

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

Tuesday, October 11, 1994

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| 7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. | Public Transportation Benefit Area Board (Commissioners' Hearing Room). |
| 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | Commissioners' Staff Meeting. |
| 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Work Session - Operations Division Manager/District Road Maintenance Supervisors. |
| 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | Planning Department - Dave Hough, Director.

1) Presentation - Draft Nookachamps Watershed Action Plan.
2) Code Enforcement Report.
3) Miscellaneous. |
| 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Washington State Association of Counties/Washington Association of Counties Officials Visit. |

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 11, 1994, with Commissioners Harvey Wolden, Robby Robinson and Robert Hart present.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT - Dave Hough, Director.

1. **Presentation - Draft Nookachamps Watershed Action Plan.**

Kraig Olason, Assistant Director of Planning, presented to the Board a Draft Nookachamps Watershed Action Plan report and explained that the adoption process is proceeding. This draft will be reviewed by the public and will be presented in a form suitable to the Department of Ecology. Mr. Olason advised that this draft document has been sent to the Department of Ecology at this time for a preliminary review.

Kristi Carpenter, Resource Planning Program Coordinator, presented to the Board a written Overview of the Nookachamps Watershed Draft Action Plan. Ms. Carpenter explained that the Nookachamps Watershed was ranked as the #1 Watershed in Skagit County in need of protection from non-point sources of pollution. The current conditions, potential problems and beneficial uses of the watershed at the time of the grant application were briefly reviewed.

Ms. Carpenter briefly explained that 28 members served on the Nookachamps Watershed Management Committee, and included representatives of local citizenry, members of the agricultural community and timber industry, tribal government representatives, and representatives from special purpose districts such as diking districts.

Ms. Carpenter provided a brief summary of each of the chapters of the draft report. Ms. Carpenter explained that Chapter I contains an introduction and background information, together with general information about the Nookachamps Watershed and its beneficial uses, and is based on the requirements of Chapter 400-12 WAC. Chapter II concerns Watershed Characterization, which is the largest section of the document and contains a general biophysical description of the watershed including location, hydrology, climate, topography, geology, soils, historical and present land use patterns and activities, and population estimates. This chapter also discusses the jurisdiction of local, state, federal and tribal governmental entities within the watershed.

Ms. Carpenter indicated that Chapter III refers to uses of water identified by the Water Quality Standards for waters of the State of Washington. Chapter IV is an evaluation of the Nookachamps Watershed water quality and provides information on the types of nonpoint sources and their relative impacts on water quality and associated beneficial uses in the watershed. Chapter V is the Problem Definition. Ms. Carpenter briefly reviewed potential pollutants, and explained that nonpoint concerns identified by the Committee included failing on-site septic systems, forest practices, agricultural practices and development/stormwater runoff and erosion.

Mr. Olason stated that the portion of the document specifying the problem definitions was the result of intense work by the Committee and took approximately five months to complete.

Ms. Carpenter briefly listed the developed goals and objectives in Chapter VI, and the source control recommendations which are outlined in Chapter VII. Chapter VII is the Implementation of Water Quality Plan. This chapter provides an overview discussion of how success of the plan elements will be evaluated, and a proposed schedule for implementation of the actions, analysis of the overall costs and funding source options, and a proposed long-term monitoring approach.

On query from Chairman Wolden, Ms. Carpenter advised that many of the recommendations are currently being implemented. Many more will be done through the implementation grant recently received.

Chapter IX identifies the specific source control recommendations which were developed by the committee but were not agreed upon by consensus.

Mr. Olason advised that Board that it is evident that much work has been done, and that many of the findings are beneficial county-wide, not only in this particular watershed. Mr. Olason then briefly reviewed the adoption process and schedule. It is anticipated by Staff that a public hearing on this matter will be held November 1.

2. Code Enforcement Report.

The Code Enforcement Report was reviewed.

3. Miscellaneous.

- A. Staff presented a Resolution Upholding Hearing Examiner's Decision to Approve Preliminary Plat #PPT-93-001 of Kendall Gentry. Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the Resolution as presented by Staff. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion. Commissioners Hart and Robinson voted to approve the motion, and Chairman Wolden opposed the motion. (Resolution #15515)
- B. Staff presented a Resolution adopting the Hearing Examiner's Decision Concerning a Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance Issued by the Skagit County Department of Planning and Community Development. Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the Resolution as presented by Staff. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Resolution #15516)

WASHINGTON STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES/WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES OFFICIALS VISIT.

Fred Sager, Washington Association of Counties, and Gary Lowe, Washington State Association of Counties, reviewed with the Board the impact and implications of Initiative 601 on the state budget. It was noted that a different spending philosophy will be forthcoming due to the concept of receiving more money than can be spent.

Judy Menish, County Treasurer, pointed out that when the public becomes more knowledgeable about this situation, they will want taxes cut to bring current taxation levels down.

A discussion ensued on the use of surplus monies to effectuate property tax reductions in this regard.

Mr. Lowe indicated that property tax initiatives will flourish, and that many people will be elected who will be a lot more conservative than those currently holding office.

Commissioner Hart noted that tax restructuring needs to be accomplished, and that ultimately a state income tax needs to be instituted, but that the general citizenry does not trust government to restrict the parameters of such taxes.

Mr. Lowe stated that 601 is just a new set of rules, and that the legislative session will be interesting to watch to see the innovative approaches developed to govern at the state level, and such approaches should pass to the local levels. Mr. Lowe further noted that Washington is one of only 5 states without a state income tax, and that change without restrictive rules will never happen.

Specific examples of innovative approaches to budgeting and taxation were discussed, as well as the possibility of reductions in services and key programs.

Tom McBride, Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, briefly reviewed some proposed changes to juvenile programs within the state, and the implications of such changes at the county level. Alternatives involving the pooling of state and county resources were briefly discussed.

A discussion ensued on water quality issues and the effects of the endangered species act on logging and farming. It was stressed that more and more regulatory reform is being aimed at local government.

The guidelines, parameters and development of Community Networks were briefly discussed. Mr. Sager indicated that in counties the size of Skagit and smaller, the Community Networks are working very well.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON





Harvey Wolden, Chairman



Robby Robinson, Commissioner



Robert Hart, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Patti J. Owen, Clerk
Skagit County Board of Commissioners