

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, March 12, 1990

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

- 1) Public Hearing - Speed Limit Reduction on a Portion of Snee-Oosh Road #4001.
- 2) Discussion - Gas Tax Increase.
- 3) Resolution - Approval of Earth Week Video Contest.
- 4) Miscellaneous.

CONSENT AGENDA.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

1:30 p.m. Parks and Recreation Department - Jon Aarstad, Director:

- 1) Approval - Fair Advisory Board Bylaws Changes.
- 2) Discussion - Fair Improvement Projects Funding Request List.
- 3) Discussion - Parks Department Vehicles.
- 4) Miscellaneous.

2:30 p.m. 1) Resolution - Budget Line Item Change - Land Acquisition and Facilities Improvement Fund.
2) Resolution - Budget Line Item Change - District Court Probation.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, March 12, 1990, with Commissioners W. W. Vaux and Dave Rohrer present. Chairman Wylie's absence was excused.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - MARK SPAHR, DIRECTOR:

- 1) Public Hearing - Speed Limit Reduction on a Portion of Snee-Oosh Road #4001.

Commissioner Vaux waived the reading of the Notice of Public Hearing, as published in The Skagit Argus on February 27 and March 6, 1990.

Mr. Spahr located the area on Snee-Oosh Road between Parkway/Reservation Road (m.p. 5.50) and the intersection with Swinomish Avenue (m.p. 5.92) on a vicinity map.

Ed Hawes, Traffic Safety Engineer, related the findings of his Engineer's Report. He stated that the road was reviewed on March 5, 1990, in response to a resolution from the Swinomish Indian Senate. The current posted speed limit on the roadway is 45 m.p.h., with the average speed of motorists on the road being 40 m.p.h. Because the road passes by a housing development and park, in an area of considerable pedestrian travel, especially in the summer months, and because the narrow shoulders of the road, as well as the limited sight

distance due to the curved nature of the road, are not conducive to pedestrian travel, Mr. Hawes recommended that the speed limit on this section be reduced to 25 m.p.h.

A citizen, Charles Young, pointed out that an article in the Swinomish Channel News reports that a reduction to 35 m.p.h. is being considered, and also incorrectly describes the area of road being considered.

Mr. Spahr noted that the official Notice of Publication is correct in the County's legal newspaper of record.

Seeing no further comment, Commissioner Rohrer motioned to close the public hearing. Commissioner Vaux seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered.

Commissioner Rohrer then motioned to lower the speed limit on Snee-Oosh Road from milepoint 5.50 to milepoint 5.92 from 45 m.p.h. to 25 m.p.h. Commissioner Vaux seconded the motion, and the motion carried and was so ordered.

2) Discussion - Gas Tax Increase.

Jeff Monsen, Assistant Director of the Public Works Department, provided a summary of the major features of Governor Gardner's proposal for HB 2528 and the Leadership Proposal. He stated that all indications are that the Governor will sign the Leadership Proposal, which will add a \$.05 per gallon tax to the existing gas tax.

Mr. Monsen then reviewed the increase in funds Skagit County will receive from this bill, and some of the ways in which those funds will be utilized. Mr. Monsen stated that Skagit County will receive approximately \$250,000 to \$300,000 per year in additional gas tax revenue from the General Road Fund. The CAPP Program (County Arterial Preservation Program) will generate an additional \$300,000 to \$350,000 per year for Skagit County. Currently Skagit County road preservation funds are budgeted at approximately \$300,000 per year. This additional money will free up this budgeted \$300,000 for use on four other projects. Additional Transportation Improvement Board funds will be considered for a project to redirect Highway 20 from I-5 in Burlington west to where the highway divides, and/or a project to upgrade the Riverside Bridge. Rural Arterial Project funds may be used for upgrades on Bow Hill Road, Lyman-Hamilton Road, and other major and minor collectors. Basically, the increase in funds will double the number of projects that can be done under these programs.

Although a number of counties will suffer a decrease in Motor Vehicle Excise Tax under the bill, Skagit County will not.

Mr. Monsen summarized that HB 2528 will provide Skagit County with an additional \$750,000 per year for use in the County Road Fund. With timber revenues ever decreasing, this will help balance these losses, helping to keep up with needed reconstructions and special projects.

A citizen, Charles Young, asked if this is a State tax, or if the County must ratify it prior to its inception. Mr. Monsen stated that this is a Governor's bill, and if signed, gas prices will increase starting April 1, 1990.

3) Earth Week Activities.

Rebecca Voerman, Recycling Coordinator, reviewed a list of activities planned for Earth Week 1990 in April. She suggested that Skagit County plan on devoting two weeks to the Earth Week celebration to accommodate all of the activities planned. She stated that Chairman Wylie is working on a resolution to proclaim the dates for Earth Week.

Ms. Voerman stated that Skagit Valley College has activities planned for Earth Week as well, and that those activities will culminate with a presentation on Tuesday, April 24, 1990, at Skagit Valley College. She stated that the County has been asked to help with this presentation. County and College personnel have come up with the idea for a video contest, which would involve college and high school students composing and creating short videotapes depicting environmental involvement by citizens in Skagit County. Entries will be required to be submitted the week before April 24, and will be judged by a chosen panel, and the award for the best video announced on April 24 as the finale for the program. The prize of \$1,000 will come from the County's recycling budget, and may be awarded to an individual or a group.

The Board endorsed this idea, and Commissioner Rohrer motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing the purchase of a waste reduction/recycling video through a contest. Commissioner Vaux seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. Commissioner Vaux also requested that entrants be required to be students of Skagit Valley high schools or colleges. (Resolution #12406)

4) Miscellaneous.

- A. Mr. Spahr presented a memo to the Board which clarifies and confirms a discussion held on February 26, 1990, between the Board, Mr. Spahr, Jerry McInturff, Skagit County Auditor, and Robin LaRue, Design and Construction Manager, regarding road construction project contract amounts. The memo confirms that the policy of the addition of a 10% contingency to road construction contracts for unforeseen increases in material quantities will stand. It is understood that the Public Works Director or County Engineer may approve change orders that do not exceed the contract bid amount plus the contingency, or do not materially change the scope of the project. The Board must approve any change order where either the bid amount and contingency is exceeded or the scope of work is changed. The Auditor is authorized to process contractor payments up to the total amount of the contract plus the approved contingency amount.
- B. Mr. Spahr explained that the resolution authorizing funds for the LaConner-Whitney Road CRP was signed based on the bid of the lowest bidder. In order to satisfy the conditions of a Federal Aid Project Grant, the lowest bidder was disqualified for lack of women and minority documentation. In having to choose the second lowest bid, \$10,000 was added to the cost of the CRP. Additionally, it was necessary to forego

plans for guardrail to surround a drainage ditch because of space limitation due to the presence of underground utilities. Placement of 150 feet of 5 foot diameter culvert, and filling in of the drainage ditch eliminated the need for guardrail, but added to the total cost of the project. These circumstances produced the need for a resolution authorizing additional funds in the amount of \$35,800 to be added to the CRP.

Commissioner Vaux discussed with Mr. Spahr the reason the original design did not take into account the inadequate space for guardrail. Mr. Spahr stated that the initial request for information from the utilities did not indicate a congestion of underground utilities until construction had begun on the road. Commissioner Vaux admonished the design department for their incomplete research during the project design phase, but motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing Revision #3 to CRP #4241 on LaConner Whitney Road, adding an additional \$35,800 to the construction item for a total of \$299,118. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12407)

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

- A. Ray Melton, a member of the public, stated that on November 28, 1989, he submitted a request for a Special Use Permit to the Skagit County Planning Department for a project on Cook and Green Roads. On February 23, 1990, he received a request for more information from the Planning Department. This was submitted. Last week, approximately 120 days later, he was notified by the Planning Department that he would need an Environmental Impact Statement. Mr. Melton had hoped to have reached the Planning Commission with his request by March 21, 1990, but now felt that, because of the inordinate delay caused by the Planning Department, he would be unable to keep his timetable and his project would be jeopardized. He asked that the Board research the reason for the delay.

