

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Tuesday, December 19, 1989

11:00 a.m. Presentation of Petition - Dangerous and Nuisance Dogs.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, December 19, 1989, in regular session, with Commissioners Dave Rohrer, Ruth Wylie and W. W. Vaux present.

PRESENTATION OF PETITION - DANGEROUS AND NUISANCE DOGS.

Charles Melton, Executive Secretary of the Cape Horn Residents Association, 3896 N. Shore Lane, Sedro Woolley, introduced Cape Horn residents attending the discussion. He presented a petition containing 152 signature of residents of the Cape Horn area, as well as other areas in Skagit County, requesting that the Board of Commissioners adopt ordinances prohibiting barking dogs which disturb the peace and dogs running at large, and to include penalties for individuals failing to obey the ordinance.

Mr. Melton indicated that the petition is a result of problems encountered by residents with nuisance dogs, not dangerous dogs. Mr. Melton stated that several residents have as many as eight hunting hounds quartered on their property, which bark and at times run at large. Mr. Melton stated that the Sheriff's Office refers calls from Cape Horn residents to the Humane Society, which responds only to dangerous dog complaints. Mr. Melton stated that the Skagit County Prosecuting Attorney's Office indicates that there are State nuisance dog laws, but that other more pressing cases would take precedence over cases filed regarding nuisance dogs.

Karla Kelly, 775 A Spruce Street, Cape Horn, reported having been surrounded by a large pack of dogs, and reviewed calls she has made to the Humane Society.

Mike Woodmansee, Budget/Finance Director, explained that any dog advancing in a menacing manner off of the owner's property may be considered a potentially dangerous animal, and may be subject to impoundment by the Skagit County Humane Society. He suggested freer utilization of the Humane Society to police at-large dogs. Mr. Woodmansee also indicated that the Board, by virtue of the State statutes, may create dog control districts, where property owners are assessed to pay for enforcement of leash laws.

Commissioner Wylie noted that leash law enforcement is an expensive burden for taxpayers.

Commissioner Vaux stated that if a leash law is enacted, it most likely would become a low priority for law enforcement, taking a backseat to other more emergent calls. Therefore, property owners may be assessed for little benefit. Mr. Vaux recommended instead a short term emphasis patrol by the Sheriff's Office, and better utilization of the dangerous dog ordinance now in place.

Commissioners Rohrer and Wylie concurred with this suggestion, promising to direct an emphasis patrol of the Cape Horn area by the Sheriff's Office, and requesting that Ms. Kelly provide the names and addresses of known offenders, and a time of day when emphasis patrol would best be performed.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A. As of this date, December 19, 1989, the Board, by unanimous vote, did approve for signature the following warrants and vouchers:

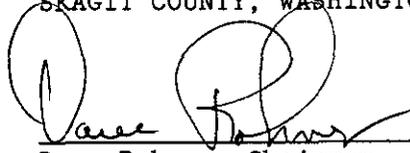
- 1) Warrant #MW50995 through #MW50996 in the amount of \$22,824.00 (C-54-89).
- 2) Warrant #50521 through #50994 (Voucher #912454 through #913096) in the amount of \$687,384.92 (C-53-89).

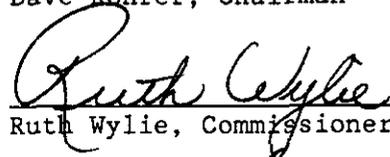
B. Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution closing Solid Waste Construction Fund #404 effective December 1, 1989, transferring the assets and liabilities of the fund to Solid Waste Operating Fund #401. Commissioner Wylie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Resolution #12330)

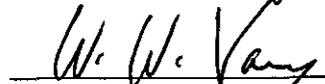
ADJOURNMENT

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

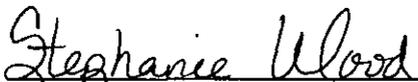
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Rohrer, Chairman

  
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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