

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, June 17, 1986

Flag Salute

10:30 a.m. Discussion - Reorganization Proposal - Jerry McInturff, County Auditor.

1:30 p.m. Public Hearing - Procedural Amendment to Skagit County Code, Chapter 14.04.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Flag Salute

7:30 p.m. Public Meeting - Darrington City Hall (closest facility) - Open Discussion with the Sauk Prairie Community.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 17, 1986, with Commissioners Rohrer, Vaux and Walberg present.

DISCUSSION - REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL - Jerry McInturff, County Auditor.

Jerry McInturff, County Auditor, noted that this discussion was continued from June 2. He reminded the Board that he proposed to eliminate one Staff Assistant II, Range 9 position in the Licensing Division, and add a Chief Deputy/Elections Supervisor/Office Manager, Range 27. He stated that he is not asking for an increase in the current staffing level, but only asking to retain the staffing level presently in the Auditor's Office. He currently has 16 employees. Mr. McInturff noted that he is also not asking for any budgetary increase for 1986.

He outlined several programs and projects he hopes to accomplish through his office. Skagit County is the only county of its size which does not have a Professional Elections Administrator. Mr. McInturff informed the Board that Ralph Munro, Secretary of State, also supports his staffing request.

Mr. McInturff stated that he has already initiated the necessary personal action, should the Board approve his request.

Mr. McInturff answered various questions from the Board regarding this proposal. He proposed the Chief Deputy Auditor position would be non-union. The annual salary for the proposed position would be approximately \$27,000, while the Staff Assistant II position being eliminated currently earns approximately \$20,500 per year, stated Mr. McInturff.

Commissioner Vaux felt this was a budget issue and should not be discussed at

this time. He stated that his position regarding this issue has not changed since the budget was adopted. He favored hiring an employee at the entry level to assist. He also disagreed with the statement made by Mr. McInturff that the difference in salaries would be paid for with election funds.

Commissioners Rohrer and Vaux both noted that they have never received any complaints regarding services provided by the Auditor's Office.

Discussion followed regarding maintaining the integrity of the Auditor's Office.

Commissioner Vaux suggested promoting one of the two existing elections employees to the supervisory position, and hiring another employee for an entry level position in the Elections Division.

Mr. McInturff stated that neither of the two current employees in the Elections Division are qualified to be Supervisor of the Elections Division.

Commissioner Walberg suggested employing an Office Supervisor I, at Range 21A to be responsible for supervising the Licensing and Elections Divisions. This salary would be approximately \$18,000 per year.

Mr. McInturff felt a qualified Office Supervisor I could successfully supervise several divisions of the Auditor's Office, including the Elections and Licensing Divisions.

Commissioner Rohrer stated that he would like additional time to consider the matter.

Robert Taylor, Administrative Officer, asked Mr. McInturff how he had initiated the process of eliminating one employee.

Mr. McInturff stated that he explained the situation to the Licensing Supervisor who would be eliminated. He felt she understood the situation clearly.

This item was continued until 3:00 p.m., Monday, June 23, 1986.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing the transfer of budget appropriations in the amount of \$25,200 in order to pay for summer projects approved by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. (Resolution #10875)
2. Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing the transfer of budget appropriations in the amount of \$200 in order to pay

for labor related to installation of the District Court computer system. Commissioner Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. (Resolution #10876)

3. Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution closing the Solid Waste Construction Fund #402, and transferring the fund equity and any future receipts of the Solid Waste Construction Fund to Solid Waste Operating Fund #401. Commissioner Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. (Resolution #10877)
4. Commissioner Vaux motioned to approve the Record of the Proceedings for Monday, June 16, 1986. Commissioner Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.
5. Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by R.C.W. 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by R.C.W. 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board.

