

**MINUTES OF THE
NORTHWEST REGIONAL COUNCIL**

April 18, 2019

Skagit County Commissioners Hearing Room, Mount Vernon

COUNCIL: Island County Commissioners, Helen Price Johnson and Jill Johnson;
San Juan County Councilmembers, Jamie Stephens and Rick Hughes;
Skagit County Commissioners, Lisa Janicki and Ron Wesen; Whatcom
County Councilmember, Carol Frazey

STAFF: Aly Horry, Amanda McDade, Cindy Madigan, Dan Murphy, Elizabeth
Anderson, Kristine Glasgow, Pat Elwell

PUBLIC: Barbara Pesola, NWSSB Chair

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda: Motion was made by Island County Commissioner Helen Price Johnson and seconded by San Juan County Councilmember Rick Hughes to approve the Consent Agenda (items a through e): Minutes of the December 6, 2018 Regular Meeting; November 2018 Voucher Listings Nos. 62901 through 63113 in the amount of \$1,423,970.87; December 2018 Voucher Listings Nos 63114 through 63425 in the amount of \$1,645,709.91; January 2019 Voucher Listings Nos 63426 through 63618 in the amount of \$1,196,412.68; February 2019 Voucher Listings Nos 63619 through 63836 in the amount of \$1,615,915.54; the January to December 2018 Budget to Actual Report and; Routine Contracts and Amendments. The Motion passed unanimously.

Regular Agenda

Legislative and Agency Updates – Dan Murphy, NWRC Executive Director, presented an agency update as well as a legislative update related to long term services and supports budget requests; Powerpoint presentation handouts were distributed. Discussion followed.

The Long-Term Care Trust Act, HB1087 was described, including how it would be funded, the approved services, the establishment of a Trust Commission, and whom it would help. Discussion followed. The importance of letting the public know that these funds are minimal in relation to actual total cost of long-term care insurance was noted.

2018 Annual Financial Audit - The Exit Interview is scheduled for Friday, April 26 at 1PM at the NWRC office in Bellingham. A call-in option will be available. There are no

findings. Several board members indicated they will be calling in and requested this activity be posted as a public meeting.

Use of Funding from Accountable Community of Health – The Executive Director requested to continue pursuing partnerships with local hospitals to establish care coordination when discharging seniors and people with disabilities into stable, community-based living situations. Discussion followed. Members expressed concern that this program assist the whole region.

Motion was made by San Juan County Councilmember Rick Hughes and seconded by Skagit County Commissioner Lisa Janicki that the Northwest Regional Council authorizes use of up to \$130,000 in resources from the North Sound Accountable Community of Health to develop partnerships with local hospitals to improve ability to discharge seniors and people with disabilities into stable, community-based living situations. The Motion carried unanimously.

Skagit County Commissioner Ron Wesen excused himself to attend to another matter.

Whatcom County Jail Health Bid – The history of NWRC's relationship with the Whatcom County Jail Health Clinic was described. The current contract runs through the end of 2019. The Executive Director requested to respond to the county's procurement process to continue to provide services for the period 2020 through 2024. Discussion followed.

Motion was made by Island County Commissioner Helen Price-Johnson and seconded by Skagit County Commissioner Lisa Janicki that the Northwest Regional Council authorizes staff to respond to the next Whatcom County's solicitation of proposals to provide health services in the Whatcom County jail. The Motion passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan Outline - The Executive Director reviewed the purpose of the four-year strategic plan, issue areas and provided the preliminary results from the Issue Area 4 – Transportation brainstorming process. Powerpoint presentation handouts and an updated "NWRC Strategic Plan 2020-2023 Issue Areas – Draft" were distributed. A lengthy discussion followed.

Motion was made by San Juan County Councilmember, Rick Hughes and seconded by Whatcom County Councilmember Carol Frazey that the Northwest Regional Council authorizes staff to proceed with development of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan, with focus on the following areas:

- 1. Building Long-Term Services and Supports to meet Complex Needs**
- 2. Providing Information and Access**
- 3. Supporting Family Caregivers and People Impacted by Dementia**
- 4. Transportation**
- 5. Coordination with Tribes**

The Motion passed unanimously.

The Executive Director distributed and reviewed “*NWRC 2017-2019 Funding Growth and Four-year Prognosis*” which included information on NWRC Senior Specific Funding. Discussion followed.

Other Issues

County Information Sharing – Board members shared highlights of activities of import occurring within their community.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Prepared and submitted by:

Patricia F. Elwell, HR/Office Manager