

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, July 13, 1987

8:30 a.m. Work Session - Public Works Department Road Supervisors.

Flag Salute

9:00 a.m. Board of Health:

1. Introduction - Mel Thom, Summer Field Trainee.
2. Discussion - Vital Statistics Program.
3. Discussion - On-Site Sewage Repair Permit Procedures.
4. State Board of Health Action on Food and Beverage Worker Permit Fees.

10:30 a.m. Public Works Department - Gene Sampley, Director:

1. Signature - Contract on Ovenell Road Project.
2. Signature - Lease Agreement for Similk Compactor Site.
3. Signature - Resolution Designation - Solid Waste Advisory Committee/Recycling Subcommittee Members.
4. Resource Recovery Project Status Report.
5. Miscellaneous Items.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1:30 p.m. Executive Session - Personnel.

- 2:30 p.m.
1. Update - Community Mental Health Program - Jere LaFollette.
 2. Discussion - Child Abuse Treatment Program Funding.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 13, 1987, with Commissioners Walberg and Vaux present. Commissioner Rohrer was absent.

BOARD OF HEALTH:

1. Introduction - Mel Thom, Summer Field Trainee.

Mel Thom was not able to be present at this time.

2. Discussion - Vital Statistics Program.

Sharon Beeson, of the Health Department, explained that in February of 1980, the Skagit County Health Department assumed the responsibility of processing

all birth and death certificates in Skagit County. Prior to 1980, local registrars reported to Vital Records in Olympia. As of July 26, 1987, the State has mandated an increase in birth and death certificate fees as follows:

- a. Birth certificate fees will be increased from \$6 to \$11.
- b. Death certificate fees will be increased from \$6 to \$11 for the first copy. Subsequent copies at that time will be \$6.

3. Discussion - On-Site Sewage Repair Permit Procedures.

Tom Karsh, Environmental Health Specialist III, initiated discussion regarding on-site sewage repair permit procedures. Mr. Karsh explained that prior to 1984, no state or local standards existed with regard to repairs for failed systems. Applicants only needed to propose something better than what they had in order to obtain approval. In 1984, the State Board of Health developed rules and regulations for the correction of failed systems. Skagit County added "and as required to protect the public's health" to the state's regulations. The County also required the owner of a repaired but substandard sewage system to have recorded with the Auditor's Office a statement explaining the situation to warn prospective buyers or lending institutions.

Mr. Karsh explained that in the future, persons applying for repair designs will be required to either meet the requirements or, if the site does not allow repair of the system to full compliance and it is determined that there is no public health risk, then a recorded document explaining the situation will be required, and the system will be repaired as allowed by the site.

Mr. Karsh requested input from the Board regarding the following situations:

- a. Should the property owner's financial situation be considered at the staff level? Mr. Karsh recommended no variances be made at the staff level regarding this. However, such an appeal could be made at the administrative or Board of Health levels.
- b. Should the property owner be required to update the entire system to meet County standards, when only one component of the system may have failed? Currently the County only requires that the specific component be repaired to current standards. Mr. Karsh recommended the County continue the current practice of only considering the failed component. An alternative would be to require a designer to do a study on the entire system and either repair the system to meet current standards, or warn future buyers and lending institutions through the recorded document procedure of any substandard portions of the system. Mr. Karsh noted that the code does not address the component situation.

Chairman Walberg expressed concern regarding the County's liability, if the entire system is not investigated at the time a component is repaired.

Commissioner Vaux felt the Board of Health could have the ability to allow a variance for component replacement.

Lou Ankney, a septic system designer, sited the situation where an existing small business could not afford to fully repair a failed system. He felt the cost the County would charge for a variance could be more usefully applied to help pay for the expensive repair.

Mr. Karsh noted that a fee of \$130 would ordinarily be charged for a variance request to be heard by the Board of Health.

Chairman Walberg felt the applicant could apply for a waiver of the variance fee. He added that due to the liability the County might incur, such waivers should be made by the Board of Health.

