amount limited to \$52,040 as adopted in the 2007 SJC budget, under the terms and conditions as outlined therein.

C. Correspondence:

1. Sign the letters to Tom Cowan, Jonathan White, Sam Buck, Ron Zee, Patty Miller, Peter Kilpatrick, Lincoln Bormann, Lynn Bahrych, Liz Illg, Nick Jones, Kit Rawson, Lisa Byers, Jeri Ahrenius and Steve Simpson of the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative confirming their appointments on March 13, 2007 and April 10, 2007.

2. Sign the letter to Jay Manning, Director of the Department of Ecology (DOE), requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.

3. Sign the letter to Evelyn Jefferson, Chairwoman of the Lummi Nation, requesting that she, or a member of her staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.

4. Sign the letter to Stanley G. Jones Sr., Chairman of the Tulalip Tribes of Washington, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.

5. Sign the letter to Ken Berg, Manager of United States (US) Fish and Wildlife, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.
6. Sign the letter to Colonel Michael McCormick, Commander of the US Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.
7. Sign the letter to Jeff Koenings, Director of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.
8. Sign the letter to David Weekes, WA State Director of The Nature Conservancy, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.
9. Sign the letter to Roger Hoesterey, Regional Director of Trust for Public Lands, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.
10. Sign the letter to Doug Sutherland, Commissioner of Public Lands, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.
11. Sign the letter to Bob Lohn, Regional Administrator of NOAA Fisheries, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.
12. Sign the letter to Brian Cladoosby, Chairman of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, requesting that he, or a member of his staff, participate on the Policy Leadership Group of the San Juan Initiative.

Motion carried.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

ORD. NO. 6-2007 - (Refer to PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS, 11:00 a.m., Item 1, for details of action taken.)

ORD. NO. 7-2007 - (Refer to PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS, 3:30 p.m., for details of action taken.)

RES. NO. 11-2007 - (Refer to PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS, 11:55 a.m., for details of action taken.)

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:

Contract No. 07CO01 – Collective Bargaining Agreement Sheriff’s Guild (Refer to PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS, 11:55 a.m., for details of action taken.)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:

1. Discussion of Potential Amendments to Existing Cellular Tower Regulations – Present: Prosecuting Attorney, Randall Gaylord; and interested citizens. Council Chair Myhr opened discussion on this matter by referencing the existing regulations which were adopted by the former Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Mr. Ranker stated that existing Ordinance 8-1997 was restrictive and needed revision. Mr. Gaylord then provided background information on the history of the process in SJC. He explained that state and federal regulating agencies assigned communities to set up stringent regulations for their areas to address health effects and aesthetics, under which direction SJC adopted an overlay plan to the land use regulations (SJC code CH 16), which has remained unchanged since its inception. The ordinance provides for a priority of preferred sites for cellular towers in the County, beginning with Mt. Constitution and graduating down to water towers and existing utility buildings, which was to discourage new free-standing structures with multiple carriers all insisting on their own towers. Additionally, COBS Protocol was incorporated into the regulations to address public concerns. This is a method of measuring electromagnetic fields. Mr. Ranker pointed out that there are fewer major carriers to consider at this time and understands the preference related to urban versus rural locations. Mr. Peterson commented on more recent requests by various County staff who work with health and other emergency agencies, and the inability to communicate during the snowstorms experienced this past winter when the tower on Mt. Constitution went down. Mr. Rosenfeld added that boaters sometimes see suspicious activities on the Westside of San Juan Island, which is an international border, but are unable to report them due to lack of cellular reception.

By consensus, the Council was in agreement that better signals are imperative and expressed interest in investigating potential amendments to the ordinance. Mr. Peterson noted that a modification was proposed by Mr. Roger Crosby in 2005, using OPALCO power poles, and was dropped. Clerk Morrison clarified that the former BOCC had held two work sessions to discuss the matter and had stated that a letter of intent from cellular phone carriers was required before proceeding further with amendments to the ordinance. No letters were ever received. Mr. Rose noted that he had held a prior conversation with a cellular provider and Mr. Crosby, and that no letter of intent had been received resulting from that conversation. Mr. Ranker stated that if carriers are not interested, the County would not take the position of paying to install towers. Mr. Lichter suggested the Council consider that

improved cell coverage on San Juan Island is necessary. **After discussion, it was agreed by consensus that Chair Myhr direct Mr. Rose to meet with the Sheriff, Public Works, and the Emergency Manager, to provide information on how to proceed appropriately with a revision to Ordinance 8-1997.**

2. Motion to Accept a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Council Web Site - Chair Myhr reviewed the proposals submitted. After discussion the following action was taken: **Moved by Lichter, seconded by Peterson, to accept the proposal of Tif & Gif Creative, LLC, and authorize Councilman Ranker and Council Clerk Morrison to work with Tif & Gif Creative, LLC, and the Administrator and County IT Manager, to develop an exact scope of work and a Professional Services Contract to be authorized by the County Council. Motion carried.**

3. Direction to the Marine Resources Committee (MRC) Regarding Orca Whale Protection - Present: Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys, Karen Vedder and Charles Silverman; and interested members of the public. Chair Myhr referenced an upcoming NOAA hearing on this matter and the scheduled MRC meeting on April 18, 2007, noting the stated desire of the MRC to present the proposed whale protection ordinance, which includes regulatory measures, and was drafted by The Friends of the San Juan Islands. Mr. Ranker suggested that the MRC evaluate and research this matter, adding that the Council will not only be looking at regulations. He stated that although the Council feels this is an important issue, it will not endorse an ordinance at this time without a legal recommendation from the Prosecuting Attorney regarding related issues. He continued by stating that the Council would like an evaluation of the “big picture” from the MRC and what opportunities might exist for the County. Mr. Rose stated that the ultimate decision rests with Council to determine if the policy should contain enforceable law; or, to decide to respect the issue and operate under a voluntary program. Mr. Ranker pointed out that the MRC is an advisory body to the Council and that the Council is interested in seeking guidance from them regarding this issue. Ms. Vedder referenced an e-mail, which she was copied on, which asked if the MRC should consider the copy of the ordinance they had received. Mr. Ranker re-explained that the Council would like this topic to be a ‘placeholder’ on the MRC agenda, recognizing the importance of the issue, and, at the same time continuing to seek other options should the Council determine it cannot enact regulations. Mr. Lichter pointed out that certain provisions in the draft ordinance do not apply to regulatory vessels. Mr. Ranker explained that most violations against whales are not done by regulatory and research vessels and that referenced sonar testing had only taken place twice in SJC waters. NOAA vessels are allowed close proximity to the whales. Mr. Silverman pointed out that getting caught up with what is included in this proposed document is taking the Council off task, and that the MRC should simply do what Mr. Ranker suggested. **In summary, it was agreed by consensus that the Council will do nothing with the proposed ordinance until further guidance is received from the Prosecuting Attorney, who was asked to pursue the matter further with the advice of the MRC by corresponding with the MRC Chair, Kit Rawson; and, that the MRC understand they are not to focus on the regulatory piece, but to provide an evaluation of all the opportunities that may exist for SJC.** Mr. Myhr asked Mr. Ranker to act as the lead and communicate this action with the MRC prior to the NOAA meeting.

4. Road Shoulders (Continuation of an April 10, 2007 preliminary discussion) – Present: Mr. Rose and interested citizens. Mr. Rosenfeld pointed out that SJC’s Scenic Roads Manual and the Non-motorized Transportation Plan are in conflict with each other on the issue of road shoulders. He suggested taking action to amend the Scenic Roads Manual to allow shoulders. Mr. Rosenfeld stated that while it would not be realistic to direct the Public Works to put three foot shoulders on existing roads, it would be a policy decision to have the conflict resolved so that, as road work was required, the shoulder widening could be implemented. A discussion regarding implementation and cost of this suggestion ensued. It was agreed to have the County Engineer (CE), John VanLund, present for the scheduled presentation of the “Trails” committees scheduled for April 24, 2007, to discuss the possibility of bike paths apart from roads. Mr. Myhr and Mr. Ranker agreed that it would be nice to have a separate network of trails. **The Council asked Mr. Rose to discuss the conflict in the two documents with Mr. VanLund and to have a written legal opinion on the existing RCW, and to attend the Trails presentation on April 24, 2007.** Mr. Rose agreed that it would be important to have Mr. VanLund available to participate in the discussion and at least provide oral responses to the Council’s questions.

5. Travel Incentives for Authorized Out of County Travel for Council Members (Continuation of an April 10, 2007 preliminary discussion.) Mr. Ranker began by stating he would like to establish an incentive to encourage travel for lesser-paid council members, recognizing the importance of having a presence in Olympia when important decisions affecting SJC are being made, and, the value of participating in lobbying and other efforts surrounding legislative issues. A discussion ensued regarding limitations of additional pay due to the decisions of the Salary Commission; the possibility of hiring a lobbyist; or, not having any presence in Olympia like Whatcom County. The latter was decided not to be good practice, and a hired lobbyist might satisfy 50-60 percent of the needs of the County. Also, some legislative hearings boards allow only elected officials to attend. Mr. Rosenfeld stressed the importance of other Council members, in addition to Mr. Ranker, establishing relationships with our senators and representatives. He said he would feel more inclined to do so if there was a financial incentive offered, since his business would likely suffer due to his absence. Mr. Ranker stated he enjoys this part of the job,

that the relationships are critical, and that he would like to continue representing SJC in Olympia. Mr. Lichter suggested an additional idea of using college graduate students, who are pursuing political science majors, doing summer internships with the Council. Mr. Myhr said it may be time to start thinking about the short session next year and identifying our priorities and how the Council plans to address them. Mr. Rosenfeld said it is imperative to have a mechanism in place for the future to encourage whoever is sitting in the Council seats to go to Olympia. Mr. Myhr said this would be coming back for further discussion and encouraged Mr. Rose to share any ideas he may have.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS

11:00 a.m. – (Commenced at 11:05 due to time constraints.) County Administrator Council Briefing. Also present: Randall Gaylord, Prosecuting Attorney; Ron Henrickson, Community Development and Planning Department (CDPD) Director; Pamela Morais, SJC Human Resources Manager; and interested members of the community.

1. Extension of the Deer Harbor Moratorium – Mr. Rose referenced the Staff Report received April 12, 2007, explaining that the remaining Planning Commission public process necessary to complete the Deer Harbor Hamlet Plan could not take place without the existing Deer Harbor moratorium lapsing. Mr. Henrickson concurred, stating that although he is not normally in favor of moratoriums, he feels that it is justified in this instance and recommended a 60-day extension from May 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007, but said the plan would likely be final and before the Council during the May 14, 2007 scheduled session. Mr. Knapp asked for Mr. Gaylord's opinion. Mr. Gaylord voiced his support, stating it is a lawful extension of the moratorium, also noting that these serial extensions can add up over time and create hardships for landowners. However he maintained this 60-day extension was appropriate, and could be repealed within that time period should the Plan be adopted. The following action was taken:

Moved by Lichter, and seconded by Peterson, to adopt **Ordinance 6-2007**, an ordinance to extend the existing moratorium for Deer Harbor Hamlet Area and suspend the acceptance of applications for building and land use permits in the Deer Harbor Activity Center and make findings of fact in support thereof. Under discussion Mr. Ranker stressed that the plan needs to be resolved inside the 60 days. He added that the Council would be hard-pressed to consider any more extensions, and that the County needs to do whatever it takes to get this settled for this community. Motion carried.

2. Overview of Upcoming Affordable Housing Summit - Mr. Rose gave a verbal overview of the Community Land Trust Alliance/Affordable Housing Summit scheduled for May 4, 2007, at the UW Friday Harbor Laboratories at 8:30 a.m. The Housing Bank Commission and other organizations are involved with this program. **The Council agreed by consensus to co-sponsor the event.** Ms. Morais will be present to facilitate large and small group discussions.

11:55 a.m. – A ceremony was held for the signing of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Sheriff's Guild and SJC; and adoption of a resolution authorizing the establishment of a Health Reimbursement Arrangement/ Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association Plan. Present: SJC Human Resources Manager, Pamela Morais; SJC Sheriff, Bill Cumming; representatives of the Sheriff's Guild; and interested members of the Staff and public. The following actions were taken:

Moved by Knapp, seconded by Ranker, to sign the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Sheriff's Guild and San Juan County, under the terms and conditions as set forth therein. Motion carried.

Moved by Rosenfeld, seconded by Lichter, to adopt **Resolution 11- 2007**, authorizing the establishment of a Health Reimbursement Arrangement/Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association plan, as set forth therein. Motion carried.

1:30 p.m. – (Commenced at 1:37 p.m. due to time constraints.) A public hearing was held to consider an application to revise an Open-Open Space classification to reduce the size of the existing property to 20 acres, for James W. And Lisa N. Lawrence, San Juan Island, File No. 05OS003. Present: Lee McEnery, Community Development and Planning Department (CDPD) Associate Planner; and interested members of the public. Ms. McEnery presented the Staff Report dated March 6, 2007 and answered questions of the Council. Public testimony was opened, none submitted, and closed. Deliberations were held, and the following action was taken:

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Knapp, to approve the application for a revision to the Open-Open Space classification for James W. And Lisa N. Lawrence, San Juan Island, File No. 05OS003, based upon the recommendation of staff and the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

2:00 p.m. - A public hearing was held to consider a Timber Open Space (TOS) application for Kevin and Carol McCoy to convert 19.48 acres of land plus one acre for residence from Designated Forest Land to TOS, Orcas Island, File No. 04TOS015. Present: Lee McEnery, Community Development and Planning Department (CDPD) Associate Planner; and interested members of the public. Ms. McEnery presented the Staff Report dated March 27, 2007 and answered questions of the Council. Public testimony was opened, none submitted, and closed. Deliberations were held and the following action was taken:

Moved by Ranker, seconded by Rosenfeld, to approve the TOS application for Kevin and Carol McCoy to convert 19.48 acres of land plus one acre for residence from Designated Forest Land to TOS, Orcas Island, File No. 04TOS015, with the following conditions: That the Forest management plan be adhered to in its entirety; and, that the TOS agreement shall include a statement confirming that the owner and its successors in interest will comply with critical area protection requirements in effect at the time that Forest Practices Permit applications are prepared to conduct timber-stand management actions. Motion carried.

