

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

**Tuesday, December 28, 1993**

- 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.    Staff Meeting.
- 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.    Planning Department - David Hough, Director
- 1)        Discussion - Urban Growth Areas.
  - 2)        Code Enforcement Report.
  - 3)        Miscellaneous.
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.    Public Hearing - Extension of Moratorium on Acceptance of new Applications for Commercial Fish Net Pens.
- 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.    Signature - Grant Agreement - Juvenile Offender Treatment Program.

**PLANNING DEPARTMENT - David Hough, Director:**

1. Discussion - Urban Growth Areas.

David Hough, Director, advised the Board of the various meetings being held concerning urban growth areas this week and next with the cities of Burlington, Hamilton, Sedro Woolley, Mount Vernon and Anacortes. Mr. Hough also advised the Board that he had met with Matt Rasmussen of the Skagit Valley Herald and discussed the premise that deliberations regarding urban growth should not be held in the newspaper.

Mr. Hough displayed to the Board a map showing urban growth areas in the Burlington area. The City of Burlington felt that the city boundaries could be extended to include certain new developments. The Board assured Mr. Hough that they had no problem with the boundaries proposed by the City of Burlington. The only additional concerns Mr. Hough felt might need to be addressed later would be possible septic drain field problems. Mr. Hough displayed a map showing the special flood risk area adjacent to Gages slough. An alternative would be to take advantage of Gages Slough as a natural buffer/line, and use the slough as the natural City boundary line. The Board expressed their concern regarding development along Highway 20 if that area is included in the Burlington city boundaries. The Board and Mr. Hough determined where various agriculture land would remain. The Board concurred that all alternatives need to be explored before any final decisions are made. Commissioner Wolden expressed his belief that the County should keep the area rural, and discourage development in the flood plain. Mr. Hough has asked other counties to provide copies of their interlocal agreements to help in developing a generic interlocal agreement to use with all cities within the County in developing these urban growth areas.

2. Code Enforcement Report.

The Code Enforcement Report was provided for review.

3. Miscellaneous.

A. Planning Department Staff presented the Board with Addendum #1 to Extend the Contract Expiration Date for Interagency Agreement #001789 to Provide Commercial and Noncommercial Farm Inventory for the Samish Watershed to February 28, 1994. Commissioner Robinson moved to approve this contract addendum. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wolden, and passed unanimously. (Contract #1789)

B. Planning Department staff advised the Board of a Special Use Application for an RV Park campground for 250 full hook-ups, tent campers, and a caretaker residence on 80 acres east of Marblemount on Cascade River Road. Clarification of the policy as relates to the conversion of the land is necessary as relates to the 6-year moratorium

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applied to any land use permits. Jim Cahill, Assistant Planner, reviewed County policy and zoning ordinances concerning this matter. The Board determined that the County needs to look at the provisions of the moratorium and directed Planning Department staff to determine what legal procedures are necessary to make a decision on a moratorium on this particular parcel.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

A. Mike Woodmansee, Budget/Finance Director, presented a resolution to the Board authorizing a call for Public Hearing on a supplemental budget in the amount of \$160,000 for the Public Health Fund. Commissioner Wolden moved to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Resolution #15189)

B. Mike Woodmansee also presented a resolution regarding a Budget Line Item Change. The budget line item changes would be:

Elections Services Fund #113	\$	4,000
Parks & Recreation Fund #114		5,000
Capital Improvement Fund #341		10,000

Commissioner Wolden moved to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed. (Resolution #15186)

C. Mike Woodmansee presented a Resolution Closing the Courthouse Gas Pump Fund #502. Commissioner Wolden moved to adopt this resolution. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. (Resolution #15187)

**PUBLIC HEARING - Extension of Moratorium on Acceptance on New Applications for Commercial Fish Net Pens.**

Oscar Graham, Associate Planner, advised the Board that the County needs to extend the moratorium on commercial fish net pen applications in County waters, awaiting for Department of Ecology approval of the amendment to the Skagit County Shoreline Management Master Program regulating fish net pens. Mr. Graham advised the Board that the general timeframe for approval is 3-5 months once the review process has been started, and that he felt an additional time period of 6 months would be required before approval is received from the Department of Ecology. The resolution before the Board will put the moratorium in place until the Department of Ecology reviews the amendment. Hopefully, Mr. Graham stated, the amendment will be approved, but there always is the possibility that the Department of Ecology may return the amendment to the County for minor changes.

The Board then opened the public hearing for comment. Dale Fisher, a member of the Marine Environment Consortium, reviewed with the Board the impact of the moratorium and a brief history detailing how the need for such a moratorium transpired. Mr. Fisher advised the Board that the Department of Ecology has now put together an advisory workgroup assigned the task of establishing guidelines for fish net pen permits. Mr. Fisher conveyed to the Board that the moratorium should be extended for a longer period of time than currently proposed.

Chairman Hart asked Mr. Graham what the maximum length of time is that the moratorium can be extended. Mr. Graham advised the Board that the County cannot extend the moratorium for over 1 year. Mark Corrin, Anacortes resident and member of Save the San Juans, endorsed the suggestion that the moratorium be extended for a longer period of time than 1 year.

Francis Barcott also asked if the moratorium was only able to be extended for one year at a time and expressed to the Board his concern that this was not enough time.

Mr. Graham confirmed to the Board and those present that the resolution for a 1-year extension is what is permitted by State law as the State believes that moratoriums are not an acceptable way to regulate uses, but are avenues

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providing timing for development of plans to regulate uses. Upon approval of the amendment to the Skagit County Shoreline Management Master Program, the moratorium would be lifted.

Mr. Earl Cahill, a resident of Guemes Island and a member of Save the San Juans, Inc., concurs with the position of previous colleagues for as much protection as possible through the means of moratorium. Blair Painter, Shorewood Homeowners Association, added his support for the longest possible moratorium until the State makes a final ruling on the County's amendment.

Commissioner Robinson asked if there was any further public comment and there being none, moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion to close the public hearing, which was unanimously approved. Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the Resolution Regarding Extension of Commercial Fish Net Pen Moratorium. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. (Resolution #15188)

The Board expressed their thanks to Oscar Graham and the citizens assembled for the public hearing.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Robinson motioned to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON



  
Robert Hart, Chairman

  
Robby Robinson, Commissioner

  
Harvey Wolden, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Patti J. Owen, Clerk  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners