



MEMORANDUM

TO: Jack Louws, County Executive
FROM: Cathy Halka, Legislative Analyst
RE: Contract for Hearing Examiner Services
DATE: November 1, 2019

Enclosed are two (2) originals of a professional services contract between Whatcom County and Michael Bobbink Land Use Services, Inc. for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

Michael Bobbink was the sole respondent to Whatcom County's Request for Proposals (RFP) for hearing examiner services. He has served as Whatcom County's hearing examiner for the last 24 years.

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

Funding for this contract is included in the Hearing Examiner's 2020 budget and additional funds are included in a 2020 supplemental budget request. Mr. Bobbink is asking for a 10% increase in compensation. Mr. Bobbink has not requested an increase in compensation for the last 5 years. The last increase in funding for this contract was issued in 2015 in the amount of a \$6,194, a 7.5% increase, bringing the total compensation to \$88,783.32. The requested 10% increase (\$8,878.33) is less than the 13% Cost of Living increases provided over the last 5 years to Whatcom County unrepresented employees, and the new compensation of \$97,661.65 is comparable to hearing examiners in other Washington counties.

▪ **Differences from Previous Contract**

The terms of the agreement are mostly the same as the previous contract with the exception of the expiration date and the 10% increase in the contract amount and minor changes.

Please contact Cathy Halka at extension 5019, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.

Encl.