Mike Mitchell, a septic system designer, sited two potential problems:

- a. Is the failed system of concern to the public's health?
- b. Does the system meet code?

Mr. Mitchell felt that a failed system that poses a threat to the public's health should be addressed by the Health Department. However, to speculate that because one component has failed, then the entire system has failed, is a potentially incorrect assumption.

John Thayer, Environmental Health Specialist III, noted that very permeable soil allows the potential for contaminated ground water. This type of public health concern is often not obvious.

Following additional discussion, the Board of Health determined the following:

- a. If the site allows, the County will require a failed system be repaired to meet current standards.
- b. If the site does not allow full compliance, and the public's health is not jeopardized, then the repair will be made as allowed by the site, and a document will be recorded stating the deficiencies of the repaired system.
- c. A failed system will be thoroughly investigated and the entire system will be upgraded to meet current standards. No component repairs will be approved without verification or repair of the entire system.

- d. If the property owner does not wish to comply with the previously listed regulations, then an appeal will be made to the Board of Health for consideration of a variance of these requirements.

4. State Board of Health Action on Food and Beverage Worker Permit Fees.

John Thayer, Environmental Health Specialist III, explained that since the early 1960's, a fee of \$2 has been charged for Food and Beverage Worker Permits. At the State Board of Health's July 8, 1987, meeting, emergency action was taken to increase fees for Food and Beverage Worker Permits to \$5. Mr. Thayer explained that initially an unexperienced applicant would pay \$5 for a two-year permit. Following that two-year period, the experienced applicant would be issued a five-year permit which costs \$5.

The Board called for a public hearing to be held at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 27, 1987, to consider the need to revise the Health Department Schedule of Charges including, but not limited to, fees for Food and Beverage Worker Permits and certified copies of birth and death certificates.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - Gene Sampley, Director:

1. Signature - Contract on Ovenell Road Project.

This item was unavailable at this time, and will be addressed at a later date.

2. Signature - Lease Agreement for Similk Compactor Site.

This item was unavailable at this time, and will be addressed at a later date.

3. Signature - Resolution Designation - Solid Waste Advisory Committee/ Recycling Subcommittee Members.

Gene Sampley explained that the appropriate process at this time was to address the recycling matter through a memo from Bill Ness, Solid Waste Engineer, to the Board.

Bill Ness explained that the Recycling Subcommittee has held three meetings, and has determined that it would be beneficial for Skagit County to seek the services of a specialized recycling consultant to facilitate the Subcommittee in the process of developing a comprehensive, successful recycling plan for Skagit County and incorporating it into the Skagit County Solid Waste Management Plan.

Commissioner Vaux asked to be on the interview team charged with choosing a recycling consultant.

4. Resource Recovery Project Status Report.

Gene Sampley updated the Board on the resource recovery project. He presented a report outlining the status of contractor submittals on the project. Mr. Sampley noted that the project is proceeding very well.

5. Miscellaneous Items.

Jeff Monsen, Traffic Engineer, presented the Board with copies of the drafted public notice regarding Skagit County's proposed 35 miles per hour county-wide speed limit unless otherwise posted.

The public hearing is scheduled at 10:30 a.m., Monday, July 20, 1987.

Discussion followed regarding a reduced speed limit on trucks on Fir Island Road, and a possible load limit on trucks using Peterson Road to the airport. These issues will be addressed in detail at a later date.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. In accordance with action previously taken, Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution approving Special Use Permit #SP-87-013 for Gunderson Road Natural Products, subject to 12 conditions. Chairman Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered. (Resolution #11259)
2. Commissioner Vaux motioned to approve the Record of the Proceedings of Tuesday, July 7, 1987. Chairman Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered.
3. The Board approved for signature an interlocal agreement between the Port of Skagit County and Skagit County for the County's assumption of responsibility for the preparation and issuance of Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements to include master planning and development of the Skagit County Regional Airport. The Port agrees to be responsible for the reimbursement of all consultant fees incurred in the project. This agreement is effective as of July 6, 1987.
4. Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution appointing Jay Ensley as Acting Director of the Skagit County Public Works Department for a period not to exceed six months, effective July 20, 1987. Chairman Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered. (Resolution #11260)

5. Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution appointing Jeff Monsen as Acting County Road Engineer/Assistant Director of the Public Works Department for a period not to exceed six months, effective July 20, 1987. Chairman Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered. (Resolution #11261)
6. The Board approved for signature a letter to Ernest Geissler, P.E., Director of the County Road Administration Board (C.R.A.B.), informing him of the staffing appointments in the Public Works Department.

1. UPDATE - COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM - Jere LaFollette.

Jere LaFollette, Director of the Skagit Community Mental Health Center, noted that representatives of the Center, Child Protective Services (of the Department of Social and Health Services) and the local Child Abuse Prevention Council were present for this discussion.

Mr. LaFollette explained that the Skagit Community Mental Health Center provides a range of mental health, involuntary treatment, substance abuse and child abuse treatment services. He briefly described the programs in terms of emergency services, services for the chronically mentally ill and services directed toward individuals and families. The Center helps between 550 and 600 clients each month. In 1986, 1,556 different people were served. Mr. LaFollette noted that an increasing number of chronically mental ill are being served.

Mr. LaFollette stated that the Center has an annual budget of \$1,100,000. Although the level of state funding has remained fairly constant over the past several years, only approximately one-third of the Center's funding is contributed by the state. On a daily basis, the Center turns clients away unless they are in an emergency situation.

Carl Holzmuller, Children's Services Coordinator for the Center, explained that the initial funding for the Center's Child Abuse Treatment Program came from a state grant. Last year this program assisted 115 children. He noted that the age of the reported children being abused is getting younger.

Discussion followed regarding the increased reported incidents, which is due in part to better communication of the problem. Current research shows that children who are the victims of abuse frequently victimize their children, thus perpetuating the cycle of abuse in families.

Discussion also addressed the Center's efforts to keep families together while providing services.

Representatives from Child Protective Services informed the Board that the Skagit Community Mental Health Center will be receiving additional referrals,

as Child Protective Services is required by the state to let the low risk cases go in an effort to reduce their caseloads.

The Board thanked everyone for attending this discussion.

2. DISCUSSION - CHILD ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAM FUNDING.

JoAnn Angevine, Community Services Coordinator, explained that excess mileage money from Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities Fund #116 has provided funding for the last two years to the Skagit Community Mental Health Center for their Child Abuse Treatment Program.

Bob Taylor, Administrative Officer, explained that Jere LaFollette had indicated to him over the phone that he would be asking the County for additional funding.

Mike Woodmansee, Budget and Finance Director, explained that the Center should provide a request for funding, as well as their 1988 budget for the Board's consideration.

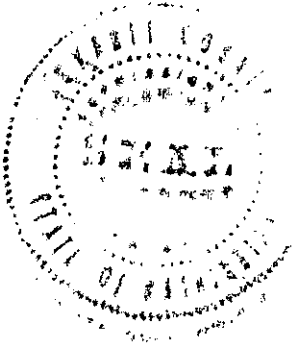
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

1. Commissioner Vaux motioned to approve the Record of the Proceedings for Wednesday, July 8, 1987. Chairman Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered.
2. The Board approved for signature the contract between Skagit County and Lakeside Industries for widening 1.40 miles of Ovenell Road and widening and reconstruction of 0.44 miles of Farm-to-Market Road. Total cost of the project is \$409,320.98.
3. Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing a transfer of budget appropriation in the amount of \$15,000 to provide a Professional Services line item in the Land Acquisition/Facility Improvement Fund to pay for costs associated with the County's preliminary study of the Northern State location as a County fair site. Chairman Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered. (Resolution #11262)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Vaux motioned to adjourn the proceedings. Chairman Walberg seconded the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Otto M. Walberg, Jr.
Otto M. Walberg, Jr., Chairman

W. W. Vaux
W. W. Vaux, Commissioner

Dave Rohrer, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Megan Cheney
Megan Cheney, Clerk
Skagit County Board of Commissioners