

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

**Tuesday, August 28, 1990**

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| 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.   | Work Session - Operations Superintendent and Road Supervisors.   |
| 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.   | Board of Health:<br><br>1) Variance Request of F. Kenneth Shears to Allow Construction of a Pole Building Within the 30 Foot Setback to a Mound On-Site Sewage Disposal System.  |
| 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Discussion - Farm Worker Housing Grant - Kay Haaland, WSU Cooperative Extension Chairman.  |
| 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Parks and Recreation Department - Jon Aarstad, Director:<br><br>1) Bid Award Recommendation - Top Dresser.<br>2) Call for Bids - Mobile Home for Howard Miller Steelhead Park.<br>3) Call for Bids - Installation of Septic System at Clear Lake Swimming Park.<br>4) Out-of-State Travel Request. |
| 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.   | Public Comment Period.   |
| 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.   | Proclamation - Literacy Month.   |

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, August 28, 1990, with Commissioners Ruth Wylie and Dave Rohrer present. Commissioner Vaux's absence was excused.

**BOARD OF HEALTH:**

- 1) Variance Request of F. Kenneth Shears to Allow Construction of a Pole Building Within the 30 Foot Setback to a Mound On-Site Sewage Disposal System.

George Ridgeway, Environmental Health Specialist, explained that Mr. Shears was issued a sewage permit in 1981 for the installation of a septic system to serve a new residence at 1734 Maple Lane in Laconner. Mr. Shears would not like to build a pole building for mobile home storage adjacent to his home and downhill from the path of his mound drainfield system. Skagit County Code states that if a building is downhill from a mound, it must be set back by 30 feet. Mr. Ridgeway explained how a mound system works and why this law is relevant. He stated that there is concern that the compaction of the mound system caused by the location of a building over it would interfere with the treatment of sewage. Mr. Ridgeway explained that a curtain drain currently exists below the mound system, and Mr. Shears is proposing to use it to drain the mound down into a wooded area below his property. This drainage plan would, however, be quite close to the 100 foot radius from Mr. Shears's well.

Mr. Ridgeway indicated that the Planning Department would recommend that Mr. Shears be allowed this variance if the following conditions are met:

- Remove the curtain drain
- Park the RV unit perpendicular to the mound

## RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, August 28, 1990

Page #2

- Pour no concrete slab for a floor of the pole building. A wood floor is suggested.
- Extend the roof drainage away from the area below the mound.

Mr. Shears argued that a cement business has assured him that the weight of a concrete floor would be only about 52 pounds per square foot.

When questioned by Commissioner Rohrer, Mr. Ridgeway stated that the condition regarding the concrete floor is so that the evaporation of the drainfield will not be impeded by the impervious layer of cement.

Discussion ensued on the possibility of removing the curtain drain. Mr. Shears showed the Board photographs of the wooded area below his house where the drainfield would be funneled.

John Thayer, Environmental Health Supervisor, explained that the mound itself is part of the sewage treatment process. He stated that by bypassing the mound with the curtain drain, part of the treatment process is bypassed.

Commissioner Rohrer, at this point, motioned to approve Mr. Shears's request for a sewage system waiver with the conditions stated by the Planning Department, and pending the approval of the State Board of Health. Commissioner Wylie seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered.

### DISCUSSION - FARM WORKER HOUSING GRANT - KAY HAALAND, WSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Haaland proposed that, with the successful bid for a large grant she is anticipating, one new staff person be hired for a three year period to coordinate the farm worker housing program of the Cooperative Extension. She reviewed the activities that this person would be expected to perform.

Ms. Haaland reviewed the steps she has taken to promote farm worker housing, stating that a Skagit Farm Worker Housing Group has been incorporated and has received 501-C3 non-profit status. Lisa Nielsen is the director of that group, which is receiving technical assistance from the Office of Rural and Farm Worker Housing, another non-profit group, as well as Federal groups and the Skagit County Housing Authority.

Ms. Haaland wished to know if the County would like to be a partner with the WSU Cooperative Extension in this venture. She did stated that the Cooperative Extension should act as the fiscal agent for the grant, because they have had experience dealing with this foundation before.

Ms. Haaland revealed that her funding source is the Northwest Area Foundation, whose founder is Lewis Hill, a railway businessman. She expects approximately \$100,000 in funding from this source.

Answering questions from Chairman Wylie regarding the County's participation, Ms. Haaland indicated that she has no time or expertise to supervise this proposed new position, and so would like to bring in a non-profit organization and the Planning Department to provide these functions.

Ms. Haaland then asked the Board if they would agree to the submittal of this request.

Chairman Wylie asked that Ms. Haaland spell out her proposal in a detailed presentation and in writing to the Board before a decision is made on her request.

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**

**Tuesday, August 28, 1990**

**Page #3**

**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT - JON AARSTAD, DIRECTOR:**

1) Bid Award Recommendation - Top Dresser.

Jack Davis, Parks Supervisor, reported that the Parks Department is recommending that the bid of the Barnett Implement Company of Mount Vernon be accepted, although it is the second lowest. He stated that the product they are bidding, a Bannerman model, has options such as brakes for parking on slopes, lights for towing the unit, and large tires to decrease compaction, that the low bidder does not offer, which the department would like to have. He also indicated that the low bidder is a Canadian firm, so that servicing of the unit would be inconvenient.

Commissioner Rohrer motioned to adopt the resolution awarding the bid for a new top dresser to Barnett Implement for a Bannerman unit at the bid price of \$14,270.63. Chairman Wylie seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. (Resolution #12624)

2) Call for Bids - Mobile Home for Howard Miller Steelhead Park.

Commissioner Rohrer motioned to call for bids for a new mobile home for the Howard Miller Steelhead Park. Chairman Wylie seconded the motion, which carried and was so ordered. No resolution was presented for signature at this time. This will be done at a later date.

3) Call for Bids - Installation of Septic System at Clear Lake Swimming Park.

This item had been addressed under Miscellaneous Items on the previous day.

4) Out-of-State Travel Requests.

The Board approved the following out-of-state travel requests:

- Lori Tracy: Travel to Salem, Oregon, to attend the Oregon State Fair on August 29, 1990. Meals and lodging: \$65.00.
- Barbara Lawrence: Travel to Salem, Oregon, to attend the Oregon State Fair on August 29, 1990. Meals and lodging: \$65.00.
- Dave Barber: Travel to Salem, Oregon, to attend the International Northwest Parks and Recreation Association Annual Training Institute from September 25 to 28, 1990. Travel budget: \$240.00.
- Wayne Soucy: Travel to Salem, Oregon, to attend the International Northwest Parks and Recreation Association Annual Training Institute from September 25 to 28, 1990. Travel budget: \$240.00.

Mr. Aarstad began to update the Board on the Burlington Northern Railroad land acquisition project, but Chairman Wylie requested that he schedule his discussion on next week's regular agenda so that the public would be properly informed.

**PROCLAMATION - LITERACY MONTH:**

Beth Wallace, Co-Chairman of the Skagit Valley Literacy Council, introduced the members present to the Board. She discussed the Literacy Council's program, and statements were heard from other members present.

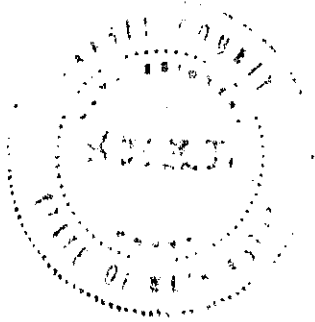
**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**  
**Tuesday, August 28, 1990**  
**Page #4**


Chairman Wylie then read the proclamation, and it was signed and presented to Ms. Wallace.

ADJOURNMENT:

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


BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON



  
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Ruth Wylie, Chairman

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W. W. Vaux, Commissioner  
  
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Dave Rohrer, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
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Stephanie Wood, Clerk  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners