

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

**Monday, October 12, 1992**

- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.            Board of Health.
- 1)     Health Care Reform and Core Functions of Local Health Departments.
  - 2)     Temporary Part-time Position - Grant Writer and Health Policy Analyst.
- CONSENT AGENDA.
- MISCELLANEOUS.
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.            Signature - Skagit Valley Mall Lease Amendment - Cooperative Extension.
- 11:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.            Action on Proposed Revision to Utility Service Review Procedure (Coordinated Water System Plan) by Swinomish Tribal Community.
- 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.            Budget Work Sessions.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, October 12, 1992 with Commissioners Robinson, Vaux and Wylie present.

**BOARD OF HEALTH.**

- 1)     Health Care Reform and Core Functions of Local Health Departments.

Carolyn Milat, Health Department Director, and John Thayer, Environmental Health Specialist, addressed the Board. Mr. Thayer stated that health care reform has been in the news recently and will continue to be for the next couple of years. Health care reform programs will have an impact on local public health departments. Mr. Thayer said that there are requests for staffing in the Health Department's budget significant for meeting the needs of providing services to the community. The County's portion of federal expense funding has changed drastically. Funding strategies for local and state health facilities have changed. Mr. Thayer stated that the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report recommended a strategy in 1988 regarding how to deal with the lack of leadership in public health. The IOM suggested three key functions of government in public health: Assessment, Policy Development and Assurance. The County's local health department is heavily involved in the assurance strategy through water quality, restaurants, critical water supply, etc. Funds for health care reform in Washington State have been reduced, making it necessary for agencies to charge fees for services; and request grants in order to continue local programs and provide adequate staffing. It was the plan to strengthen the State Board of Health in making rules and regulations for local health agencies.

Mr. Thayer stated that through the State Board of Health and the Washington Association of Counties, Washington State has a stronger Department of Health team. Mr. Thayer said that the reason that the recommendations were brought to the Board were to provide an historical perspective on the dilemma of funding for Population-based Health Services; to acquaint the Board with the three Core functions of Assessment, Policy Development and Assurance; to encourage the Board to support and lobby state legislators on the need to include population based services in a reformed health care system; and to be prepared to carry a fair share of the costs of these services in future budgets.

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Commissioner Wylie asked whether the County Health Department was servicing those members of the public who have no health insurance and have no means of medical assistance.

Ms. Milat stated that our County Health Department is a preventative treatment center and is not capable to handle treatment of actual illnesses. Referrals to physicians are made after examinations are performed. She said that there is a program being considered where coordinated or managed care would be available. Rather than those in need of medical care that have medical coupons having to search out a physician that will accept them, they would be assigned to one. She said that it is more economical to practice prevention. The County would have to contract for primary care provisions. At this time the County Health Department only treats sexually transmitted diseases and Tuberculosis. Ms. Milat stated that due to the lack of funding, the County Health Department is involved primarily in the assurance portion of the core functions of public health. The assessment function is needed to identify trends in illness and death. The County Health Department has plenty of information, but no source of analysis. There needs to be a data system put together state-wide for information access.

Chairman Robinson asked where present funding is coming from.

Mr. Thayer stated that the County is providing funds, and the desire is for the County to continue to pay their fair share. He said that initially, more funding will be needed to promote a health assessment system. Once an assessment system is in place, the savings from prevention will allow for more funds in the future. He said that it costs less to prevent an illness or accident than it does to provide treatment later.

Commissioner Vaux asked where the funding was going to come from for the assessment program.

Mr. Thayer stated that it was not decided where the funding was coming from.

Commissioner Vaux stated that the Board has to make financial decisions for the County budget. He said that they are being requested to contribute the County's fair share to health reform, and feels that has been done. The County is looking at diminishing funds in the future, and there are not funds to distribute to all the good causes and projects presented to them. It is becoming more difficult to prioritize where County funds are to be dispersed. He felt that the only State interest is to put the financial responsibility on the Counties and Cities. He stated that there is less money available, and more demand. He felt that the general public believes that the Government squanders funds and that there is plenty to go around. He does not agree with this concept. The State and Federal Governments are low on money and Washington State's main source of funding is through tax dollars. Washington has been fortunate that it has remained level when other counties' tax income dropped.

Mr. Thayer stated that he does not know what the "fair share" for the County to contribute is. He hoped that decision would be made through the State from the Legislature. He said that there has been mention of an increase in "sin" taxes.

Barb Meier, Health Nurse, stated that when there is an ill person and the money is present for the prevention of illness, care is sometimes hard to accomplish. There was a case of a 17-year-old who tested positive for Tuberculosis and was given medication to take for it. If this person had followed the prescribed treatment and taken all the medication given, the treatment would have cost the County \$10.00. It ended up costing about \$40,000 due to the person not taking the medicine, just picking it up and walking out the door with it. All the people that had been in contact with the infectious person had to be found, tested and treated. She stated that prevention is the key to cost savings.

Chairman Robinson stated that it is understood that there are needs in all the departments, it is a matter of where to get the funding.

Ms. Milat felt that the Board needed to know the information presented, and the Health Department will continue to discuss possibilities with the Board.

2) Temporary Part-time Position - Grant Writer and Health Policy Analyst.

Ms. Milat stated that a part-time position is being requested to provide assistance to the department as a grant writer and health policy analyst. The non-competitive grants have already been applied for, and the funding is available to provide services to the community for public health, and to pay for immunization and well child clinics. In August of this year, the hope was to utilize a part-time person because there was contract services money available. Time has now passed and there are grant moneys available to fund a part-time person.

Ms. Meier stated that the funding from the state can be used for hiring a person to implement the previously discussed assessment program. The purpose for the assessment program would be to have children at risk being followed up on for medical care. She said that the communicable disease center is providing funds to counties to improve immunization status of children from birth to two years. A plan has been submitted to provide immunization at different sites. Half the funding would be used to develop the assessment system. She felt that it would be worthwhile to use the available funds. Ms. Meier stated that she had attended a conference dealing with the proposed assessment program. In an example used at the conference, if an assessment program had not been used to analyze infant mortality, the target group would have been selected erroneously.

Commissioner Vaux asked why Skagit County couldn't wait and utilize another county's system.

Ms. Milat stated that the other counties don't have a system as yet, and that there needs to be a source of communication with the providers in this County.

Commissioner Vaux felt that the health districts need one assessment system rather than 39.

Ms. Meier stated that there is one at the State level, but the local health districts need a way to collect raw data and have it interpreted correctly.

Commissioner Vaux asked whether doctor's were required to report to the State Department of Health regarding immunizations.

Ms. Milat stated that the vaccine provided to physicians from the County Health Department is incorporated into the County's report to the State Department of Health, but those physicians who purchase vaccine independently do not report back to the State Department of Health. The only way to tell the status of vaccinations is to survey the physicians who do not receive vaccine from the County, and then the surveys do not always come back. The National push for immunization grant funding is to ensure that necessary immunizations are done.

Chairman Robinson asked if there were funds available for the requested part-time person.

Ms. Milat stated that the grant funds would support the part-time person.

Chairman Robinson stated that the problem that sometimes arises with persons hired on grant funding is that they expect to become a full-time employee after the grant has expired. The cost then rests with the County.

Ms. Milat stated that the grant funds are already approved and on their way. If the part-time person cannot be hired, then the funds will be returned. There is not a County employee available to work on the project the grant supports. Ms. Milat requested that the same person be utilized for other projects in the County Health Department, using contract services funds.

It was the consensus of the Board that the Health Department may hire a part-time person to work on the projects outlined by the forth-coming grant funds as long as it is made clear that the position ends when the grant funds end. The Health Department Director can spend contract services funds available as she deems necessary.

**CONSENT AGENDA.**

**\*Administrative Services:**

1. Record of the Proceedings for the week of Monday, September 21, 1992.
2. Record of the Proceedings for Monday, September 28, 1992.
3. Signature - Addendum to Lease Agreement, Commercial Premises with Daniel and Emily Garcia at 118 East Main Street, Concrete, Washington, Baker - Lot 7, Block 4, Less six feet for street. Amended to be for a four year term of lease rather than three, commencing June 25, 1990, terminating June 30, 1994. Effective November 1, 1992, rent shall be \$594. Effective December 1, 1992, and each month thereafter through the termination of the contract monthly rent shall be \$567. (Contract #001344).
4. Signature - Contract for Professional Services with East Valley Medical Center, 402 "D" Street, Concrete, Washington, for the collection of urine samples for analysis for the presence of illegal drugs pursuant to the Laboratory of Pathology collection and chain of custody procedures at the rate of \$12.50 per collection. Contract commences June 1, 1992 and continues until June 1, 1994. (Contract #01453).
5. Signature - Contract for Professional Services with Thomas Moser, Attorney at Law, 709 South 1st Street, Mount Vernon, Washington to serve as Hearing Examiner Pro Tem at the rate of \$50.00 per hour commencing October 1, 1992 and terminating December 31, 1994. (Contract #01454).
6. Signature - Contract Amendment to establish road on easement upon request of Warren Presentin and/or his heirs, personal representatives, assignees or successors in interest that the County shall forthwith install said road and complete the same as soon as is reasonably practical with the consideration of the weather and ground conditions. (Deed #00002).

\* Health Department:

7. Signature - Resolution approving a reduced set-back between a new drilled well and County road right-of-way for Steven Barron-Gripp Road, Waiver of Chapter 12.48.240(5) of the Skagit County Code. (Resolution #14496).
8. Signature - Resolution denying the waiver request of Mr. William Thomas to waive the requirement of a replacement sewage system. (Resolution #14497).

• Parks, Recreation, and Fair:

9. Signature - Facility Rental Application and Agreement. Bayview Elementary Gym, Wednesdays and Fridays, October 1992, through December 1992 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. for Adult Volley Ball League. Estimated cost: \$56.25 per use. (Contract #01292).
10. Signature - Facility Rental Application and Agreement. Burlington-Edison High School Gym and Fieldhouse, Saturday, November 14, 1992, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a Volleyball Tournament. Estimated cost \$100.00. (Contract #01292).
11. Signature - Facility Rental Application and Agreement. Burlington-Edison High School Fieldhouse, Wednesdays, October 1992, through December 1992, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for Adult Volleyball League. Estimated cost: \$30.00 per night. (Contract #01292).
12. Signature - Facility Rental Application and Agreement. Sedro-Woolley School District, Central Gym, Mary Purcell Elementary Gym or Evergreen Elementary Gym. Tuesdays, September 8, 1992 through May, 1993, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., for children's dance instruction. No fee. (Contract #01292).
13. Signature - Agreement for Use of School Facilities - Cascade Middle School Gym, Saturdays, October 31, through December 19, 1992, from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., for Youth Basketball Camp. (Contract #01292).
14. Signature - Agreement for Use of School Facilities - Cascade Middle School Cafeteria, Beginning October 8th through - for Youth Dance/Ballet and Tumbling, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Contract #01292).

\* Planning and Community Development:

15. Signature - Resolution to call for a public hearing concerning Variance Request #VAR-92-040 of Larry Bughi, 170 Rosario Beach Road, Anacortes, Washington, on Monday, November 2, 1992, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room. (Resolution #14498).

• Public Works:

16. Signature - Amendment to Department of Ecology Grant #G9200268, Adding Subtask 1.7 - Composting Source Separation Organic Waste Feasibility Study. Maximum eligible cost \$39,017.00.

17. Signature - Easement/Agreement - Martin R. and Diane Lind, Water Service. This agreement allows the County to provide public water to the Lind property and in exchange the County is released of responsibility for the family. (Contract #01455).

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

- A) Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by R.C.W. 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by R.C.W.42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board.

