

**MEETING MINUTES
SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJC), WASHINGTON
COUNTY COUNCIL
March 1, 2010**

Monday, March 1, 2010 – Friday Harbor Labs, Conference Room, Friday Harbor, WA

9:15 AM CALL TO ORDER – COUNCIL RETREAT (Special Meeting)

Richard Fralick, Chair, called meeting to order. Also present were Council members Lovel Pratt, Rich Peterson, Howie Rosenfeld, Bob Myhr, and Gene Knapp; Pete Rose, County Administrator; Ingrid Gabriel, Council Clerk.

Mr. Fralick introduced the purpose of the retreat and made a recap of the Council accomplishments and successes in 2009.

9:35 AM

Pete Rose, County Administrator, addressed the Council adding further accomplishments.

10:07 AM

Council members detailed their individual priorities and concerns:

Mr. Peterson:

- Budget sustainability
- CAO complete in sensible manner
- Wireless Communication
- Committee role clarification

Mr. Rosenfeld:

Concerns:

- Solid Waste Fees structure
- Crisis driven decision-making
- Responding to anti-government viewpoints

Priorities:

- Enhanced Orca Protection for the summer of 2010
- Budget Sustainability
- Ferry Service

Mr. Myhr:

Priorities:

- Lopez Village Subarea Plan
- Open Space/Ag Conservation/Public Benefits rating

Long term Planning
Code Enforcement Ordinance
Budget sustainability
Solid Waste Fees
Critical Area Ordinance – Shoreline Master Plan

Mr. Knapp:

Critical Area Ordinance (CAO)
Sustainable balanced budget
Good relationship with Charter Review Committee

Ms. Pratt:

Specific Priorities for District 1:
Cattle Point Road Relocation
Protection and Restoration of Beaverton Valley Marsh

Top 3 SJC Priorities
CAO Update (for both the uplands and the shoreline)
Comprehensive Open Space Programs Audit and Redistribution of
Property Taxes
Implementation of the Affordable Housing Action Plan

Mr. Fralick: defined success as having fun while staying focused on priorities.

Budget sustainability – follow through on reserve policy
CAO Update – applying uplands as a template for shoreline
Solid Waste Funding
Communication: to public, interisland communication and wireless broadband

1:20 PM

Council returned to meeting from lunch recess.

COUNCIL'S TOP THREE 2010 PRIORITIES:

CAO Update: Three “hot-button” areas were identified as 1) geological hazardous areas 2) frequently flooded areas and 3) wetlands. Ms. Pratt suggested that the Council hold specific workshops to address the specific areas. Mr. Fralick said that Eric Stockdale of the Department of Ecology (DOE) offered to assist in the workshops.

A question was raised concerning joint Planning Commission/ County Council Hearings, and if the Planning Commission is part of the required process. The question will be directed to the prosecuting attorney (PA).

Additional suggestions were:

PA white papers; showcase properties
Developing a resource chart
Developing a milestone chart
Deciding on additional local science

Budget Sustainability:

Council agreed that the budget sustainability process would be directed by the Budget Subcommittee and include the County Administrator and Auditor. The process will address:

- 1) The 2010 budget shortfall
- 2) A Long-range sustainable budget that includes capital and operating
- 3) A Milestone Chart (2011 budget; long-range plan)

Sustainable Solid Waste Funding:

2:50 PM ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Advisory Committee Clarification and Guidance led by the Government Subcommittee
 - Training materials handout
 - Questionnaire: What is your mission? What are you working on?
 - County Council evaluation of clarification/guidance needs
2. Comprehensive Open Space Programs Audit and Redistribution of Property Taxes, including a revised public benefit rating system that would provide for properties currently in Timber Open Space and Designated Forest Land programs.
3. Wireless Communication
4. Council needs to pass a Resolution to put election of freeholders on the ballot as filing for the November election is the 1st week of June.

NUTS & BOLTS:

1. What comprises good staff reports and developing checklists for staff:
 - Should include the legal basis
 - Written reports and verbal reports need to be consistent with one another
 - Extensive/complex reports need more of an introductory lead time for Council
 - The report should include a range of options
 - Staff needs to take the time to educate both the Council and the Public and provide history and context of the issue(s) at hand
 - Report should provide synopsis (executive summary) followed by the body of work
2. Balancing public access and completing agenda suggestions:
 - Always institute a time limit on public access and adjust time from meeting to meeting
 - Add to the rules for public comment that remind the speaker to “address the Council”

3. We are in the process of finalizing agendas at Thursday staff meetings 11 days prior the meeting. Ideally, materials for Tuesday binders will be available by the previous Tuesday.
4. The Clerk was directed to keep the Council regularly informed on the available funds in the travel budget, so that the Council could be most effective in Olympia and elsewhere.
5. The question was raised if it would be more efficient to have the PA sign-off before public hearings are advertised. Additionally, no “second touch” with Council would be scheduled until an Ordinance went through legal review coming out of the Planning Commission. Additional questions considered were if it is possible to predict which hearings will require continued public hearings? It was agreed that public hearings would be confined to the morning agenda allowing time for completion.
6. Council agreed that neither votes nor motions will appear on-line in the synchronized AVCA agendas. Council motions and votes will be reflected in the approved minutes only.

4:15 PM

Mr. Fralick adjourned the meeting.

**COUNTY COUNCIL
SAN JUAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

These Minutes were approved and signed on March 9, 2010. The original document is retained in the Council’s permanent proceedings file. Attest: Ingrid Gabriel, Council Clerk.