



Snohomish County
Citizens' Commission on Salaries of Elected Officials
May 25, 2016

Commissioners present: Ed Triezenberg, Alzada Nye, Erica Temple, Steve Knox

Commissioners absent: Emily Guildner, Brandon Hall, David Fairchild, Christopher Stecher, Dakota Smith, Suzan Sturholm

Staff Present:

Marcia Isenberg, Deputy Executive
Andrea Skuja, Human Resources Operations Manager

Location: Executive's Office Conference Room, 6th Floor, Admin. West building, County Campus

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 6:08pm by Deputy Executive Marcia Isenberg.

Marcia welcomed everyone and thanked the Commission members for volunteering their time to be on the Commission. At this time she went around the room with introductions.

Marcia began the meeting with a review of the Salary Commission history, and an overview of the commission's responsibilities and additional things to consider when setting salaries. She introduced Sara Di Vittorio to speak about Public Records. Sara proceeded to handout two documents to the Commission members and support staff on the responsibilities of being on the Salary Commission and how to handle communication while serving on the Salary Commission. She handed out 'Public Records, Email and You' and 'Open Public Meetings Act.' Sara suggested that the Commissioners set-up a separate email account just for Salary Commission business. Marcia offered to be the main point of contact if commissioners needed to share information.

Marcia explained when the additional meetings would be held and when the public hearing would be scheduled.

Steve asked if the Elected Officials can talk at the June 8th meeting or if they can attend other meetings. Marcia stated she was open to either.

The Commission went through the process of selecting a chairperson. Erica Temple volunteered and was then elected unanimously as the chair of the 2016 Salary Commission. The meeting was then turned over to the new chair.

Erica moved to adopt the ground rules and specifically that decisions are made by simple majority of the Commission members in attendance. A vote was called and passed unanimously.

Erica asked about the large increase in salary in 2015. Marcia explained that the previous commission adjusted salaries for 2015 based on the market, and provided for an increase for 2016 based on the Consumer Price Index.

The Commissioners received an additional salary comparable handout from Skagit County that Human Resources received earlier that day. This information conflicted with the information previously received by Skagit County. Human Resources will verify which document is correct.

Steve asked about Council members and the benefits they receive. He wanted clarification if they receive the same benefits as County employees. Marcia clarified that they receive all benefits except vacation and sick leave.

Erica asked if the Prosecuting Attorney receives over time. Marcia responded that elected officials, including the Prosecuting Attorney, do not receive overtime.

Ed wanted to know how often the Elected Officials could change their elected car allowance. Marcia responded that they can make that change at any time.

There was discussion about timing of the Public Hearing on June 8th. They asked if it could get changed from 6:00 – 8:00 to 6:00 – 7:00pm. Marcia will follow up with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to see if that is approved.

Erica adjourned the meeting at 7:15pm.

Motions passed:

- Ground Rules: Decisions are made simple majority of the Commission members in attendance

Action items for Staff:

- Provide data for the top three salaried positions in each elected office
- ASFME, Deputy Sheriff & County Clerks COLA for the last 5 years
- Skagit County information discrepancy