As of this date, June 17, 1986, the Board, by a unanimous vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows: Vouchers #40947 through #41032 (Warrants #40947 through #41032) in the total amount of \$143,410.39. (R-15)

6. The Board authorized the design and purchase of buttons promoting Skagit County to be on hand for a limited number of uses, such as for students travelling to another country who wish to promote the County. Chairman Rohrer and Mike Woodmansee, Budget and Finance Director, will be in charge of this matter.

PUBLIC HEARING - PROCEDURAL AMENDMENT TO SKAGIT COUNTY CODE, CHAPTER 14.04.

David Hough, Senior Planner, presented the staff report for this matter. He explained that this procedural amendment to the Skagit County Code, Chapter 14.04, would transfer the Board of Adjustment's duties to the Hearing Examiner and provide clarification of the procedures contained in Chapter 14.04. Mr. Hough reported that the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed procedural amendment, but made no recommendation, so the Board of Commissioners called for a public hearing. The Department of Planning and Community Development recommended approval.

In answer to a question from Commissioner Vaux, Bill Nielsen, attorney, stated that approximately 90 percent of the Board of Adjustment matters would have to be heard by the Hearing Examiner, rather than the Planning Commission.

Les Johnson, attorney from Anacortes, noted several problems with the Board of Adjustment procedure. He felt the Hearing Examiner should be familiar with

the laws, in order to render appropriate decisions.

Lloyd Loop, 1368 Field Road, Bow, felt Skagit County's Board of Adjustment is a detriment to Skagit County. He also felt the members of the Board of Adjustment were not receiving the information they need in order to make an informed decision on matters.

In answer to a question from Commissioner Vaux, Mr. Nielsen stated that the Board of Adjustment could not legally be paid for their services.

Jim Holden, 1353 Field Road, Bow, agreed with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Loop, and also felt that the Board of Adjustment should be replaced with someone more responsible. He stated that the notification procedure should be expanded so that all properties within at least 1/2 mile receive notification of proposed projects.

Mr. Nielsen spoke as a concerned citizen and related many problems and discrepancies with the Board of Adjustment.

Commissioner Vaux read a letter from Kermit Rodvelt, 1349 Field Road, Bow. Mr. Rodvelt expressed dissatisfaction with the Board of Adjustment's approval of a Conditional Use Permit for a dog kennel for 20 dogs in their neighborhood. Mr. Rodvelt requested that the Board of Adjustment be disbanded, and all actions from the past six months be declared null and void.

Lois Holden, 1353 Field Road, Bow, also favored disbanding the Board of Adjustment and a reorganization of the Department of Planning and Community Development.

Commissioner Walberg motioned to close the public hearing. Commissioner Vaux seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Vaux motioned to continue deliberation on this matter until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 1, 1986. Commissioner Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Commissioners Rohrer and Walberg were present for the following item. Commissioner Vaux was absent.

PUBLIC MEETING - DARRINGTON CITY HALL (CLOSEST FACILITY) - OPEN DISCUSSION WITH THE SAUK PRAIRIE COMMUNITY.

Chairman Rohrer introduced Megan Cheney, Clerk of the Board; Commissioner Walberg; Gary Frazier, Sheriff; Bob Schofield, Director of the Department of Planning and Community Development; and Jay Ensley, Assistant Director of the Public Works Department.

Dale Dashiell, 2213 East Sauk Road, was dissatisfied with the procedure required by Skagit County to obtain approval for logging approximately 30 percent of the cottonwood trees from his property along the Sauk River. He noted that the Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fisheries, and Department of Game approved his proposal in a matter of days, while the County's procedure took months. He asked the County to devise a simpler procedure for such proposals.

Bob Schofield recommended Mr. Dashiell contact his legislator because the County administers the State's shoreline requirements. He assured Mr. Dashiell that he will look into the matter.

Derald Turner, of Snohomish County, stated that he farms in the Sauk Prairie area. He asked if Skagit County would support an amendment to the State's shoreline requirements, should one be proposed.

Commissioners Rohrer and Walberg stated that the Board would support such an amendment to simplify the procedure for proposals such as Mr. Dashiell's.

