

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, December 9, 1996

Flag Salute.

8:45 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Public Comment Period.

T 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Board of Health.
1) Public Hearing - Proposed Revisions to Skagit County Health Department Schedule of Charges.
2) Discussion - Skagit County Health Department Licensees with On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems.
3) Discussion - Potential Impacts on Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic.
4) Discussion - Well Construction Regulation Delegation.
5) Miscellaneous.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Discussion - Community Development Block Grant Funds - Flood Fund Allocation.

CONSENT AGENDA.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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, December 9, 1996, with Commissioners Ted W. Anderson and Harvey Wolden present. Commissioner Robert Hart's absence was excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

There were no participants for the public comment period today.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

1. **Public Hearing - Proposed Revisions to Skagit County Health Department Schedule of Charges.**

Chairman Anderson opened the Public Hearing.

John Thayer presented the proposed revisions to the schedule of charges, indicating the relevant changes. Mr. Thayer mentioned that the changes reflect a 10 to 15 percent increase for the fixed location food service. It was brought to attention that there was a mistake made on the proposed schedule regarding Senior Exams and that the amount should be \$150 rather than \$175 as stated. Mr. Thayer stated that \$150 is the accurate amount for the cost of the service.

A discussion ensued in regard to the Senior Exam portion of the proposed schedule of charges. Commissioner Wolden inquired as to if this would be a mandatory fee, if seniors could not afford it. Mr. Thayer stated that they do have the right to waive this fee, and explained that this service is available other places in the community and would be covered by Medicare. It was further discussed that the Health Department service is not covered by Medicare because the Health Department does not qualify as a federal qualified health care facility. Mr. Thayer did not anticipate denying anyone this service. Commissioner Wolden discussed a letter which was received from Mr. Doug Grant, who has used this service and even though he has personally donated for the service, he was concerned for those who cannot afford the exams. Mr. Grant stated in his correspondence that the increase from \$0- to \$175 or \$150 was outrageous. Commissioner Anderson asked if there was any chance of accessing Medicare assistance, however, it was determined that this was not viable as the Health Department was not a designated health care facility.

Barb Meirer, Nursing Supervisor, stated that many seniors are scheduling their 1997 appointments and are being informed that there will soon be a fee. Ms. Meirer stated that seniors between 60 and 65 are not eligible for Medicare and cannot afford the cost of the service. Ms. Meirer stated that we are not 24 hours a day or a designated health care facility so Medicare would not be available because we are not a federally qualified health care facility. Sherri Fox discussed the value of this service and the problems associated with the fees. The possibility of grant opportunities was discussed. Commissioner Anderson discussed the quality service that has been provided and discussed the possibility of providing this service for those who are not on Medicare or cannot afford this service from the private physician.

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It was reported that the cost of this program is approximately \$60,000 and that it serves approximately 400 people per year. Alicia Huschka, Administrative Services, stated that this proposed amount was initiated because there did not appear to be any grant funding available. It was further discussed that senior screening is not true public health and that we are not required to provide this service as part of the Health Department functions.

A brief discussion took place in regard to the water lab testing as shown on the proposed schedule of changes.

There being no further public comment forthcoming, Commissioner Wolden made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the proposed fees, with the exception of the senior exam, which would be further investigated and researched, that it should be stated as \$150 and that no seniors be turned away for lack of funds. Commissioner Wolden suggested using a sliding scale based on income and the possibility of a public hearing just on this one issue. Commissioner Wolden clarified that his motion would be to accept the proposed schedule of changes under the guidelines as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Commissioner Anderson suggested absorbing \$30,000 of this cost for this year and try to access a grant that would justify this service, in an attempt to help those who cannot afford this and in hopes that this would help people this year, at least. Commissioner Wolden stated he would research the possibility of additional funding by contacting Northwest Regional Council, and concurred that the County contribute half of the \$60,000 and look for grant funding for the rest. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff indicated that a Resolution would be prepared in this regard and submitted to the Board at a later date.

