

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, November 27, 1989

9:00 a.m. Board of Health:

- 1) Certificate of Commendation - Dayle Hildebrand.
- 2) Report of Ad Hoc Water Committee.
- 3) Proposal to Combine Classification of Similar Food Establishments.
- 4) Food Services to the Needy.

10:30 a.m. Public Works Department - Mark Spahr, Director:

- 1) Resolution - Annual Road Program.
- 2) Call for Bids - 1990 Motor Fuel.
- 3) Discussion - Recycling Incentives.
- 4) Miscellaneous.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

2:30 p.m. Resolution - Call for Public Hearing - Permit Fee Modification.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 27, 1989, with Commissioners Dave Rohrer and W. W. Vaux present. Commissioner Wylie's absence was excused.

BOARD OF HEALTH:

1) Certificate of Commendation - Dayle Hildebrand.

The Board presented Dayle Hildebrand, an Office Assistant for the Skagit County Health Department who is retiring, with a Certificate of Commendation for her 22 years of service to Skagit County.

2) Report of Ad Hoc Water Committee.

Lorna Haycox, Environmental Health Specialist, gave information on the three meetings of the Ad Hoc Water Committee held in October and November. She first reviewed the membership of the committee, and then discussed the topics covered at the meetings. She stated that at the first meeting the 1986 Safe Drinking Water Act was reviewed and discussed. At the second meeting, a list of objectives and water program components were compiled. At the third meeting, recommendations were made for implementation of the objectives and program components.

Phil Cook, Ad Hoc Water Committee member, reviewed the three recommendations:

- 1) Increase funding for the 1990 water program budget, allowing a full time equivalent position to begin January 1, 1990, instead of April 1, 1990, as was previously proposed for the 1990 budget.

- 2) Require all public water systems to be inventoried by the Skagit County Health Department.
- 3) Continue to involve the Ad Hoc Water Committee in the future development and assessment of the water program.

A suggested resolution was presented to the Board ordering the registration and inventorying of all public water systems in Skagit County.

Commissioner Vaux pointed out that, as a member of the Committee, he has objected to funding the full time equivalent position from January 1 instead of April 1, 1990.

The Board discussed with members of the County Health Department the effects of population growth on water availability.

Commissioner Vaux then motioned to adopt the resolution ordering the registration and inventorying of all public water systems in Skagit County. Time lines for completion of the registration were briefly discussed, and Chairman Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12302)

Commissioner Vaux additionally made the recommendation that the funding of the full time equivalent position remain as is in the proposed 1990 Skagit County Budget. Chairman Rohrer concurred.

3) Proposal to Combine Classification of Similar Food Establishments.

Corinne Story, Environmental Health Specialist, stated that the current schedule of Health Department licenses includes classifications for "Taverns with Limited Food Preparation", "Hot Delicatessens" and "Cold Delicatessens". Limited food preparation at taverns is intended to be limited to foods with minimal preparation, such as hot dogs and hard boiled eggs. Hot and cold delicatessens are distinguished by those serving only cold sandwiches and those performing cooking and hot-holding of food.

Ms. Story reported that many of these facilities are now diversifying due to the demand for more hot food for sale. The number of cold deli's has been declining. Ms. Story indicated that the amount of time spent in inspection of taverns serving limited food is now approximately equal to that spent in inspection of small restaurants. She therefore recommended that the category for tavern with limited food be eliminated and those in that category raised to the small restaurants category. The cold deli category would also be eliminated, and those four deli's in that category offered hot deli certification. The fee increases would be from \$50.00 to \$75.00 for the cold deli establishments, and \$70.00 to \$95.00 for the limited food taverns.

John Thayer, Environmental Health Supervisor, stated that this report has been given for the Board's information, and that final decisions will be made when the entire fee schedule is reviewed later this year.

4) Food Service to the Needy.

John Thayer, Environmental Health Supervisor, reminded the Board that in November of 1986, the Board declined to license community food banks. Following that decision, Corinne Story, Environmental Health Specialist, provided assistance to some food banks, and a few complaints and questions have been answered by the Health Department since that time.

More recently, Mr. Thayer explained, two events have prompted the Health Department to seek the direction of the Board. Mr. Thayer indicated that traditionally food banks have handled dry goods and some perishable foods, such as cheese and produce, which are distributed to be cooked at home. Recently, however, an inquiry has been received from a local restaurant about the requirements for donating leftovers from a buffet line to a local service club. The club would then deliver the food to local food banks for distribution to the needy. Mr. Thayer expressed his concern about safe packaging, hot-holding and delivery of the food to protect the public from hazardous foods.

The second item, Mr. Thayer explained, was identified in a newspaper article which reported that Friendship House, a local indigent housing project, held a dinner with food provided by a local church. Mr. Thayer noted that Friendship House is unlicensed, although is preparing and serving food directly to the public.

Mr. Thayer stated that both operations are defined as that of food service establishments by the local and State Board of Health regulations.

Mr. Thayer proposed that the issue of the dinner at Friendship House be solved by approaching the establishment for licensing or compliance with local rules. The issue of the buffet food donation could be solved by using guidelines provided by the Seattle-King County Health Department for leftover restaurant food. Mr. Thayer stated the Skagit County Health Department will meet with the buffet establishment, service club, and food bank to ensure that transportation and processing of foods meet state and local requirements, and that all persons handling the food have essential knowledge and permits.

The Board concurred with Mr. Thayer's proposals, and further directed that only food that has not been on the buffet table be donated.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - MARK SPAHR, DIRECTOR:

1) Resolution - Annual Road Program.

Mr. Spahr presented the resolution adopting the 1990 Annual Road Program. He stated that the resolution has been compiled following several work sessions held with the Board, and that it represents the decisions made by the Board during those work sessions.

Commissioner Vaux motioned to approve the resolution adopting the 1990 Annual Road Program, as presented. Chairman Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12300)

2) Call for Bids - 1990 Motor Fuel.

Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution calling for bids for the purchase of motor fuel for the Public Works Department during the calendar year 1990, to be received and opened on December 11, 1989, at 1:30 p.m. Chairman Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12301)

3) Discussion - Recycling Incentives.

Rebecca Voerman, Recycling Coordinator, reported that she has identified five areas of dense population in unincorporated Skagit County; The Country Club, Big Lake, Gibraltar, Samish Island, and an area off of Rosario Road. She stated that Terry Knudsen of Rural Sanitation, has offered to provide a survey base of his customers on his Country Club route for distribution of the survey Ms. Voerman mentioned at last week's meeting.

Ms. Voerman then discussed incentives for recycling. She provided an example showing fictitious per can garbage pick up rates, the raise in rates based on a \$3.00 per can cost of recyclables pick up, and the raise in rates if incentives are applied to encourage citizens to maximize separation of recyclables and reduction of the number of cans for the incinerator. The incentives would include a mini-can rate, which would entail free pick up if a very small amount is to be collected for incineration each week.

Ms. Voerman noted that if Skagit County amends its Comprehensive Plan to encourage waste haulers to provide recycling services, then the Utilities and Transportation Commission would consider allowing inflated rates for households with larger quantities of incinerator-bound garbage to pay for reduced rates for those doing maximum recycling and minimum waste disposal.

Ms. Voerman reviewed the two methods in which recyclables are collected. The first method involves provision of a large bin or toter to each household for mixed recyclables. The bin would be picked up monthly, and recyclables separated at a remote location. The second method utilizes individual baskets for each type of recyclable which are supplied to each household and picked up weekly. Ms. Voerman noted the positive and negative aspects of each method.

Answering a question from Chairman Rohrer, Mr. Knudsen stated that separation of materials collected in toters would have to occur on a conveyor belt purchased either by the waste hauler, the county, or owned by a Seattle firm.

Commissioner Vaux pointed out that separation and disposal of recyclable materials could be addressed in the Request for Proposals for a recycling contractor.

Charlie Urbick of Skagit River Steel and Recycling indicated that his business does not want to be overlooked as a company able to perform recycling services for Skagit County.

Don Bockelman, a Day Creek citizen, made a statement of his views on Ms. Voerman's suggestions.

Ms. Voerman, answering Commissioner Vaux's questions, stated that the City of Seattle has an incentive program as part of their recycling effort. Ms. Voerman stated that the example she has shown today is taken from the City of Issaquah, where the City contracts with a private hauler for waste and recyclables pick up. The private hauler is not subsidized by the City.

Mr. Urbick felt that the more waste a household generates, the more it should be charged. Ms. Voerman agreed with this notion.

The Board briefly discussed who would provide the recycling containers.

Ms. Voerman explained how the higher rates for those households with larger numbers of waste cans would cover the rate incentives for smaller numbers and mini cans. She explained that an incentive program must take into account the approximate participation in the program.

Commissioner Vaux pointed out that if the results of the Request for Proposals shows another contractor to have submitted a bid lower than the current waste hauler, then the UTC rate incentives cannot be utilized. Commissioner Vaux noted that it would then be better to negotiate directly with the current waste hauler.

Mr. Spahr pointed out that if our incentive program makes the larger garbage generators pay for the smaller generators, the UTC may object to the rates, unless this program is supported in the County's Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Knudsen stated that the UTC subtracts the expenses for dumping fees from the customer rates, so if the hauler is dumping less waste, he loses the ability to charge for dumping fees.

Commissioner Vaux then motioned to direct the Public Works Department to proceed with the drafting of a proposed change to the Comprehensive Plan. Chairman Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered.

4) Miscellaneous.

Jeff Monsen, Assistant Public Works Director, reported that correspondence from the State Department of Emergency Management has indicated that a recommendation will be made to Governor Gardner that Skagit County not be declared a disaster area because of the recent flooding episode. He stated that the recommendation of the Department will be for Skagit County to exhaust all other methods of finance available first before making a request for emergency disaster funds.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A. Don Bockelman, a Day Creek citizen, asked questions of the Board. He wished to know what is being done about composting. He was advised that a meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow, November 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with city officials, DOE representatives and others to discuss regional composting.

Mr. Bockelman asked about the status of the "Don't Dump on Skagit" citizen's petition to adopt an ordinance against acceptance of out-of-county wastes. He was advised that an ordinance is being developed, and is in its second draft.

Mr. Bockelman stated that he attended an Environmental Affairs Hearing on ozone depletion. He asked what actions were being taken regarding his request for Skagit County to develop monitoring criteria and indicators for CFC gases. Chairman Rohrer declined to comment and Commissioner Vaux stated that Skagit County will do and is doing anything the Northwest Air Pollution Authority requires to monitor the Resource Recovery Facility.

- B. The Board approved for signature an Acknowledgement of Assessment Results for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, as provided by the Northwest Regional Council. The Assessment contained a recommendation for an additional \$300 to \$400 in funds received from the United Way "Golfers Against Cancer" fundraiser to be donated to supplement the volunteer mileage for meal delivery.

ADJOURNMENT

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

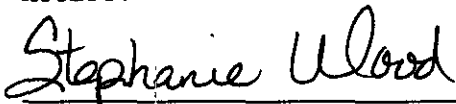


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Dave Rohrer, Chairman

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Ruth Wylie, Commissioner

  
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W. W. Vaux, Commissioner

ATTEST:



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Stephanie Wood, Clerk  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners