

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Friday, December 20, 1996

Flag Salute.

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Discussion & Possible Action - Drainage Utility Rate Structure.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioner met in regular session on Friday, December 20, 1996, with Commissioners Robert Hart and Harvey Wolden present. Commissioner Ted W. Anderson's absence was excused.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION - DRAINAGE UTILITY RATE STRUCTURE.

Commissioner Hart opened the discussion, stating that everyone is aware of the drainage problems in the County and there are needs to be corrected, even though there are disagreements as to how they will be paid for. Commissioner Hart stated that we need to get started and deal with the highest priorities.

Commissioner Wolden stated he did not disagree with Commissioner Hart, that there are alot of drainage problems, and stated that he is not in favor of taxation on those who have taken care of their own drainage problems for years, although we do need to take care of certain problems as they come up. Commissioner Wolden mentioned that he has some problems with recommendations that came from the utility commission on how they want to fund it, and that he does not believe it is possible to proceed as proposed, due to the fact that we cannot arbitrarily include the municipalities. Commissioner Wolden discussed the drainage districts and pointed out that the drainage utility was passed and is in place, however it needs funding. Commissioner Wolden stated that without Commissioner Anderson present, it is difficult to proceed today.

Commissioner Hart discussed quality and quantity issues at hand that need to be looked at.. Dave Brookings, Public Works, discussed what has taken place in other jurisdictions regarding utility fee that addresses both quantity and quality. Mr. Brookings stated that they are in process of gathering information as to how this would affect our county.

Commissioner Hart again discussed the quality issues, stating that these should be dealt with county wide.

At this point, Commissioner Wolden received a message that Commissioner Anderson would definitely not be able to be in attendance for todays meeting. Commissioner Wolden reiterated that this makes it a little more difficult to make a decision explaining that he is ready to do so, but reluctant without Commissioner Andersons presence. Commissioner Hart stated that he believed there is some urgency to proceed in order to receive some funding.

Jan Keiser, Public Works, stated that there is a large property pending, and that in this point in time we do not have funds to move forward, also mentioning that the 1997 grant cycle will also be affected. There is some urgency and decision will affect what is going to happen in the entire 1997 year. Ms. Keiser stated that she understands Commissioner Woldens concern of proceeding without Commissioner Anderson present, however, that some urgency does exist.

Commissioner Wolden made a motion of accepting Montgomery Watson - Proposal B - regarding the establishment of Skagit County Drainage Utility Rates and Charges. Commissioner Wolden read into the record Whereas, RCW 36.89.080 authorizes the Skagit County Board of Commissioners to establish Drainage Utility rates and charges; and, Whereas, the Board deems it advisable to receive comment from the general public regarding the setting of said rates and charges and Whereas, in order to establish rates and charges it is necessary to hold a Public Hearing; and, Whereas, the Board did on November 18, 1996, call for a Public Hearing to establish rates and charges for the Drainage Utility, Whereas, per RCW 36.89.085, adjustments to these rates and charges may be granted by the Utility Appeals Board in consideration of in-kind services such as stream improvement or other on-site improvements or donation of property. Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Skagit County Drainage Utility has established that rates for single family residences be set on an average of 3,692 square feet of impervious area and multi-family residences be set an average of 4,550 square feet of impervious area, consequently, the annual rates are hereby established as follows: Parcels containing single-family residences, \$25.80 per parcel, plus \$0.3000 per acre. Parcels containing duplex, triplex, or fourplex residential units (multi-family) \$31.79 per parcel, plus \$0.3000 per acre. Parcels containing apartments of more than four residential units, commercial, industrial or institutional establishments or agricultural land, exempt industrial forest. Parcels or undeveloped land - \$0.3000 per acre. County road, \$0.007 per impervious square foot,. State Roads, \$0.0021 per impervious square foot.

Commissioner Hart seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

A brief discussion ensued in regard to industrial forest.

Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve the Resolution regarding the formation of a drainage utility appeals board. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT.

Commissioner Hart made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON




Ted W. Anderson, Chairman


Harvey Wolden, Commissioner


Robert Hart, Commissioner

ATTEST.


Debby Sims, Clerk
Board of Commissioners