2. Discussion - Skagit County Health Department Licensees with On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems.

Corrine Story discussed the proposed policy for Skagit County Health Department licensees with on-site sewage disposal systems. Ms. Story stated that implementation of this policy will result in better and more clearly defined information provided to licensees. Ms. Story stated that there are two major components, first providing guidelines and second, a monitoring and maintenance protocol that will be required by licensees. Ms. Story reviewed four situations and procedures when additions and changes are planned to an existing licensees operations. Ms. Story also reviewed the monitoring and maintenance protocol, discussing the components of monitoring and maintenance protocol, the frequency of monitoring and maintenance procedures, and the results of monitoring. The operational permits were discussed and reported that monitoring and maintenance will be required no later than January 1, 1998, and that flow meters will be required no later than January 1, 2000.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he would like to review this a little further. Commissioner Wolden mentioned that further comments should be taken and Ms. Story agreed, stating that this is preliminary and that notification and requests for input from the advisory committee has been proposed. Commissioner Wolden suggested that people with these kinds of systems should be on the committee, as they are dealing directly with these systems.

3. Discussion - Potential Impacts on Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic.

Barb Meirer reported on the impact of sexually transmitted disease. Ms. Meirer stated that the total cost of this program is from 17 and 20,000, with some state funding. Ms. Meirer stated that another County in the southern part of the state has turned this over to the private sector, and that this may force residents to seek care in other counties and even though this may not happen, we will probably experience some impact due to the closure of the Whatcom County facility in this regard. Ms. Meirer stated they would like to retain this service as part of the health department.

4. Discussion - Well Construction Regulation Delegation.

Mr. Thayer briefly reported that due to the annual well drillers association convention in Las Vegas this week and the lack of well drillers available to attend this discussion, this portion of the agenda will be rescheduled for January.

5. Miscellaneous.

There were no miscellaneous items today.

DISCUSSION - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS - FLOOD FUND ALLOCATION.

Tom Sheahan, Emergency Management, stated that a letter was received from CTED regarding 10 million dollars that will be distributed among 27 counties for expenses and repairs related to the two floods and they are requesting assistance in determining how to distribute the funds equitably. Mr. Sheahan stated that there are two proposals available for distribution of funds. Mr. Sheahan stated that a prior meeting took place with city officials and the planning department staff present where the two proposals were discussed. Mr. Sheahan reported that the group thought it be best to proceed with proposal number two.

Corey Schmidt, Planning, discussed the two options available and stated that option two seemed to be the best option available, keeping in mind that there had been a very short time appropriated to research these options.

Dave Brookings, Public Works, discussed how this would be distributed and voiced his concern. Mr. Sheahan stated that maybe flood control people should be the ones looking at how to distribute the funds.

Mayor Bates of Hamilton discussed the allocations of funds stating that there are several projects in various areas that are in process. Mayor Bates stated that raising the homes and businesses brings the value of the property up which generates higher taxes.

Regarding a study that might be considered, Mr. Brookings stated that they are in the process of reaching an agreement for a feasibility study with the corps of engineers. Mr. Brookings stated that if they are looking for a project that would benefit the county as a whole, this study might be one.

Mr. Sheahan stated that he would like some direction as to who should be on the committee to determine as to who gets these funds. However, Mr. Sheahan reiterated that they are here today to decide which option would be best.

A brief discussion ensued and Commissioner Wolden discussed a few specific projects and mentioned that buy-outs and raising of homes are being looked at.

Commissioner Anderson asked for clarification, stating that he thought he was hearing that that scenario 2 is the one being suggested. Mr. Sheahan stated that this seemed to be the best alternative.

Commissioner Wolden made a motion to adopt scenario 2, as recommended by those in attendance at the meeting with the Cities, Towns, and Planning staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Board signed a letter in this regard.

A brief discussion ensued as to whether a public hearing would be scheduled with no action taken in this regard.

CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

● Commissioners Office:

1. Record of the Proceedings of November 25, 1996.
2. Record of the Proceedings of November 26, 1996.
3. Record of the Proceedings of December 2, 1996.
4. Record of the Proceedings of December 3, 1996.
5. Record of the Proceedings of December 4, 1996.
6. Resolution regarding Acceptance of Proposal regarding feasibility study for the Eastern Skagit County Family Resource Center CDBG Planning-Only Project. **(Resolution No. 16382).**

7. Contract with Washington State Community, Trade and Economic Development Community Development Block Grant in regard to the Skagit Council of Governments grant for a regional microenterprise loan fund project that will provide funds for loan capital, project administration and technical assistance to LMI microenterprise business owners or employers that will hire LMI persons. **(Contract No. 03275)**.
- Juvenile Probation:
 8. Personal Services Agreement with Commonground for the term of July 15, 1996, until terminated to provide services of contacting and meeting with juvenile offenders and their victims and arranging and facilitating the mediation process. Compensation will be as outlined in Exhibit B of the contract. **(Contract No. 03276)**.
 - Emergency Management Services:
 9. Resolution Approving Interlocal Cooperative Agreement Between Skagit County and Dike District No. 12. **(Resolution No. 16383)**.
 - Health:
 10. Amendment No. 6 to the 1996 Consolidated Contract the Washington State Department of Health. This amendment will increase the contract by \$1,500 for on-site sewage study. **(Contract No. 02892)**.
 11. Amendment to Contract with Northwest Regional Council extending the contract until June 30, 1997. The Unit Rate for the contract service year remains at \$63.28. **(Contract No. 00420)**.
 12. Amendment to Agreement #03255 with Mount Vernon School District #325 through the Mount Vernon High School Art Department . The amendment increases the compensation amount from \$4,000 to \$5,312. **(Contract No. 03255)**.
 - Facilities:
 13. Resolution Calling for Bids for Skagit County Vehicle Maintenance Facility at Burlington. The bid opening will be January 13, 1997, at 1:30 p.m. **(Resolution No. 16384)**.
 14. Personal Services Agreement with Blythe Plumbing and Heating, Inc. Compensation will not exceed \$22,000. Blythe Plumbing and Heating will replace and reroute the waste and downspout pipes under the Skagit County Courthouse. **(Contract No. 03277)**.
 - Miscellaneous:
 15. Interlocal Agreement Establishing a Mental Health RSN for Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish and Whatcom Counties. **(Contract No. 03278)**.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Staff presented a resolution authorizing Interlocal Agreement for purchase of Assigned Counsel Services between the County and the City of Mount Vernon. Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the Resolution, as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16385)**.
2. Staff presented a Contract /Interlocal Agreement for Purchase of Services Department of Assigned Counsel for the County to provide assigned counsel services to the City at the rate of \$10 for each person referred for a determination of indigence. The term of this agreement is December 9, 1996, through December 31, 1997. Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the Contract, as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Contract No.: 03279)**.
3. Staff presented a Resolution for Appointment of Herbert H. Goldston to the Skagit County Planning Commission for the term of December 9, 1996, through December 8, 2000. Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the Resolution, as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16386)**.

- Staff presented a Vendor Services Agreement with Cass Construction to provide all materials and labor necessary to replace front entrance door at Skagit County Public Defenders office located at 121 W. Broadway St. in Mount Vernon. The cost will not exceed \$1,500. Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the agreement, as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03280).**

ADJOURNMENT.

Chairman Ted W. Anderson made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Harvey Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Ted W. Anderson
Ted W. Anderson, Chairman

Harvey Wolden
Harvey Wolden, Commissioner

Robert Hart
Robert Hart, Commissioner

ATTEST.

Debby Sims
Debby Sims, Clerk
Board of Commissioners