Gary Frazier explained the Peace Officers Powers Act, which will enable state certified law enforcement officers to respond to an emergency in another jurisdiction. He explained the staffing in the Sheriff's Department, and noted that the Commissioners recently authorized the addition of four more deputies to his staff, making a total of 24 officers. He informed those present that they will be having a second Sheriff's deputy in the southeastern portion of the County within a matter of weeks.

Sheriff Frazier also explained the crime prevention program now underway in Skagit County. He asked anyone interested in helping with this program in their own neighborhood to contact his office.

Frances Weisenberger asked if there was any way their tax money for sheriff protection could go to Snohomish County.

Sheriff Frazier stated that he didn't know how their money from taxes could be transferred, but he felt Snohomish County deputies would respond to emergencies in the southeastern portion of Skagit County.

Edie Ford expressed dissatisfaction with the Sheriff's three-hour response time to their report of a three-day keg party.

Sheriff Frazier explained that his department prioritizes the calls they receive. He would have to research the matter to determine what other situations were being handled at that time.

Don Nelson, Commander of the North Precinct, Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, stated that Sheriff Frazier could grant authority for Snohomish County deputies to respond to the Sauk Prairie area calls, however, he didn't know how funding would be arranged.

Nancy Hudson, of Fortner Road, explained that many keg parties take place right over the Snohomish County/Skagit County line, because they know they won't be caught in Skagit County. She stated that they don't feel they are receiving adequate protection for their tax dollars.

Sheriff Frazier encouraged everyone to call in their emergencies and requests. He assured them that they will receive the quickest response time possible.

Patty Cloer reported on a neighbor who shoots his gun sporadically day and night.

Sheriff Frazier explained that he has the right to shoot his gun, as long as it is not endangering people. He could possibly be cited for causing a nuisance if he is shooting in the night. Once again, he urged everyone to call in their requests.

Sandra Stitzel asked why they have to call long distance to reach the Sheriff's Office.

Sheriff Frazier told everyone to call 0-336-3146, collect.

Regarding the three-day party in June, Ms. Stitzel objected to the deputy's actions of pouring out the beer, and sending the kids home in their cars.

Sheriff Frazier will investigate this matter.

Chairman Rohrer read a letter from Verner Hoglund, Darrington Postmaster, who requested several road name changes to aid with the mail service, ambulance, and fire department. Chairman Rohrer explained that Skagit County has no control over the State highway, however, the Board will look into the County roads and initiate a public hearing to consider the matter.

Ms. Stitzel expressed a problem with the snowplowing in the winter. It takes several days of conversation between Skagit County and Snohomish County before one County finally takes care of it.

Chairman Rohrer asked Jay Ensley, of the Public Works Department, to check into the matter.

Diane Brown asked if it would be possible for the County to resurface Sauk Prairie Road and Harrison Road, because the logging trucks are destroying it.

Commissioner Walberg explained that the County could patch the road as needed at this time, but would rather wait until the logging is completed before resurfacing the road.

Mr. Ensley explained that the cost of asphalt concrete is approximately ten times the cost of oil and gravel surfacing.

The residents of Sauk Prairie Road requested a count of the number of vehicles per day.

Mr. Ensley explained that the Public Works Department appreciates being informed of the frozen road conditions whenever possible.

Ms. Stitzel asked if the County could send out a notice of the toll free or collect phone numbers for the Courthouse and Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Walberg offered to provide the notices for the community to distribute to residents.

Derald Turner complimented the Public Works Department for being available to respond to blocked culverts.


The Commissioners thanked everyone for attending this open discussion of the Sauk Prairie community.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Walberg motioned to adjourn the proceedings. Chairman Rohrer seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.




BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Dave Rohrer, Chairman




W. W. Vaux, Commissioner



Otto M. Walberg, Jr., Commissioner

ATTEST:



Megan Cheney, Clerk
Skagit County Board of Commissioners