As of this date, October 12, 1992, the Board, by a majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:

- 1) Warrants #MW88123-12 (Vouchers #V88123-12) in the amount of \$2,222.84. Transmittal #C-38-92.
  - 2) Warrants #92477 through 92957 (Vouchers #92477 through 92957) in the amount of \$331,672.04. Transmittal #R-20-92.
- B) Signature - Resolution for a Budget Line Item Change for the Drug Enforcement Cumulative Reserve Fund #160 in the amount of \$1,975.00.m (Resolution #14599).
- C) The final Mylars for Plat No. PPT 92-006, a replat of a portion of Tract 2, Burlington acreage for Janice Van De Grift, Section 28, Township 35 North, Range 4 East, W.M.
- D) Roger Howard, Facilities Manager, reviewed that last week he had addressed the Board regarding a letter he had received from Global Environmental withdrawing their bid on the removal of underground storage tank removal. The Board at that time passed a motion to award the bid to the next lowest bidder, Environmental Excavation, in order to begin the project as soon as possible. Mr. Howard then discussed with the Board another letter he received from Global Environmental stating that they would like to go ahead and accept the bid award for the removal of storage tanks. They gave no reason for their change of decision, and as advised by Mr. John Moffat, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, the bid should be awarded to them. Mr. Howard will formally present the issue in regular session next week.

**SIGNATURE - SKAGIT VALLEY MALL LEASE AMENDMENT - COOPERATIVE EXTENSION.**

Roger Howard, Facilities Manager addressed the Board. He stated that he had the Skagit Valley Mall people perform office improvements for the WSU Cooperative Extension lease space beyond what was originally planned. Rather than pay in one lump sum for the additional improvements, it has been agreed to spread the cost over the term of the lease as outlined in Lease Amendment No. 1. The minimum annual rental for the base rental period shall be changed from \$30,808.50 to the sum of \$32,128.50 per annum paid monthly at a rate of \$2,677.38.

Commissioner Vaux motioned to approve the Amendment No.1 to the Skagit Valley Mall Lease for the Cooperative Extension. Commissioner Wylie seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (Contract #01323).

**ACTION ON PROPOSED REVISION TO UTILITY SERVICE REVIEW PROCEDURE (COORDINATED WATER SYSTEM PLAN) BY SWINOMISH TRIBAL COMMUNITY.**

Ester Fowler addressed the Board regarding a letter submitted by the Swinomish Tribal Community at the last WUCC meeting requesting a change to the wording on the Draft Coordinated Water Plan. There needed to be clarification on what was to go to print the next day. Their request was to change Section V.3(B) to read:

Skagit County and Swinomish Tribal Planning Department will coordinate review of requests for "fill-in" water service related to non-Indian fee lands as consistent with the CWPS process. The spirit of this coordination will be to assure that new development on such lands is consistent with County and Tribal land use policies.

Commissioner Vaux stated that the Fidalgo Water Plan that is in place states that the Swinomish Tribe will be water purveyor for inside of Tribal land. He felt that the issue was not the water itself, but the tribal zoning requirements on tribal fee simple land.

Commissioner Vaux asked Mayor Dan O'Donnell what he would suggest that a person do for water if he wanted to buy land on tribal property.

Mayor O'Donnell stated that the person would be referred to the County or to the Tribe.

Ms. Fowler stated that the document is a water utility document, and in this case the tribe is strictly a water purveyor.

The consensus was that the language provided by the Swinomish Tribe was not going to be used in the printing of the draft. Commissioner Vaux will contact Mr. Wubbena, the consultant working on the document and let him know to print the language already present as V.3(B) with a footnote stating that this is the language that had been decided on at previous meetings, and that it was not final as yet, and also print the language suggested by the Tribe with a footnote stating that this is the language proposed by the tribe for V.3(B), and that it was not final as yet. The draft document will go out with the suggested changes.


**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Wylie motioned to adjourn the proceedings, Commissioner Vaux seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Robby Robinson, Chairman

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Ruth Wylie, Commissioner

  
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W. W. Vaux, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Connie Carter, Clerk  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners