

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, March 25, 1997

- 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Commissioner's Staff Meeting.
- 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Work Session - Operations Division Manager/Road District Supervisors.
Flag Salute.
- *T 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Public Works Department - Jan Keiser, Director.
1) Discussion -
a) Resolution Repealing Resolution No. 10754 Regarding Policy for Flood Control Grant Program.
b) Resolution Regarding Policy for Flood Control Assistance Program.
2) Scope of Work Concurrence - Lyman-Hamilton Muddy Creek Bridge Replacement.
3) Update - Construction Schedule Reservation Road Improvement Project.
4) Discussion - Rural Arterial Program Projects.
5) Signature - Resolution Revision of 1997 Annual Construction Program.
6) Presentation - Solid Waste Division.
a) Home Composting.
b) Volunteer Master Composter Program.
c) Overview Waste Reduction Recycling School Program.
7) Miscellaneous.
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Planning & Permit Center - Roxanne Michael, Director.
1) Comprehensive Plan Update.
2) Signature - Resolution Calling for Public Hearing to Amend Critical Areas Ordinance.
3) Miscellaneous.
- 11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Bid Opening - 1997/1998 County Legal Printing.
- 11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Public Hearing - 1997 Budget Amendment.
- 11:45 a.m. - Noon. Presentation - Formation of the 4-H Foundation.
- *T 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Public Defender's Quarterly Report.
- 2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Discussion with Soil Conservation District regarding Water Quality Implementation Grant.
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Presentation by Washington State Department of Natural Resources regarding County Forest Board Revenues.
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Executive Session - Personnel, Litigation and Land Acquisition Matters.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 25, 1997, with Commissioners Harvey Wolden and Ted W. Anderson present. Commissioner Robert Hart's absence was excused.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - Jan Keiser, Director.

1. Discussion -
a) Resolution Repealing Resolution No. 10754 Regarding Policy for Flood Control Grant Program.

Dave Brookings, discussed the repeal of the Resolution as indicated above, an old Resolution that was signed in 1986 stipulating that the grant funds could not be used for any state or federal projects. Mr. Brookings reported that it is felt that it would be foolish not to take our local dollars and meet the match of these other funding opportunities. A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Brookings stated that this issue has been discussed with John Moffat, Chief Civil Deputy who has discussed this with the firm of Keller Rohrback and has indicated that this will give us greater flexibility with

federal funds. In this regard, Commissioner Anderson made a motion to repeal Resolution No. 10754, as presented by Mr. Brookings. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Resolution No. 16493).

b) Resolution Regarding Policy for Flood Control Assistance Program.

Mr. Brookings stated that this Resolution will cover the current flood control assistance program, setting the policy as discussed above. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the Resolution, as presented. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Resolution No. 16492).

2. Scope of Work Concurrence – Lyman-Hamilton Muddy Creek Bridge Replacement.

Jan Keiser, Director, mentioned that Mr. Hawes is here today to report on the options and provide a recommendation on the Muddy Creek Bridge Replacement Project.

Ed Hawes, Engineering Division Manager, recapped the progress of the work that has already been done in regard to the Muddy Creek site and reviewed the bridge damage caused by the flooding event. Mr. Hawes reported that they hope to reestablish the transportation route, provide for greater flood resistance, and to provide for a cost effective solution. Mr. Hawes mentioned that they have looked at several design alternatives including the following; 1)do nothing, 2)a low crossing or Texas crossing 3)re-routing the road, 4)cul-da-sacing, and 5)full bridge replacement which is the recommended option. Mr. Hawes discussed the reasons for recommending the modified full bridge replacement. The foundation will be different as the new bridge will be on a pier foundation. Mr. Hawes discussed the cost of this project with a FEMA match to the project at 87.5%, leaving the County with a 12.5% cost. Mr. Hawes reported that if the scope should change substantially, there could be a change in cost to the County. Mr. Hawes stated that they would like to proceed with this project with anticipated opening of the bridge in October. Total estimated project cost of \$514,678. Commissioner Wolden requested a profile of the bridge replacement regarding height and width and Mr. Hawes illustrated the specifics. A discussion ensued in regard to whether this new bridge design will be sufficient during the next flooding event. Commissioner Anderson expounded that this bridge should be replaced. Charlie Tewalt, Public Works, clarified how the damage would be curtailed by the installation of this new bridge. Chairman Wolden reiterated that he is very concerned of the need to some work on the West water flow to prevent re-occurring damage. Chairman Wolden stated that he hoped this will solve the problem, however, expressed his concern in this regard.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the Project Scope on the Lyman Hamilton Highway at Muddy Creek project. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Contract No. 03424).

3. Update – Construction Schedule Reservation Road Improvement Project.

Mr. Hawes reported on the Reservation Road project mentioning that a few setbacks have occurred due to utility problems. This project involves 1.5 miles of roadway improvement between State Route 20 and the SneeOosh Y intersection. Mr. Hawes discussed exactly how this project is proceeding, while dealing with the Tribe's schedule and reminded the Board that this project is covered by RAP funding that has a deadline date in order to be utilized.

