

**CAPITOL CAMPUS DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**General Administration Building**  
**210 – 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Room 207**  
**Olympia, Washington**  
**May 12, 2011**  
**10:00 AM**

**Minutes**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Representative Gary Alexander  
Patrick McDonald for Secretary of State Sam Reed  
Paul Blanton (via telecon)  
Senator Karen Fraser (via telecon)  
Dennis Haskell (via telecon)  
Representative Sam Hunt (via telecon)  
Alex Rolluda (via telecon)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Senator Linda Parlette  
Barbara Swift

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Buccarelli, Kim, GA  
Casey, Martin, GA  
Gow, Valerie, Puget Sound Meeting Services  
Henderson, Tom, GA  
Jacobs, Bob, Citizen

Lewandowski, Steve, OFM  
Swenson, Tim, GA  
Turner, Joyce, GA  
Van Schoorl, Bob, GA

**Announcements and Introductions**

Chair Dennis Haskell called the Capitol Campus Design Advisory Committee (CCDAC) regular meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. via a telephone conference call.

Chair Haskell reported he was appointed as Chair of the CCDAC and Alex Rolluda was appointed Vice Chair by the Governor effective January 27, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

The notice of the meeting was published in *The Olympian*. Public comments will be accepted after completion of each agenda item. Other public comments will be accepted at the end of all agenda items.

Chair Haskell acknowledged the appointment of Senator Linda Parlette to the CCDAC.

**Approval of Agenda**

**Alex Rolluda moved, seconded by Paul Blanton, to approve the agenda as published. Motion carried.**

CCDAC will review one item on the Agenda for Action: Approval of the November 18, 2010 CCDAC Minutes; one item for Information: Director's Report.

**Approval of Minutes – November 18, 2010**

**Representative Sam Hunt moved, seconded by Alex Rolluda, to approve the minutes of November 18, 2010 as presented. Motion carried.**

**Director's Report**

Joyce Turner, Director, Department of General Administration (GA), congratulated Chair Haskell and Vice Chair Rolluda on their respective appointments. She acknowledged the appointment of Senator Linda Parlette.

*Senator Karen Fraser joined the meeting via telecon from the floor of the Senate.*

Ms. Turner reported on the Governor's request last November for all agencies to submit budgets incorporating a 10% reduction. GA recognized that the reduction would eliminate 22 positions. The Legislature passed a supplemental budget for the reduction to become effective April 1, 2011. GA announced layoffs of 22 positions. However, through careful budget management, the agency was able to reduce the number of positions to 8 FTEs. In total through the biennium, 93 positions have been eliminated totaling approximately 15% of GA's total workforce.

Some of the reductions affect the maintenance of Capitol Campus grounds, such as not planting annuals, less frequent mowing, turning off Tivoli Fountain, less cleaning of sidewalks, pathways, and roadways, and deferring the cleaning of the Legislative Building Dome.

Representative Alexander inquired about the option of utilizing volunteers to plant annuals on the grounds. He said he's had contact by some individuals who expressed interest in volunteering to plant and help with maintenance of campus grounds.

*Senator Fraser left the meeting to attend a Rules meeting.*

Ms. Turner advised that GA is working with the Olympia Kiwanis to plant vegetable gardens on campus to benefit the Thurston County Food Bank. Planting annuals requires the agency to purchase the plants as well as contending with the issue of labor contracts in terms of work traditionally performed by GA grounds employees.

Patrick McDonald noted that the Olympia Rose Society has conveyed its willingness to plant the rose garden but the request was denied by GA. Ms. Turner replied that the rose gardens were removed because of the difficulty of maintaining rose bushes on Capitol Campus because of deer.

Representative Alexander said he will examine the provisions within the labor contracts and added that he could understand potential opposition if the agency was eliminating state employees and hiring private employees to complete the same work. However, volunteers completing the work shouldn't constitute a labor contract dispute.

Ms. Turner said GA has had conversations with union management in the past pertaining to volunteer efforts of some groups, such as the Boys Scouts. GA is willing to pursue those conversations with union representatives.

*Senator Fraser returned via telecon and permanently left the meeting to attend a caucus conference.*

Tom Henderson reported on efforts by the agency to maintain the grounds by consolidating workers from eight to four zones resulting in the elimination of several mid-management positions as well as in the number of painter and groundskeeper positions. It's most noticeable in the grounds area where losses have occurred. GA also reduced the number of grounds maintenance vehicles by one-third. Some of the

savings provided an opportunity for GA to replace some gas vehicles with electric vehicles. Many positions have remained open and current employees are working harder and assuming more responsibilities. Mr. Henderson thanked staff for their efforts in maintaining the campus.

Mr. McDonald asked about the costs of keeping the fountain on. Mr. Henderson advised that the cost is approximately \$30,000 annually to maintain the fountain, which is equivalent to one custodial FTE.

Mr. McDonald referred to several comments he's received from different sources in the community that GA is making a statement to taxpayers about how the cuts in the budget will impact taxpayers through various reductions in service. He asked for feedback by the agency. Mr. Henderson replied that it's not possible to pay employees if the agency has no budget for employee salaries. The same situation occurs for groundskeepers and maintenance in that if there is no direct appropriation from the capital budget, there are insufficient funds to maintain the dome and other repairs.

Ms. Turner added that facilities is the agency's primary business and it's the most visible aspect of GA's work. GA offers other services as well, which are funded from different sources, such as direct fees from its customers. Unfortunately, much of the agency's budget cuts have come from facilities, which is creating impacts that are more visible. GA is also working to achieve its priorities of life safety, stewardship, and sustainability.

Ms. Turner referred to the agency consolidation proposal. In December, the Governor proposed creating the Department of Enterprise Services consolidating GA, some areas of the Department of Personnel, Department of Information Services, some elements of the Office of Financial Management, and elements of the State Printer. There are two different versions of the bill and both budgets assume the creation of the new department. Many details need to be resolved. GA and the other agencies have begun some preliminary planning to ensure that if the bill moves forward, the agencies are in the best position to move forward with a smooth transition. The next time the CCDAC meets, GA could potentially be a different agency. As part of the proposal, approximately 200 employees currently housed in the GA Building would move to the Wheeler Building, now formally known as the 1500 Jefferson Building. That move could occur in late summer or early fall.

Ms. Turner referred to the status of the operating budget. Both the House and Senate agreed to the level of the Governor's proposed cuts of 10% for GA. Both House and Senate budgets included an additional 2% in cuts. GA is operating under the assumption that the final budget will call for a 12% budget reduction. The Legislature is not directing specific cuts. GA is examining its options to determine how to achieve the additional 2% reduction.

Employees will continue to experience some furloughs as part of their leave allowing the agency to remain open for its customers. Other additional impacts to employees include reductions in pay and an increase in healthcare costs. Until the final budget is approved, it's unknown what the full impact of the budget will have on GA and its employees.

Mr. Henderson reviewed the capital budget. At this point, lost revenues have disseminated the capacity of the state to sell bonds further complicating debt service payments in terms of affordability versus capacity. There are many discussions about reinstating the 7% limit from the constitutional limit of 9% along with other changes in terms of what is considered revenue. That influences the state capacity leading to difficulties in identifying the capital budget. Essentially, the overall budget of \$2.3 billion in bonds in the last biennium was reduced to approximately \$1.4 billion in bonds. Additionally, funds were

transferred from the capital budget to support the operating budget. For GA, that means the Thurston County Construction Account comprised of funds from a capital surcharge applied to rents has moved to the operating fund leaving GA with a significant reduction in capital funds. GA's capital budget will likely be reduced by half than in previous years. The House budget includes \$26 million with the Senate budget version approximately \$12 million less. The biggest difference is the treatment of the GA Building with the Senate budget including funds for studies for potential reuse.

The House budget includes \$200,000 to begin the process of permitting for dredging of Capitol Lake. The Senate budget includes \$100,000. GA will need to consider what's possible within the available funding. The permit process will be critical to determine future budget needs.

GA historically receives cuts in buildings, grounds, facilities, and in bond funding. With the major reduction in bond funding across the state, many of GA's client agencies have smaller capital budgets creating a reduction in the level of GA's Engineering and Architectural Services Division. In the last biennium, GA had \$9.3 billion in bond funds for Engineering and Architectural Services. The House budget includes \$7 million while the Senate budget calls for a million dollars less.

Mr. Rolluda asked about the previous discussion on studies for prioritizing work to be completed on the campus. He asked if there are any funds in the budget to complete those studies. Mr. Henderson said the studies were not included in the budget, but staff is examining options during the next biennium of using some funds from the asset fund for a facility conditions survey to assist in setting priorities.

#### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

#### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 15 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 207 of the GA Building.

#### **Other Business**

Martin Casey reported that dependent upon the outcome of the legislation, the September meeting might be held in another location. Staff anticipates providing more information on the closeout of the 1500 Jefferson Building project as well as a status update of the O'Brien Building during the September meeting.

Representative Hunt advised that the Legislature is also working on the Boards and Commissions bill, which does not eliminate CCDAC. However, it transfers the appointment authority to the Director of the new agency.

#### **Adjournment**

**With there being no further business, Chair Haskell adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.**