2:15 p.m. - A public meeting was held with the WSU SJC Extension Agent for a briefing on Department updates and agriculture policy information.: Present: WSU Extension Agent, Tom Schultz; Northwest WSU Extension District Director, Jim Kropf; SJC Agricultural Resources Committee (ARC) Chair, Mr. Zee; ARC Coordinator, Eliza Buck; and interested members of the public. Mr. Schultz introduced Mr. Kropf and distributed a hand-out of his Power Point presentation. He reported on staffing challenges relative to the volume and scope of work; he reported on his department's funding, stating that some is provided through grants and donations, and explained the various 4H programs and activities the SJC extension office is involved in, including their relationships and connections state- and nation-wide. Mr. Schultz spoke of the local educational efforts and community benefits resulting from their work in forestry, agriculture, and the coordination of activities at the County Fair. The programs in SJC are most similar to those in Puyallup and Mt. Vernon. SJC has the only mobile slaughter unit, which has national recognition. The Council asked several questions of Mr. Schultz and Mr. Kropf, and Chair Myhr thanked them for the comprehensive report.

Chair Myhr then invited Mr. Zee and Ms. Buck to come forward. Mr. Zee distributed the 2008 proposed budget ARC and also announced that the ARC had two vacancies. He explained that the committee was formed for the revitalization of organic farming in our county. Since the inception of the ARC in 2005, the farmers markets have grown considerably. He reported that the markets are seeking year-round, covered facilities for the farmers markets. Mr. Zee stated that food security is important and hopes to coordinate with other groups in other areas to make farming here more sustainable. He added that one of the important issues they face is current funding for staffing. Mr. Zee reported that the Dog Ordinance signs are also awaiting a funding source. He spoke of Mr. Schultz's recommendation regarding preferential ferry loading being denied by the Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC). Mr. Ranker replied that the Council should revisit the discussion. Mr. Zee reported that the close working relationship between the ARC and the WSU extension office is going very well in this exciting time for agriculture. Topics regarding SJC Land Bank easements, the seed-crop property purchased off Roche Harbor Road, finding farmers to farm the land, and housing for the farmers were also discussed. Mr. Schultz responded to Mr. Rosenfeld's question regarding the decline in bee population, stating that the parasite mites are responsible. Mr. Lichter asked Ms. Buck to describe her role with the ARC. Ms. Buck reported that in her role as the Administrative Assistant to the advisory group, she provides communications, develops work plans and operations, manages the website, and responds to and assists with implementation of actions taken by the Committee. She invited the Council to their meeting on May 22nd at "Steps" from 2 to 4 p.m., during which the ARC will be discussing issues relating to agriculture in SJC. Mr. Ranker stated that he, as liaison to this committee, would be there and encouraged fellow Council members to attend. Chair Myhr thanked Mr. Zee, Ms. Buck, Mr. Schultz, and Mr. Kropf for the presentation.

3:30 p.m. - A public hearing was held to consider an Ordinance canceling 2006 and prior year's warrants. Present : Pete Rose, County Administrator; and interested members of the public. Mr. Rose explained the procedure required and answered the questions of the Council. Public testimony was opened, submitted, and closed and the following action was taken:

Moved by Lichter, seconded by Rosenfeld, to adopt **Ordinance 7-2007**, an ordinance canceling 2006 and prior year's warrants, as set forth therein. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSIONS

3:35 p.m. – (Because of available time it was announced in advance that the closed session would begin at 11:28 a.m.) At 11:28 a.m., Council Chair Myhr announced that the Council would be holding a **closed session** estimated to last approximately 30 minutes, to discuss a matter of labor negotiations, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 42.30.140(4) (a) The session ended at 11:55 a.m. for an actual session time of 27 minutes. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT - Moved by Lichter, seconded by Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 p.m. Motion carried. A special meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 23, 2007, and the next regular meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, April 24, 2007.

These minutes were approved and signed on April 24, 2007. The original document is retained in the Council's permanent proceedings folder dated April 16 and 17, 2007. Attest: Carolyn K. Morrison, Clerk.