The Board agreed to look into the matter.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the consent agenda for March 12, 1990. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered.

1. Public Works Department:

- a) Call for Public Hearing - Vacation of a Portion of County Right-of-Way in the Plat of Grassmere. (Scheduled for April 2, 1990, at 10:30 a.m.) (Resolution #12409)
- b) Signature - Resolution Regarding the Name and/or Number Change or Clarification of Various Roads in Skagit County. (Resolution #12410)
- c) Signature - Out-of-State Travel Request for Dan Cain, Fire Marshal - MicroComputer Application class at Emergency Management National Training Center in Emmitsburg, MD, May 6-12, 1990.

2. Petition for Property Tax Refund - Irving L. Skaw, 3390 Shangri La Drive, Sedro Woolley, WA 98284, in the amount of \$168.92, due to a senior citizen exemption. (000690)
3. Board of County Commissioners:
 - a) Records of the Proceedings:
 - 1) February 22, 1990
 - 2) February 23, 1990
 - 3) February 26, 1990
 - 4) February 27, 1990
 - 5) February 28, 1990
 - 6) March 5, 1990
 - 7) March 7, 1990

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

- A. In accordance with action previously taken, the Board approved for signature the resolution establishing a revolving fund for claim settlement. (Resolution #12408)
- B. As of this date, March 12, 1990, the Board, by unanimous vote, did approve for signature the following warrants and vouchers:
 - 1) Warrants #70330 through #70443 (Vouchers #70330 through #70443) in the amount of \$296,895.41 (R-8-90).
- C. Judy Menish, Skagit County Treasurer, presented a Petition for Property Tax Refund from Mr. and Mrs. Stan Knight, 1580 Highway 9, Mount Vernon, WA 98273, in the amount of \$93.57. She stated that at the time the Knight's purchased their property from a local title company on February 27, they were told by the title company not to worry about a tax statement, as the County would send them one. The first half taxes were paid on February 28. When the change of title was received from the title company by the Treasurer's Office, there was a question regarding the conveyance, and it was sent to the Assessor's Office for clarification. There was a delay in receiving the conveyance back from the Assessor's Office, and so the Treasurer's Office did not receive it back until several months later, sending a tax statement at that time. The new owner waited for the statement, but did not inquire when he did not receive it, his property accruing late penalties all the while.

After receiving the tax statement and noting the penalty, the owner attempted to make payment without the penalty, and finally did pay the penalty amount. As the RCW's do not support a refund or waiver of the penalty, the Chief Civil Deputy for the County suggested that the property owner appeal to the Board of County Commissioners to request that the penalty be excused.

Katy Jungquist, Deputy Treasurer, stated that to her knowledge a penalty has never been waived for late payment, and may set a dangerous

precedent.

Ms. Menish stated that she has contacted the title company, who stated that they gave specific written instructions to the Knights for payment of property taxes.

Commissioner Vaux then motioned to deny the Petition for Property Tax Refund of Mr. and Mrs. Stan Knight for \$93.57. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered.

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT - JON AARSTAD, DIRECTOR:

1) Approval - Fair Advisory Board Bylaws Changes.

Mr. Aarstad provided a resolution amending the Fair Advisory Board Bylaws to include sections providing for the election of Officers at the September Board meeting, the appointment of Fair Advisory Board members by the Commissioners regardless of the Commissioner District the Board member lives in, and the reduction of the number of Board Members that constitute a quorum at the Advisory Board meetings. These amendments had been previously suggested by the Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Rohrer motioned approval of the bylaws changes, as outlined by Mr. Aarstad. Commissioner Vaux seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12411)

The Board then approved for signature the new Fair Advisory Board Bylaws containing the changes outlined above.

2) Discussion - Fair Improvement Projects Funding Request List.

Mike Woodmansee, Budget/Finance Director, stated that during the 1990 budgeting process, Mr. Aarstad approached the Board for fair improvement funding. He was directed to returned with specific projects he intended to fund, and advised that he could receive funding from the Land Acquisition and Facilities Improvement Fund #340.

At this time, Mr. Aarstad reviewed his list of requests for specific fair improvement projects as follows:

- Fire Escape Stairway	\$ 1,305
- Interior Security Improvements	140
- Porch Repair	470
- Information Office Window	160
- Sheep Barn-Weather and Activity Protection	1,940
- Security Fencing	<u>1,610</u>
	\$ 5,625

Commissioner Rohrer motioned approval for funding of Mr. Aarstad's list. Commissioner Vaux seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered.

3) Discussion - Parks Department Vehicles.

Mr. Aarstad explained that the vehicle used by County employees at Howard Miller Steelhead Park is defunct to the point that it is not cost effective to repair it. The truck used by the Fair for transportation of jail trustees and supply runs, which is a used Public Works vehicle, has also be deemed unworthy of repair. Used replacement vehicles are not available from Public Works at this time.

In discussion with Mr. Woodmansee and Larry Libby of the Public Works Department, a recommendation has been made by them to buy two used vehicles and pay for them from the Equipment Rental Fund. A yearly amortization of \$2,500 would be assessed to the Fair Fund, and \$3,500 per year to the Parks Fund for the Howard Miller Steelhead Park. He requested that the Board authorize a call for bids.

Commissioner Vaux was concerned about how the specifications would be written for a used vehicle. The Board discussed with Mr. Aarstad the uses of the vehicles and their proximity to a repair facility, should problems occur.

Commissioner Rohrer was apprehensive about purchasing used equipment. His suggestion to have the road crew buy two new vehicles and give two old units to the Parks Department was deemed impossible, since the Operations Superintendent stated an inability to produce a bid document for the next four to six months.

The Board finally agreed that the Parks Department is in need of two new vehicles, and directed Mr. Aarstad to discuss their acquisition with Mr. Libby.

4) Miscellaneous.

A. Mr. Aarstad produced telephone quotations for a new xerox machine for the Parks Department, for a new utility vehicle, and for playground equipment. The Board approved his recommendations for purchases.

B. Mr. Aarstad discussed with the Board the acquisition of property for a park facility near Marblemount.

C. Mr. Aarstad discussed with the Board the installation of playground equipment at Fidalgo School by Skagit County.

RESOLUTION - BUDGET LINE ITEM CHANGE - LAND ACQUISITION AND FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT FUND.

Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing a budget line item change in the amount of \$30,000 from the building improvements line item to the professional services line item in the Land Acquisition/Facility Improvement Fund #340, to pay for additional expenses of facility studies. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12413)

RESOLUTION - BUDGET LINE ITEM CHANGE - DISTRICT COURT PROBATION.

Commissioner Vaux motioned to adopt the resolution authorizing a budget line item change in the amount of \$147 from the salaries line item to the professional services line item of the Current Expense Fund to pay for temporary secretarial services used by the District Court Probation Department. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12412)

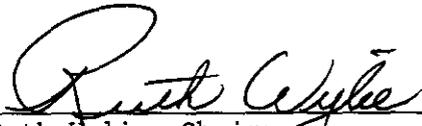
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

- A. As of this date, March 12, 1990, the Board, by unanimous vote, did approve for signature the following warrants and vouchers:
- 1) Warrants #53173 through #53670 (Vouchers #001647 through #002288 in the amount of \$587,539.68 (C-12-90).
- B. Commissioner Vaux motioned to accept Endorsement #2 to the Skagit County Medical Bureau Group Health Care Service Contract for Skagit County Employees. Commissioner Rohrer seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered.

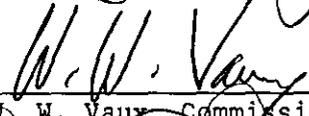
ADJOURNMENT

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Ruth Wylie, Chairman

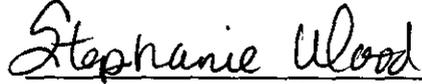


W. W. Vaux, Commissioner



Dave Rohrer, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Stephanie Wood, Clerk
Skagit County Board of Commissioners