

**BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS  
BOARD TIME  
MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2015**

The Board of Councilors convened at 1300 Franklin St, Vancouver, Washington 98660, Conference Room B.

**Legislative Wrap-Up with Mike Burgess**

Mike Burgess, County Lobbyist provided an overview of the legislative session. He spoke about the conservation futures levy. Discussion ensued about funding for the railroad. He spoke about bills passing in relation to marijuana. Further discussion ensued about marijuana. Axel Swanson, Senior Policy Analyst joined the discussion. Discussion ensued about the transportation package. Mielke inquired about the gas tax. Burgess responded. Further discussion ensued.

**Approval of minutes for July 29, 2015**

**ACTION:** Moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** the minutes for July 29, 2015. Stewart seconded the motion. Councilors Madore, Stewart, and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

**Surplus Property**

Mielke stated they were currently looking at more property around Clark County.

**Hearing Minutes**

Madore presented and spoke about preparing minutes in action format in relation to Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) and Robert Rules. He presented a handout from [www.jurassicparliament.com](http://www.jurassicparliament.com). Stewart spoke in favor of the minutes as is. She spoke about her concerns with the consulting agencies. She spoke about the minutes being transparent and spoke about the various jurisdiction examples. She also spoke about the CVTV closed captioning. Mielke also spoke about transparency. Mielke also spoke about verbatim minutes and spoke about speech recognition software. Further discussion ensued. No action was taken.

**Charter Amendment: Property Tax limitation**

Madore proposed adopting a charter amendment once the new members are seated that would prevent the county from raising its property tax levy beyond 1 percent. He read the following amendment "Clark County Charter Amendment #1 – Total Clark County property tax levy increases, including banked capacity, excluding new construction and property improvements, shall not exceed 1% per year unless first authorized by a county-wide vote of the people." He stated this was in preparation for the action items of this coming year and gives the community the opportunity to learn how the Council candidates stand on the proposed amendment. Mielke stated he was in support of it. Further discussion ensued. Discussion ensued about the Charter amendment process and ordinance changes. Chris Cook, Prosecuting Attorney's Office joined the discussion. Further discussion ensued. Stewart stated she wasn't ready to move this onto the ballot at this time but wanted to state she was not in favor of any tax increases. Further discussion ensued. Madore spoke about living within their means and being financially sound. Further discussion ensued. Discussion ensued about County wide voting vs advisory voting. Madore inquired to the Board if they were for or against the amendment. Mielke stated he was for it and Stewart stated she wanted to do more research before answering the question. Further discussion ensued about banking capacity / authority and the Board asked legal staff to do more research. Cook responded.

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**Role of the Board Chair**

Mielke provided an overview of previous discussions and presented. Stewart inquired about the proposed chair's role versus what the current chair does. Cook responded. Further discussion ensued. Stewart stated her concerns. Mielke spoke about modifying the role and moving it forward. Stewart spoke about alternative 4 as an example. Further discussion ensued. Mielke spoke further about modifying the role. The item will be brought back next week.

**Review of Polluters Report**

Mielke spoke about the Clean Water Fee Study. He spoke about the Department of Ecology's report in relation to the Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) in general consumer products. He asked for Environmental Services to do more research. The Board asked for Mark McCauley to follow up.

BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS

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David Madore, Chair

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Jeanne E. Stewart, Councilor

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Tom Mielke, Councilor

ATTEST:

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Rebecca Tilton, Clerk of the Board

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