

**SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA**

Monday, May 22, 1995:

Flag Salute.

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Work Session - Health Department Budget Review.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Public Works Department - Jan Keiser, Director.

- 1) Public Hearing - Consideration of Speed Limit Revision South Skagit Highway.
- 2) Discussion - Request by City of Sedro Woolley for Consideration of Speed Limit Reduction on a Portion of Cook Road.
- 3) Discussion/Update regarding Resource Recovery Facility Overhead Cranes.
- 4) Flood Control Assistance Account Program Agreement - Hoehn Road Fish Passage Project.
- 5) Summary of Offer - Hooper Creek Fish Passage Project.
- 6) Resolution - Notice of Road Closure - Concrete-Sauk Valley Road.
- 7) Miscellaneous.

CONSENT AGENDA.

MISCELLANEOUS.

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. North Cascade Advisory Council - Tour of Former Northern State Grounds, Sedro Woolley.

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Tour of Skagit River Steel & Recycling - Burlington.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tour of Concrete NorWest - Burlington.

The Skagit County Commissioners met in regular session of Monday, May 22, 1995, with Commissioners Robert Hart, Harvey Wolden and Ted W. Anderson present.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - Jan Keiser, Director.

1. Public Hearing - Consideration of Speed Limit Revision South Skagit Highway.

Steve Blair, Public Works Department, presented the proposed speed limit revision on South Skagit Highway for consideration, mentioning that Public Works received a petition with 85 signatures requesting an increase of the speed limit to 50 m.p.h. from the existing 35 and 40 m.p.h. on portions of the South Skagit Highway.

Chairman Hart opened the Public Hearing.

Mr. Blair mentioned the collision history indicates that the previous reduction of speed limit did *not reduce the number of reported accidents*. Mr. Blair mentioned that reinstating lower speed limits could have caused drivers to expect vehicles to travel the posted speed limit, when in actuality, most drivers exceeded the speed limit creating a safety concern.

Chuck Albertson, South Skagit Highway, Sedro Woolley, presented a photograph to the Board of a recent automobile accident involving his son, which occurred on the subject portion of South Skagit Highway. Mr. Albertson stated that due to the safety issue, the speed limit should not be raised, should be enforced at 40 mph. and signage indicating a no passing zone should be installed. Mr. Albertson mentioned that a number of elderly people reside in the area and must use this portion of highway to enter and exit from their homes.

Gene Morgan, Day Creek, Sedro Woolley, stated that he has lived in the South Skagit Highway area his entire life and recollected the speed limit always being 50 m.p.h. Mr. Morgan stated that the reduction of speed revision has caused a hazard due to drivers being more familiar with the 50 m.p.h. zone and not abiding by the revision.

Ms. Freeman, South Skagit Highway, expressed her hope of the Board retaining the reduced speed limit, emphasizing that this is a safety issue.

Darrell Hamlin, 2257 South Skagit, stated that recently, he was slowing to make a turn, with his turn signal on and was passed on his left by a vehicle at a very high rate of speed. Mr. Hamlin mentioned that blind corners existed on each end of the residential area. Mr. Hamlin stated that increasing the speed limit will most likely increase the probability of major accidents.

Chuck McIntyre, 1099 Warfield Road, Day Creek, Sedro Woolley, mentioned that a number of other roads have passing and speeding problems in specific areas. Mr. McIntyre slated a lack of striping in the no passing area as a possible contribution to the problem and mentioned poor visibility as a controllable problem which could be resolved by the homeowners pruning their shrubbery. Mr. McIntyre suggested that the Board, in the interest of all who live in the community, evaluate that stretch of road as it relates to the road and traffic problems in the rest of Skagit County, not setting a precedent by acting on this specific problem.

Ron Bryson, South Skagit Highway, Sedro Woolley, stated that he began the petition to reinstate the speed limit to 50 m.p.h. Mr. Bryson mentioned that the reduction of the speed limit has fostered drivers passing slow moving vehicles, creating an unsafe situation. Mr. Bryson mentioned poor driving habits in the area, residents having parties or garage sales without adequate parking, and shrubbery growing too close to road as traffic hazards.

Gordon Sandvik, South Skagit Highway, Sedro Woolley, mentioned he has witnessed larger trucks following too close, intimidating drivers by using their horns. Mr. Sandvik also mentioned the overuse of jake breaks by the large trucks. Mr. Sandvik stated that the parking problem along road is partially caused by the fishermen in the area. Mr. Sandvig stated his support for retaining the 40 m.p.h. speed limit.

Aris Albertson, South Skagit Highway, stated her strong support in keeping the speed limit at 40 m.p.h. Ms. Albertson mentioned that she transports disabled persons and is concerned with the traffic safety issue.

Gene Morgan, Day Creek, suggested the idea of installing a turn lane.

A discussion ensued in this regard.

Ms. Freeman, mentioned that rushing is not an adequate excuse for disobeying the speed limit and that the revision in reducing the speed in the first place was due to increased traffic.

Vern Ringhouse, West Gilligan Road, Sedro Woolley, stated he would like to see the speed limit at 50 m.p.h. without jeopardizing safety and suggested finding a solution.

Wanda Hines, Old Day Creek Road, Sedro Woolley, stated that drivers would not slow down for this portion of roadway and that reducing the speed limit to 40 m.p.h. would cause a greater hazard than the current safety issue. Ms. Hines suggested finding an alternative solution.

A discussion ensued in regard to the accident history on this portion of the road.

Mr. McIntyre reiterated the fact that special treatment of this stretch of road would precipitate consideration of all roads.

Officer Dave Stafford, Sheriff's Office, stated that enforcement action has not reduced speeders and stated that passing creates the dangerous situations. Officer Stafford stated that increasing the speed limit might possibly reduce passing, thus reducing accidents.

Ms. Albertson stated she recently counted 27 cars passing on this stretch of roadway during a short time, travelling at approximately 60-70 m.p.h.

Chairman Hart suggested an additional traffic study be done of this portion of South Skagit Highway.

Commissioner Anderson suggested researching the left hand turn lane, as an exploratory issue before proceeding.

Mr. Bryson supported the suggestion of a left hand turn lane and asked that the Board consider raising the speed limit to 50 m.p.h. until a decision is reached.

Commissioner Wolden made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wolden mentioned that it appears turning and passing are problems and that driving the posted speed limit is the key to reducing accidents.

A discussion ensued in regard to no passing signage and striping.

Ed Hawes, Public Works Staff, stated that no passing signage can be installed regardless of speed limit determination.

Commissioner Anderson stated that out of a sense of fairness to everyone, other ideas should be examined to reach a viable solution.

The Board concurred that double striping should be done immediately and asked Public Works to return with more information in an attempt to resolve the other problems.

The Board requested that Public Works return to the Board with a compilation of this information for review within thirty days.

2. Discussion - Request by City of Sedro Woolley for Consideration of Speed Limit Reduction on a Portion of Cook Road.

This item was omitted from agenda pending negotiations with the City of Sedro Woolley.

3. Discussion /Update regarding Resource Recovery Facility Overhead Cranes.

Due to time constraints, this item was not presented.

4. Flood Control Assistance Account Program Agreement - Hoehn Road Fish Passage Project.

Dave Brookings, Public Works Department, presented a grant agreement for the Hoehn Road Fish Passage Project for signature.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the grant agreement, as presented. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Contract #02461).

5. Summary of Offer - Hooper Creek Fish Passage Project.

Mr. Brookings presented the Summary of Offer for signature in regard to the Hooper Creek Project.

Commissioner Wolden made a motion to authorize the summary of offer as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. Resolution - Notice of Road Closure - Concrete-Sauk Valley Road.

Mr. Brookings presented the Notice of Road Closure for the Concrete-Sauk Valley Road for the period beginning Tuesday, June 13, 1995, at 7:00 a.m. through Wednesday, June 14, 1995, at 7:00 p.m. for culvert replacement.

Mr. Brookings also presented the procedure of notification when a road closure takes place.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Resolution #15764).

CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Consent Agenda for May 22, 1995, except for the deletion of Item #10, which was removed from the Consent Agenda at this time.

