

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS**  
**SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
*Monday, March 24, 1997*

Flag Salute.

3:00 p.m. ~ 3:15 p.m.

Public Comment Period.

CONSENT AGENDA.

MICSELLANEOUS.

3:30 p.m. ~ 4:30 p.m.

Executive Session – Personnel, Litigation and Land Acquisition.

5:00 p.m.

Public Hearing – Growth Management Act proposed establishment of Public Participation Program (Hearing Room C).

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, March 24, 1997, with Commissioners Harvey Wolden and Ted W. Anderson present. Commissioner Robert Hart's absence was excused.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.**

There were no citizens present for Public Comment period today.

**CONSENT AGENDA.**

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

• Commissioners Office:

1. Record of the Proceedings of March 18, 1997.

2. Community Development Block Grant, contract number F-01-97-733-004 with the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development in the amount of \$335,288 for the purpose of providing loan capital for Skagit County's existing Revolving Loan Fund. The Fund will target new and expanding businesses located within Skagit County. **(Contract No. 03419).**

• Parks:

3. Quit Claim Deed with Lennard L. Thompson regarding the Skagit County Centennial Trail. **(Deed No. 00437).**

• Information Services:

4. Personal Services Agreement with Catapult, Inc. for the term of March 24, 1997, until terminated to provide training for Microsoft Windows 95 or NT environments and other applications as required. Compensation will not exceed \$525 per class for services rendered and shall not exceed \$25,000 in total expenses per year. Hourly rate for consulting services is not to exceed \$85 per hour. **(Contract No. 03420).**

• Assigned Counsel:

5. Personal Services Agreement with Jenifer Greff Howson, Attorney, for the term of January 1, 1997, until terminated, to provide professional legal services in performing all Superior Court, District Court and Juvenile Court cases that are considered to be conflict of interest cases for the Public Defender's office and have been determined to be within the scope of indigent defense. Compensation will be as outlined in Exhibit "B" of the contract. **(Contract No. 03421).**

• Health Department:

6. Direct Services Agreement with Skagit Community Network for a grant in the amount of \$3,465 which covers Direct Services. The term of the agreement will be from March 1, 1997, through June 30, 1997. The Network will pay the County \$3,465 as outlined in Exhibit "B" of the contract. **(Contract No. 03422).**

7. Addendum #1 to Skagit County Medical Bureau Participating Provider Group Agreement with the Health Department effective January 1, 1997. The term of the agreement is one year from date of execution. **(Contract No. 03356).**

- ARIS:
  8. Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Sedro Woolley School #101 for the Best SELF Program. The term of the agreement is from March 1, 1997 until August 31, 1997. **(Contract No. 03423)**.
- Planning:
  9. Out of State Travel Request for Roxanne Michael, Kendra Smith and Gary Christenson to attend the Planning Institute of British Columbia and American Planning Association joint 1997 planning conference in Vancouver, B.C. The total amount for each person is \$360. The conference will take place on April 23 – 25, 1997. **(Approved)**.
- Public Works:
  10. Resolution establishing the Eligibility List for the Rental of Road and Drainage Maintenance Equipment. **(Resolution No. 16484)**.
  11. Resolution Modifying Custodians of Imprest Cash Fund for Solid Waste No. 401. **(Resolution No. 16485)**.
  12. Resolution Modifying Custodians of Imprest Cash Fund for County Road Fund No. 117. **(Resolution No. 16486)**.
  13. Resolution Rejecting All Proposals Received for Residential Curbside Recycling. **(Resolution No. 16487)**.
  14. Resolution Calling for Public Hearing to Consider a Speed Limit Revision on a Portion of Downey Road, No. 43800 for a Public Hearing on April 8, 1997, at 9:00 a.m. **(Resolution No. 16488)**.
  15. Out-of-State Travel Request for Marcia Jaeger to attend the GFOA 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on May 31, through June 4, 1997. **(Approved)**.
  16. Resolution Updating Bow Hill Road CRP 2120-4 project. **(Resolution No. 16489)**.
  17. Final Cost Record for the Bow Hill Road CRP 2120-4 project. **(Contract No. 03039)**.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS.**

