COUNTY COURTHOUSE 311 Grand Avenue, Suite #105 Bellingham, WA 98225-4038

(360) 778-5010



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

FROM: Cathy Halka, Legislative Analyst

RE: 2023 Contract for Hearing Examiner Services

DATE: September 29, 2023

Enclosed is a contract between Whatcom County and Whatcom Law Group for your review and signature.

Background and Purpose

Whatcom County contracted with Michael Bobbink for hearing examiner services for 2023 and 2024 (Contract #202209033), and he has unexpectedly passed away. His contract has been terminated. Rajeev Majumdar, Whatcom Law Group, has served as Hearing Examiner Pro Tem for Whatcom County for many years and will continue to provide hearing examiner services through the end of the 2023 year, at the same monthly rate as Contract #202209033.

Funding Amount and Source

A total of \$25,880.34 (paid monthly at \$8,626.78) for services through the end of this year is listed in the proposed contract. As of the date of this memo, there are 5 hearings and 1 pre-hearing conference anticipated through the end of the year. Funding is available in the County Council budget.

Differences from Previous Contract

The timeframe of the proposed contract is for three months, through December 31, 2023. A request for proposals (RFP) process for hearing examiner services is underway for services beginning on January 1, 2024.

Please contact Cathy Halka at ext. 5019, if you have any questions.

Encl.