* Commissioners' Office:

1. Record of the Proceedings from Monday, May 15, 1995.
2. Record of the Proceedings from Tuesday, May 16, 1995.

3. Personal Services Agreement with Gateway Technologies for the term of May 1, 1995, through December 31, 1998, to install equipment and provide telephone service for all inmate telephones located at the Countys designated site. The Contractor will pay the County on a monthly basis at a rate of 38% of billed revenues from inmate calls originating from the jail facility and processed by Contractor's equipment. (Contract #02462).
4. Lease with Skagit Search and Rescue in regard to leasing real estate located at 1202 S. 2nd, Mount Vernon, for the term commencing January 1, 1995, on a month-to-month basis. Rent for the use and occupation of premises will be \$200 per month. (Contract #02463).
5. Application for Dance License by Aloha Swanson of Aloha Enterprises to conduct public dances at the dance hall known as the Pit Stop, located at 706 N. Old Highway 99, Burlington, from May 22, 1995, through May 22, 1996. (#536)
6. Resolution to Appoint Maxine Williams, 506 Moore Street, Sedro Woolley, to Northwest Senior Services Advisory Board for the term of July 1, 1995, through June 30, 1998. (Resolution #15765).
7. Resolution to Appoint Barbara Lee, 1760 Chilberg, Mount Vernon, to Northwest Senior Services Advisory Board for the term of July 1, 1995, through June 30, 1995. (Resolution #15766).

* Planning:

8. Resolution concerning the Approval of Variance Request #VAR-95-002 of Gary Lohman to allow the subdivision of a substandard parcel in the Agricultural Reserve Zone: the project would consist of an approximate fifty-five acre parcel, with an existing residence, divided in to an approximate two acre and fifty-three acre parcel, the existing residence to remain with the large acreage parcel. The subject property is located at 2922 South Skagit Highway, Sedro Woolley. (Resolution #15767).

* Parks:

9. Private Roadway and Utility Crossing Easements for Richard and Janet Watts of 110 E. Main Street, Lyman, to provide access for ingress, egress and utilities by crossing over the Cascade Trail. This permit assumes all proper and necessary conditions are met in respect to the linking road. The obligation to insure compliance remains with the permittees. (Deed #00401).

* Treasurer:

10. Resolution for Tax Title Property - Deed & Certificate of Abandonment of Interest in Bush/Callow Act Oyster Lands to the State of Washington, Department of Natural Resources for the purchase of oyster tracts out in Samish Bay. (Omitted).

* Facilities:

11. Personal Services Agreement with ANVIL Corporation for the term of April 1, 1995, through December 31, 1995, to provide special inspection and testing services for the Skagit County Juvenile Detention Facility Alterations and Additions Project. Total compensation is not to exceed \$5,000, including State Sales tax. (Contract #02464).

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. 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, May 22, 1995, by a majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above mentioned list and further described as follows:

Voucher numbers PDRAWMYO07806 through PDRAWMYO7988 and Payroll Warrants 61461 through 61643 in the total of \$74,045.84. (Transmittal Number P-10-95).

2. Zoe Phafi, Planning Department Staff, presented the Aquaculture Resolution, explaining that there were a few additional changes which were triggered by the changes specified by the Board previously.

The original Resolution was previously approved. The Board signed and approved as presented. (Resolution #15750).

3. Staff presented a Security Agreement submitted by Skagit State Bank in regard to Contract #02435 with James Hanson, Earl Hanson Trucking Co., Inc.

Chairman Hart made a motion to approve the Security Agreement, as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. Staff presented a Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community to provide transfer of prisoners.

Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the Agreement, as presented. Chairman Hart seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Contract #02465).

5. Staff presented an Interlocal Agreement for Administration and Investigation of the Washington State Building Code and Related Construction Codes with the Town of La Conner. Chairman Hart made a motion to approve the Agreement. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Contract #02466).

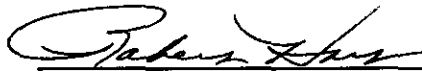
6. Staff presented for signature a Replat of Lot #4 of Chase Acreage - Esther E. Torgerson. Chairman Hart signed the Replat as presented.

ADJOURNMENT.

Chairman Hart made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON





Robert Hart, Chairman

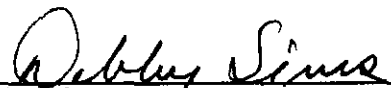


Harvey Wolden, Commissioner



Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Debby Sims, Clerk
Skagit County Commissioners