1.  
Staff presented an Addendum No. 1 to Personal Services Agreement #002852 with Universal Field Services, Inc. to extend the contract termination date to June 30, 1997 with compensation changes as outlined in Exhibit B of the contract. This personal services agreement provides for services to purchase property for the Centennial Trail. Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the addendum as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 02852)**.
2.  
Staff presented a Resolution to Rescind Resolution No. 16442 and Recommend Issuing a new Call for Bid in regard to the Northern State Recreation Area for the lease of grazing land. Commissioner made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16490)**. A Resolution was also presented for Call for Bid to Lease County-Owned Land for Cattle Grazing or Crop Farming. The Bid Opening will be held on April 7, 1997, at 2:00 p.m. Commissioner Wolden made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16491)**.
3.  
Staff presented an Out-of-State Travel Request for Tom Karsh to attend the PIBC & AA Joint 1997 Planning Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, for a total cost of \$360. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Approved)**.
4.  
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, March 24, 1997, by a majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above mentioned list and further described as follows:

Vouchers #7007-95, #7007-107, #7007-118 through #7007-121, #7007-123 through #7007-125, #7007-127 through #7007-128, #7007-130 through #7007-131, #7007-133 through #7007-160, #7007-162 through #7007-171-#7007-170 through #7007-185 in the total amount of \$1,164,445.33 and Warrants #171511 through #172605/0 **(Transmittal No. C-12-97)**.

**PUBLIC HEARING – GROWTH MANAGEMENT ACT PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAM.**

Chairman Harvey Wolden opened the Public Hearing, stating that this hearing is being held in regard to the Public Participation Program only, and asked the audience to restrict their comments to only this subject.

Tom Karsh, Assistant Planning Director, briefly reviewed the background of the Growth Hearings Board's request that a Public Participation Program be developed and reiterated Chairman Wolden's statement that this hearing is to solicit comment on the Participation Program, not on the specifics of the comprehensive plan. Mr. Karsh stated the results of the hearing would be reviewed by the Board of Commissioners and that staff is recommending that the public comment period be left open for a few more days until Friday, March 28, 1997, at 4:30 p.m.

It was mentioned that written comments were received this morning from Randy Martin, Andrea Xavier and Barbara Rudge, Friends of Skagit County.

Dan O'Donnell, Fire District 13, LaConner, read into the record for Jim Groves, who could not be here, discussed the issue of the Anacortes Urban Growth Area and requested that the scope include an open public record review of this issue.

Ruth Aven, Bow, suggested that the opening statement of the proposed Public Participation Program document include the WAC regarding the purpose of the Citizen Advisory Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee.

Margaret Yeoman, Anacortes, commented on the information that should be available in the Planning Department for the public to review. Ms. Yeoman also mentioned that 12 days for public review is not long sufficient.

Ellen Nielsen, Sedro Woolley, mentioned that showing up at these hearings could be interpreted as a cast of approval, and also questioned whether the public is really being represented on the committees. Ms. Nielsen stated that more copies of documents should be distributed to citizens and also commented on the portion of the program regarding only substantial changes warranting new public comment, wondering who decides what is substantial. Ms. Nielsen stated that the terminology is too vague.

Carol Ehlers, Anacortes, stated that she has submitted her comments to Tom Karsh, and commended Friends of Skagit County on their request that the issue of availability of documents be addressed. Ms. Ehlers also remarked on the establishment of committee members and stated that this has already been done. Ms. Ehlers suggested that a generic set of procedures should be put in the file and also commented on the 12 day time period, suggesting this be 30 days.

Stoney Bird, Mount Vernon, discussed the issue of access to documents and reminded the Board that the purpose is for the public to know what the County is doing, digest it and provide comments. Mr. Bird emphasized that documents must be made available to the public and that this is the staff's responsibility.

Thomas Solberg, Burlington, stated he is in favor of the Citizen's Advisory Committee and Technical group to look into rural lands designations. Mr. Solberg mentioned that the Planning Commission has not addressed approximately 80 per cent of the letters already received and didn't understand why the County is now asking for more comment. Mr. Solberg Discussed the process for reviewing these comments lacks professionalism, as citizens do not know whether their comments are approved or disapproved. Mr. Solberg also briefly discussed rescinding of the 80/20 rather than the 40/60.

Darrell Justice, Concrete, stated that he is totally lost and confused on any of the growth management issues and urged the Board to use common sense to get us out of this mess.

Joanne Lennox, Concrete, expressed her concern in the lack of notification and the fact that this has gotten so complex that intelligent people cannot begin to understand. Ms. Lennox commented on the Planning Commission meetings, stating that there is no oral testimony taken and that written comments were ignored, or if discussed, the discussion was slanted. Ms. Lennox stated she does not feel represented.

Sharon Klinger, Anacortes, discussed the wetlands issue.

Kenneth Klinger, Anacortes, reiterated what his wife had just commented on, stating that the lay citizen does not get the background to know what is happening and that something must be done to simplify this process.

Peggy Rundgren, Mount Vernon, discussed the Citizen's Advisory Committee establishment, referring to Section B, Item 2, language be changed from "should" be available to "will" be available and also cited Page 4, Item 6, referring to copies being available, stating that public copies are not available.

Ms. Rundgren also commented on Page 3, Item 5, stating that the Planning & Permit Center needs to stay on top of the Planning Commissioner meetings and deliberations.

Dennis Justice, Sumner, discussed personal issues in regard to the Growth Management Act, reviewing some of the impacts felt by he and his brothers on property they own in Concrete.

Stuart VanBuren, Bow, stated that he is in favor of the Citizens Advisory Committee, as he has seen citizens extremely upset that they are not able to have any input in the process.

Lawrence Bates, Concrete, commented on the impacts he has felt specifically and encouraged a process that enabled more citizen input.

Bill Schmidt, Concrete, presented a citizens point of view and the impact of the changes that are proposed and also discussed the rural property issue.

Bill Geyer, Bellingham, stated that he owns 113 acres south of Concrete and emphasized the importance of the document. He also mentioned 1)having an inventory of documents, 2)list them in an exhibit list, 3)deliberation among Commissioners occur separate from intervention from staff, and 4)have clear notification of parties of record of what items come before the commission.

Peggy Rundgren, Mount Vernon, commented on unfactual statements made at the Planning Commission meetings and mentioned that these meetings are so closed that correct information does not get out to the commission. Ms. Rundgren stated that the process is user unfriendly.

Carol Ehlers, Anacortes, mentioned that one of the bigger problems in Public Participation is that very basic documents do not exist in the County law library or the Skagit Valley College library and that for educated citizen input, basic documents need to be made available in order to give citizens an opportunity to be informed.

Louis Requa, Sedro Woolley, suggested notifying citizens through mailing lists provided by the Assessors or Treasurers office in order to notify all citizens and to let them know what is happening with their property. Mr. Requa stated that public comment is being ignored and expressed his hope that this would be corrected.

Beau Pease, Anacortes, discussed the notification time period of 12 days and suggested 30 days. Mr. Pease stated that what the County is doing is damaging families and that their comments seem to be falling on deaf ears. Mr. Pease commented on too much bureaucracy.

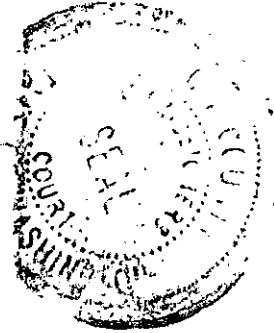
Tom Solberg, Burlington, urged the Commissioners to take citizen comments into consideration.

Joanne Lennox, Concrete, mentioned that she did not believe the notices were complete when published and that documents are not available in upriver communities

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

ADJOURNMENT.

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



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Harvey Wolden, Chairman

  
Robert Hart, Commissioner

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Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

ATTEST.

  
Debby Sims, Clerk  
Board of Commissioners