

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

Monday, July 25, 1994

Flag Salute.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Public Works Department - Rich Medved, Director.

- 1) Discussion - Agreement for Signature Between Skagit County, Shell Oil Company, Texaco Refining and Marketing, Incorporated, and General Chemical Corporation.
- 2) Discussion - Prairie Road.
- 3) Discussion - Request for Qualifications/Proposals - Privatization of Skagit County Resource Recovery Facility.
- 4) Customer Service Update.
- 5) Miscellaneous.

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Discussion - Earthquake Response of Department of Emergency Management and Building Officials.

CONSENT AGENDA.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Cascade Job Corps Irish Students Visit.

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Presentation of Annual Insurance Renewals.

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Parks, Recreation & Fair Department - Jon Aarstad, Director.

- 1) Review of Parks 20-Year Plan.
- 2) Signature - Resolution Concerning No Camping at Conway Park.

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Facilities Management - Signature - Change Order Concerning Sheriff's Office Alteration Project.

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Discussion - Reorganization of Human Services Department.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Executive Session - Personnel, Litigation and Land Acquisition.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 25, 1994, with Commissioners Harvey Wolden, Robby Robinson and Robert Hart present.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - Rich Medved, Director.

1. Discussion - Agreement for Signature Between Skagit County, Shell Oil Company, Texaco Refining and Marketing, Incorporated, and General Chemical Corporation.

Doug Barnett, County Engineer, advised that Texaco Refining & Marketing, Shell Oil Company and General Chemical Corporation have worked with the County to maintain certain activities and operations which are essential during times of freeze/thaw conditions. Under this proposed agreement, an evaluation will be made of the roads prior to and after such conditions and the oil companies will be responsible for any

damage occurring. Commissioner Robinson queried Mr. Barnet about the possibility of bringing the subject roadways up to the standards of all-weather roadways. Commissioner Robinson indicated that he appreciates the intent of the agreement, but wondered about the appropriateness of bringing said roadways up to all-weather standards. Mr. Barnet advised that historically there has not been much damage to the subject roads and it would not be cost-effective at this time to upgrade the roadways. A dollar limit of \$10,000 for any needed repair of road damage is agreed upon by all parties under this proposed agreement.

Commissioner Hart moved to adopt the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. (Contract #02091)

2. Discussion - Prairie Road.

Mr. Barnet advised the Board that the Public Works Department is in the process of finalizing plans for the improvements to Prairie Road. Mr. Barnet advised that this roadway has been on the 6-year plan for some time and that RAP funding has been received from the CRAB Board based upon improvements to a 17 foot width, consisting of an 11 foot travel lane and a 6 foot shoulder. Open house meetings were held with the residents on Prairie Road on May 2, 1994 and June 3, 1994. This discussion session resulted from these public meetings. Mr. Barnet reviewed a typical roadway section with the Board and explained projected traffic volumes and accident history.

Mr. Barnet advised that construction of the improvements to Prairie Road is anticipated to be completed in 1995. Mr. Barnet confirmed that the Public Works Department is continuing to work on a case-by-case basis with residents along the roadway to assist in mitigating any concerns. Mr. Barnet stated that Engineering is asking the Board today for direction in this regard.

Mr. Barnet reviewed with the Board concerns that have been voiced by the residents on the proposed Prairie Road project. These concerns include increased vehicle speeds, increased traffic volume, moving the alignment away from residents, roadway ditches that do not meet standards, subflood control zones and issues of drainage, large old tree preservation, the general perception that road improvements will decrease property valuations, classification of Prairie Road as a minor collector, the lack of public involvement in the design phase of the improvements, that road improvements will negatively affect the quality of life in the area, road improvements will improve sight distance, 6 foot shoulder pros and cons, project costs too much, the question of appropriate permits, setback requirements, and positive feedback on paved shoulders rather than gravel shoulders.

Rich Medved, Director of Public Works, reviewed with the Board the specifics of the improvement program and explained that the Board's options include keeping the design as proposed, doing nothing and providing routine maintenance as in the past, or varying the shoulder sizes by redesigning the road improvements. Critical areas are lane width and clear zone delineation while still working with the residents along the roadway.

Chairman Wolden indicated that the Board would like to hear comments from the citizenry assembled.

Eileen Fosse, Prairie Road resident, questioned the decision to designate Prairie Road as a connector between Highway 9 and the Interstate 5 freeway. Mr. Barnet advised that when the road is built to these standards it would not need to be upgraded for years and years, and that there are no plans to make this road a major collector. This is a minor collector, which is not the highest classification of roadway within the County. Chairman Wolden more fully explained the type of roadway that this will be and the intent to improve to road to a standard making it a safer road for everyone to use. Chairman Wolden stressed that

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enforcement is the answer for speeders, not maintaining a substandard unsafe roadway.

Paula Shafransky, Prairie Road, stated that she is opposed to this construction project under the current proposed design. Ms. Shafransky's concerns include increased rural speed, unnecessary use of \$800,000 worth of tax money on 2-mile stretch of road, and loss of large trees. Ms. Shafransky noted a loss of public trust has been felt by the residents in the area. Ms. Shafransky expressed her appreciation to Rich Medved for giving additional time to the residents and to Commissioner Robinson in coming out to drive the road. Ms. Shafransky requested that before a decision is made, it should be determined what the State minimum road standards are to assist in making decisions that would minimize liability to the County. Ms. Shafransky pointed out that the Board has the ability to review and change road standards, and she does not believe that the road standards are appropriate for Prairie Road.

William Frost, 2030 Prairie Road, stated his concurrence with Mrs. Shafransky's presentation and position. Mr. Frost presented the Board with accident figures that he had compiled. Mr. Frost noted that Cook Road is in much more need of repair than Prairie Road. Mr. Frost further stated that he feels that traffic volume figures are very high. Mr. Frost stated that confusion is rampant among those living along Prairie Road. Mr. Frost requested that the County reject the 6-foot shoulder proposal, and that the County should address the water problem created by the County gravel pit wherein a 2-foot stretch of road freezes every year.

Beverly Benedict, Anacortes, expressed her concern that property owners and taxpayers are not being heard and that their input is not being considered. Ms. Benedict further expressed concern about the credibility of Skagit County government with the public. Ms. Benedict quoted portions of the RCW that states that people do not give public servants the right to decide what the public should know. Ms. Benedict urged the Board not to proceed with the road improvements as proposed.

Marvin Stogaard, Prairie Road, indicated his approval of this project, and stated his feeling that the road improvements all come down to safety issues and that speeding is merely an enforcement issue.

Kathryn Holden, Sage Lane, is a resident that must travel Prairie Road on a daily basis. Ms. Holden agreed that the Public Works Department has been lax in their communication efforts with the public, and stated that she does not think that the road has to be improved to such high standards, but should be improved to minimum standards.

Mike Powell, Prairie Road, indicated that he would like to see some sort of compromise on the improvements to Prairie Road. Mr. Powell stated his concern for the development of the Bow Hill Casino and the possible effects such a large development might have on the roadway, as people may use Prairie Road as access to the casino. Mr. Powell acknowledged the justification of safety concerns. Mr. Powell questioned the involvement of the Board in the development of the Casino. Mr. Powell further stated his belief that property values will increase rather than decrease after the road is improved.

Commissioner Hart clarified that the Upper Skagit Tribes is a sovereign nation and that the County has no control or influence over the Bow Hill Casino project. Commissioner Hart stated that the County has asked the Tribes to work with County engineers regarding access off of Interstate 5 and that the County cannot require the Tribes to provide an Environmental Impact Statement. Mr. Medved advised that the County is working with the Tribes in regards to traffic studies and to lessen impact on County roadways. The Tribes are voluntarily working with the County in this regard according to Mr. Medved.

Erica Hume, Prairie Road, expressed her feeling that widening the road will increase the speed of most vehicles and she would like to see this money used for enforcement of the existing speed limit. Ms. Hume

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advised that she is opposed to this project as proposed and would like to see 3 foot shoulders.

At Commissioner Hart's query, Mr. Frost advised that 3 foot asphalt shoulders would be adequate and would lessen the impact on area homes.

Ms. Shafransky asked for clarification of similar projects to this proposed Prairie Road project.

A discussion ensued on various road projects throughout the County. The advantages and disadvantages of various shoulder widths were discussed.

Vicky Couran, who owns property near Dry Creek, stated that she fully supports the project, and that she disagrees with the attitude that if you improve it, traffic will come as the traffic is already there. It was Ms. Couran's position that the County needs to guarantee safety for those travelling the road.

Janet Poplasky, Worline Road, stated that she thinks property is being taken away from citizens without compensation. Ms. Poplasky also commented on County Engineers not involving public comment and input. Ms. Poplasky indicated that she does not feel the County is willing to mitigate individual situations.

The Board thanked those present for their input, and indicated that they will make a final determination on this project in two weeks (August 8, 1994).

3. Discussion - Request for Qualifications/Proposals - Privatization of Skagit County Resource Recovery Facility.

Mr. Medved indicated that the Public Works Department is ready to issue the Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFP) for the Privatization of the Skagit County Resource Recovery Facility. Mr. Medved indicated that proposals will be accepted that include purchasing the facility, leasing, or any other cooperative venture. There is much interest, and it was Mr. Medved's feeling that there should be at least 6 solid responses to the RFP. Legal counsel had advised that there is statute that requires any proposal of this type to be advertised for 60 days. Consequently, the submittal closing date will be September 23, 1994. Final disposition of incinerator will not be able to be done until after that time. It was Mr. Medved's estimation that the Department will need at least 3 weeks to analyze the responses and present the results to the Board.

Commissioner Robinson indicated that this is a reasonable timing schedule. The Board concurred with this schedule and will expect to review results of the RFP on approximately October 23, 1994.

Commissioner Hart moved to issue the Request for Qualifications/Proposals for the Privatization of the Skagit County Resource Recovery Facility. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which unanimously carried.

4. Customer Service Update.

Mr. Medved advised that this update will be delayed until next week's regular Public Works agenda. Commissioner Hart indicated that the importance of this program has been slipping and the Public Works Department needs to give this item the highest priority. The Board indicated that they expect to review the Department's progress at next week's regular session.

5. Miscellaneous.

There were no miscellaneous items for review.

DISCUSSION - EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE OF DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND BUILDING OFFICIALS.

Tom Sheahan, Director of Emergency Management, advised the Board that the Emergency Management Department started much earthquake response planning during Earthquake Awareness Week this past spring. On the preparedness side, 17 people from different schools have been trained and are setting up further earthquake preparedness training within the schools. HAM radio operators together with other radio experts are working on a plan to respond in the event of an earthquake. Building officials are being trained about their preparedness in the event of an earthquake. Emergency Management has been working with the Permit Center to coordinate tasks that will be a key part of the emergency response during an earthquake.

Roxanne Michael, County Building Official, reviewed with the Board the role of the Permit Center in determining the safety of buildings following an earthquake. Specifics of the inspections were reviewed. Ms. Michael advised that the County is in the planning stage of this plan, but that we are ahead of other jurisdictions. Ms. Michael further advised that additional team members are needed, and that the group is looking for individuals experienced with building safety. Specifics of efforts and training were briefly discussed.

Corey Schmidt, Permit Center Staff, noted that feedback from buildings damaged in the 1990 floods is still coming in to the Permit Center. County inspection procedures are closer to the people involved and affected than FEMA. Mr. Schmidt emphasized that it is very important to do proper inspections and record damage. Mr. Schmidt further pointed out that the job of the inspectors is solely to assess the structure, placard it, and that the inspectors are not search and rescue team members. Mr. Schmidt indicated that continuous training is necessary, and that Emergency Management and the Permit Center are continuing to work with fire districts and fire stations in centralizing equipment. It was also noted that critical or essential facilities also need to be determined.

Mr. Sheahan advised that he has met with the State Department of Emergency Management, and they want all counties to participate in major earthquake response exercises in 1995. It will be necessary to include the various different elements consisting of communication, transportation, shelters, and education for such exercises. Mr. Sheahan thanked Mr. Schmidt and Ms. Michael for their enthusiastic support of this project.

Commissioner Hart noted that historic information would be valuable to assist in the educational process.

CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the Consent Agenda for July 25, 1994, items 1-3 and 5-10, with further explanation required for Item #4. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

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• **Commissioners' Office:**

1. Record of the Proceedings from Monday, July 18, 1994.
2. Record of the Proceedings from Tuesday, July 19, 1994.

* **Public Works:**

3. Resolution Establishing County Road Project #1661-2, March's Point Road, et al., Overlay Projects for 1994. (Resolution #15434)
4. Supplement #1 to Consulting Services Agreement with Reid Middleton, Inc. increasing the objectives and scope of work on the Rosario Road project, and also increasing the maximum compensation from \$104,066 to \$145,478. (Further explanation required by Staff)
5. a) Ordinance Adopting a new Chapter to the Skagit County Code Establishing a Revised Uniform System for Addressing Buildings, Reaffirming the Baseline for Addressing Purposes, Posting of Addresses, Naming Roads, Providing the Methods for Instituting Said System and for the Enforcement Thereof. (Ordinance #15435)
b) Resolution Rescinding Resolution No. 5071 and Developing a Guide to the Skagit county Addressing System. (Resolution #15436)
6. Change Order No. 2 to the contract with Coral Construction Company for the Farm-to-Market Road guardrail project, providing for additional guardrail needs at an increase amount of \$13,094 for a new contract total of \$238,539.63. (Contract #02023)
7. Out-of-State Travel Request for Gary Sorensen to attend the National Ground Water Association Analysis and Design of Aquifer Tests - Including Slug Tests and Fracture Flow technical course in Columbus Ohio on September 12-15, 1994, for a total cost of \$2,282.

* **Parks, Recreation & Fair:**

8. Amendment to Interagency Committee For Outdoor Recreation agreement for the Centennial Trail, Highway 9 project, extending the agreement until from June 30, 1994 to June 30, 1995. (Contract #00798)
9. Appointment of Harold "Hal" E. Goetsch to replace Walt Schuh on the Fair Advisory Board effective July 25, 1994 through December 31, 1995. (Resolution #15437)

* **Noxious Weed Board:**

10. Contract for Profession Services with Industrial Mowing & Spraying at a rate of \$40 per hour to commencing on July 11, 1994 and continue until completed. (Contract #02092)

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MISCELLANEOUS.

- A. Staff presented the Board with a Resolution concerning a Budget Line Item Change taking funds from the non-departmental budget within the current expense fund in order to pay for a portion of the Best SELF program in the amount of \$200,000. Commissioner Hart moved to approve this Resolution as presented by Staff. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which unanimously carried. (Resolution #15438)
- B. The Board signed the necessary paperwork to effectuate an Easement to Lou Ann Toeppen for access to her property located off Lake Cavanaugh Road.
- C. The Board signed a Quit Claim Deed and accompanying paperwork regarding County property located in Conway, deeding said land to Mason-McConkey Post of the American Legion (Post 147).

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL INSURANCE RENEWALS.

Dave Fleming, Risk Manager, advised that it is the time of year to update County insurance coverages and collect bids on the insurance coverage for the entire County. Specifics of the renewal quotes and coverages were discussed, together with increases and/or decreases in costs and coverages. Mr. Fleming explained that the bottomline is an increased total cost to the County of approximately \$2,672.

The Board indicated their concurrence of these coverages as explained by Mr. Fleming.

Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the Resolution Regarding Purchase of Annual Commercial Insurance. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. (Resolution #15433)

PARKS, RECREATION & FAIR DEPARTMENT - Jon Aarstad, Director.

1. Review of Parks 20-Year Plan.

Jon Aarstad, Director of the Parks, Recreation & Fair Department, stated that there was some misunderstanding and that this discussion is not about a Parks 20-Year Plan, but is a discussion about a 20-Year Plan for the Fairgrounds, which is required by the City of Mount Vernon.

Mr. Aarstad reviewed with the Board a diagram of the Fairgrounds campus which includes a section which will be developed as the "Dream Field" project. Mr. Aarstad stated that the access for emergency vehicles has been discussed with the local police and fire departments. Mr. Aarstad also reviewed areas of proposed parking.

Future proposed building projects were reviewed.

Mr. Aarstad indicated that due to the uncertainty of the development of the former Northern State Facility, the premise has been maintained that the Fair will always be held at this location for the next 20 years.

Various possibilities and options of design and location were discussed. A discussion ensued on the advantages of new construction versus the problems of converting old buildings and bringing them up to code. Funding options and the possibility of in-kind funds were discussed.

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Commissioners Hart and Robinson indicated that these facilities must be developed to provide recreational and educational activities year round. Commissioner Hart concurred that a versatile building needs to be developed and maintained for year-around activities. There is a demand from the public for this type of facility. The Board expressed their appreciation to Mr. Aarstad and his Staff for the preparation of this plan.

2. Signature - Resolution Concerning No Camping at Conway Park.

Mr. Aarstad presented a Resolution to the Board for signature concerning a "no camping" policy at Conway Park. Mr. Aarstad explained that the problems at the park include itinerants coming into the site and staying for long amounts of time, potential sanitary violations from the Health Department, and that legally the park is not established as a camping facility. This is a day-use camping site only, according to Mr. Aarstad. Various specific problems were briefly discussed.

Commissioner Robinson moved to adopt the Resolution establishing Conway Park as a day-use park only. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. (Resolution No. 15439)

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT - SIGNATURE - CHANGE ORDER CONCERNING SHERIFF'S OFFICE ALTERATION PROJECT.

Roger Howard, Facilities Director, presented documentation concerning the changes previously approved by the Board concerning the separation of the guards from the inmates.

Commissioner Hart moved to approve Change Order #1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson, and was unanimously approved. (Contract #01921)

DISCUSSION - REORGANIZATION OF HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

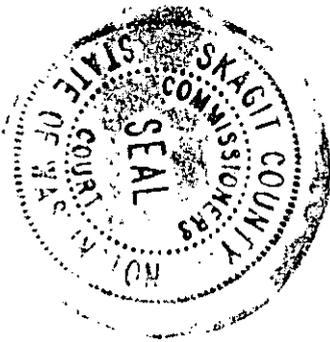
JoAnn Angevine, Human Services Director, advised the Board of the changing focuses of the substance abuse field, both in prevention and treatment, with the majority of funding going toward prevention programs. Ms. Angevine noted that Vera Sullivan has worked for the County as a part-time employee and is well schooled in the prevention field. Ms. Angevine asked the Board for approval to make Ms. Sullivan a full-time employee overseeing these duties, with Ms. Angevine's time reduced to 80%. Treatment and prevention, therefore, can be combined into one full-time position. Ms. Angevine would prefer to remain supervising chemical dependency, and in charge of current programs including protective custody issues.

The Board indicated their concurrence of this proposed change in staff responsibilities.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

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SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

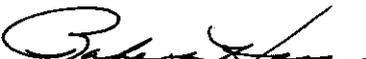




Harvey Wolden, Chairman



Robby Robinson, Commissioner



Robert Hart, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Patti J. Owen, Clerk
Skagit County Board of Commissioners