

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, December 1, 1987

Flag Salute

- 2:00 p.m. Continuation of Public Hearing - Skagit System Cooperative Shoreline Substantial Development Conditional Use Permit Request #SLCU-787, for the Construction and Operation of a Salmon Net Pen Facility in Skagit Bay.
- 3:00 p.m. Discussion - Emergency Shelter Rehabilitation Grant.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 1, 1987, with Commissioners Walberg, Vaux and Rohrer present.

CONTINUATION OF PUBLIC HEARING - SKAGIT SYSTEM COOPERATIVE SHORELINE
SUBSTANTIAL DEVELOPMENT CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST #SLCU-787, FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A SALMON NET PEN FACILITY IN SKAGIT BAY.

Chairman Walberg announced that this public hearing was continued until this date in order to receive additional public testimony. He noted that the following additional items of correspondence had been received:

1. Letter dated November 17, 1987, from Fred and Joann Ossewarde, 1672 Reef Point Lane, La Conner, who opposed the permit request;
2. Letter dated November 16, 1987, from Dan Swecker, President of Washington Fish Growers Association, 10420 173rd S.W., Rochester, Washington, in which aquaculture legislation was discussed;
3. Letter dated November 11, 1987, from Carroll and Evangeline Young, 5009 128th Place S.E., Everett, who opposed the permit request;
4. Letter dated November 18, 1987, from A. E. Luthy, 1726 Goldenview Avenue, La Conner, who opposed the permit request;
5. Letter dated November 16, 1987, from John Forster, President of Sea Farm of Norway, Inc., P.O. Box 1478, Port Angeles, Washington, who supported the permit request;
6. Letter dated November 18, 1987, from Jean Ashby, 1547 Dunbar Road, Mount Vernon, who opposed the permit request; and
7. Letter dated November 16, 1987, from Tom Durkan, President of Shannon Point Seafoods, Inc., 1050 Dakota Avenue, Anacortes, presenting general comments and the favorable impact this industry has on the labor market in Skagit County.

Chairman Walberg noted that the first Commissioners' public hearing regarding this matter was held on November 17, 1987. On November 25, 1987, a site tour was conducted, and the public hearing was continued until this date.

Harriette Hayes, 1418 Rose Lane, Oak Harbor, stated that she lives in Island County overlooking Skagit Bay. She spoke of the proposed Northern Tier Pipeline which attempted to locate in Saratoga Passage. Not long after that proposal was defeated, Ms. Hayes informed the Board, Skagit Bay was recognized as an estuarine of great marine value. She felt Skagit Bay with its warm waters would constitute an ideal breeding ground for disease. She cautioned the Board against making a hasty decision, and noted that she was not against all net pen facilities. She stated that she felt net pen facilities in locations with adequate tidal action were satisfactory.

Ms. Hayes presented the following items to the Board:

1. Excerpts from the Compendium of Current Marine Studies in the Pacific Northwest, 1979, by J. L. Congleton, affiliated with the University of Washington, College of Fisheries. (Exhibit #11)
2. Documentation from the Environmental Protection Agency regarding legislation of salmon rearing operations. (Exhibits #12a and #12b)
3. Letter dated December 29, 1982, from William Dunlop, Island County Commissioner, regarding marine sanctuary site designations for the State of Washington. (Exhibit #13)
4. Letter dated March 29, 1983, from Mary Margaret Haugen, State Representative, regarding the removal of Skagit Bay from the list of sites considered for the National Marine Sanctuary Program in Washington State. (Exhibit #14)

Additionally, Ms. Hayes read a portion of a document by Michael Shephard, explaining the habits of juvenile salmon. She also referred to studies conducted by Quintin Stobern and Ernest Saylo on the proposed nuclear power plant site on Kiket Island. In conclusion, Ms. Hayes urged the Board to vote against the requested permit.

Jim Agen, of La Conner, urged the Board to consider all of the ecological concerns regarding salmon net pens.

There being no further comment, Commissioner Vaux motioned to close the public hearing. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Vaux commended Bill Ryan, of Skagit System Cooperative, for the excellent presentation of his proposal. He stated that in his opinion the visual impact of the net pens was not the issue. Commissioner Vaux stated that he did not concur with several of the Hearing Examiner's findings

regarding impacts to the public. Commissioner Vaux motioned to deny Skagit System Cooperative Shoreline Substantial Development Conditional Use Permit Request #SLCU-787.

Commissioner Rohrer stated that he would approve of the net pens if they were proposed farther out in the bay. He stated he did not feel comfortable about the potential pollution impacts of this proposal. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion to deny Permit Request #SLCU-787.

Chairman Walberg concurred that this proposal was a perceived intrusion in Skagit Bay. He noted his concerns:

1. Environmental: He felt there were virtually no non-mitigative negative impacts with this proposal.
2. Residents: The residents had a valid concern regarding the visual aesthetics of the proposal.
3. Rules of the game regarding application: Skagit System Cooperative was grandfathered in at the time the moratorium went into effect. Chairman Walberg felt this application met the SEPA, DOE and DNR requirements.

Chairman Walberg felt the conditions imposed by the Hearing Examiner would mitigate many of the impacts. He felt the landing area needed to be cleaned up. Chairman Walberg also felt the Board did not receive any new evidence which was not presented to the Hearing Examiner.

Commissioners Vaux and Rohrer voted to deny Skagit System Cooperative Shoreline Substantial Development Conditional Use Permit Request #SLCU-787. Chairman Walberg voted against the motion. The motion was carried and so ordered.

DISCUSSION - EMERGENCY SHELTER REHABILITATION GRANT.

Wayne Stiles, John Smith and Pat Hendricks were present for this discussion.

Wayne Stiles, Community Services Supervisor of the Skagit County Community Action Agency, explained that they, in combination with the Housing Authority of Skagit County and Skagit Self-Help Housing, are trying to obtain a \$30,000 grant to assist Skagit Rape Relief and Battered Women's Service upgrade their facility and to initiate an emergency family shelter in Skagit County. Mr. Stiles explained that Preston Burress with Skagit Self-Help Housing is completing the proposal for the grant application. Skagit Self-Help Housing would be the contractor for both of the facilities.

Mr. Stiles explained that Community Action Agency currently pays for a motel room for one to three nights for emergency shelter. Community Action Agency

proposed to provide the matching funds for the grant in the form of the \$700 per month they currently spend on motel rooms. Mr. Stiles noted that the \$700 per month would provide 250 nights of shelter instead of only 33 provided currently. Mr. Stiles noted that the shelter would be for families. Single men would be sheltered elsewhere.

Additionally, Mr. Stiles noted that the YMCA is interested in leasing a portion of the building for daycare.

Mr. Stiles requested the County provide administrative services in applying for the grant, since none of the agencies involved can apply. No funding request of Skagit County would be made at this time.

John Smith, Executive Director of the Housing Authority of Skagit County, explained that they planned to enter into a three-year lease on a building in Mount Vernon, with an option to purchase the building.

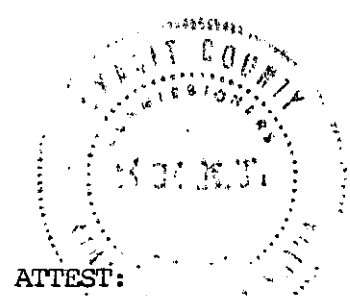
The Board agreed to provide administrative services for the grant, and approved for signature the grant application's resolution and certification.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

In accordance with action previously taken, the Board approved for signature the resolution awarding the bid for rebuild of one County-owned Detroit Diesel 12V-71 engine to Emerson G.M. Diesel, Inc., for their bid price of \$8,170.00. (Resolution #11409)

ADJOURNMENT

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



ATTEST:

Megan Cheney
Megan Cheney, Clerk of the
Skagit County Board of Commissioners

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
Dave Rohrer, Commissioner