4. Discussion – Rural Arterial Program Projects.

Dave Baltz, Public Works, discussed two projects relating to the RAP Project that need to be resolved by the beginning of April. Mr. Baltz first discussed the Cook Road project, stating that it is necessary to reduce the number of projects on the 1997-1999 RAP Priority Array in order to bring their total dollar amount within the County maximum. If the County wants to use the \$500,000 in 1995-1997 RAP funds already approved for the Cook Road project or turn back money in anticipation of receiving up to \$1,500,000 in Cook Road RAP funding from the 1997-1999 and 1999-2001 biennium allocations. Mr. Baltz presented the department recommendation which will be developed into the form of a letter to CRAB for the Board's signature on next week's Consent Agenda. A brief discussion ensued in regard to the rating system used by CRAB. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve proceeding on this project as outlined by the department recommendation.

5. Signature – Resolution Revision of 1997 Annual Construction Program.

The above was briefly discussed and Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the Resolution revising the 1997 annual construction program. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Resolution No. 16494).

5. Presentation – Solid Waste Division.

Due to time constraints, Frances Ambrose, Pubic Works, made a brief presentation on Earth Day 1997 which will be held in April and also discussed the process that is taking place in regard to educating school age children and the public in regard to home composting and the volunteer master composting program as outlined below.

- a) Home Composting.
 - b) Volunteer Master Composting Program.
 - c) Overview Waste Reduction Recycling School Program.
6. Miscellaneous.

There were no miscellaneous items today.

PLANNING & PERMIT CENTER – Roxanne Michael, Director.

1. Comprehensive Plan Update.

Gary Christenson, Senior Planner, informed the Board that it is truly a good morning as a Planning Commission recommendation is ready on the long awaited Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Christenson provided the options available to the Board, the recorded motion, the draft comprehensive plan and the maps. Mr. Christenson commended all of those involved in enabling the plan to be presented today. The Options were presented to the Board along with a timeline. The Planning Commission recorded motion was also presented and briefly noted specific findings for the Board to review. Mr. Christenson also provided maps for the Board to review. Mr. Christenson mentioned certain areas that he hoped the Board would review specifically in the draft Skagit County Comprehensive Plan. He announced that the larger maps are available for review at the Planning & Permit Center front desk. A study session will be set up for next week for the Board to start discussing the plan after they have had some time for review. Mr. Christenson discussed the possibility of making this document available for public review on April 3rd, followed by a 12 day public comment period. On the 15th of April, the Planning Commission could then hold a public hearing on that document. The copy of the draft comprehensive plan is not being reproduced at this time. A discussion ensued in regard to offering this version to the public to review and the Board concurred that this issue would be difficult to comment on if the document is not available. It was determined that it is likely that this draft plan will be changed by the Board and that public comment will be taken. A study session was scheduled for Monday, March 30, 1997, at Noon to 2:00 p.m.

2. Signature – Resolution Calling for Public Hearing to Amend Critical Areas Ordinance.

Jim Cahill, Senior Planner, discussed the issue of placing critical areas as "separate tracts" for protection of critical areas as has been requested by the Board. Mr. Cahill discussed an "easement" approach as a better alternative, which would allow equal or greater protection to critical areas while at the same time allow for development densities consistent with zoning where currently the CAO would require a PUD process to create standard lots. This would identify critical areas via a Native Growth Protection Area easement. Mr. Cahill presented two options of sign standards these areas on-site to identify them as critical areas. Mr. Cahill mentioned that procedurally a Public Hearing must be held to change this ordinance and that John Moffat, Chief Civil Deputy, will be discussing and developing the language, and Mr. Moffat briefly discussed the necessary procedure involved in this issue. A discussion ensued in regard to the proposed Interim Ordinance and Public Hearing process. A study session was recommended to be scheduled. Louis Requa, Skagit Surveyors, also discussed that another issue that needs to be addressed is in regard to the critical areas ordinance dealing with Type 5 water, as this is not enforceable. Mr. Requa suggested that Type 5 water be removed from the Ordinance. Mr. Cahill stated that this is one of the items that the department also believes needs to be addressed. The Board concurred that this be looked at and that staff stay apprised. There was no Resolution presented for signature today.

3. Miscellaneous.

There were no miscellaneous items today.

BID OPENING – 1997/1998 COUNTY LEGAL PRINTING.

Staff opened the one bid that was received in regard to the 1997/1998 county legal printing.

- 1) Skagit Valley Herald at \$2.50 per column inch.

A bid award recommendation will be available to the Board next week.

PUBLIC HEARING – 1997 BUDGET AMENDMENT.

Garl Long, Prosecuting Attorney, presented a supplemental budget request in regard to the Family Support Division of the Prosecuting Attorney's office. Mr. Long briefly discussed the services provided by this division and the costs associated with these services. Mr. Long also introduced Dionne Clasen, who will be the lead Deputy Prosecuting Attorney of the Family Support Division. deputy of the family support division.

Commissioner Wolden opened the Public Hearing.

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

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16495).**

PRESENTATION – FORMATION OF THE 4-H FOUNDATION.

Woody Bernard, Cooperative Extension, introduced John Yengich, Executive Director of the 4-H Foundation, a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to raising funds to support Skagit County 4-H and to develop, maintain and operate a 4-GH facility and to support 4-H through continued marketing, education, and activities. Mr. Yengich reported that there are seven members on the current Board of Directors, five being current 4-H Leaders and two Teen Representatives.

Mr. Yengich reviewed the foundation goals such as providing financial support for Leaders Council, 4_h Scholarships Program, 4-H Museum, Skagit County 4-H Web Page and a new 4-H Facility. Mr. Yengich also discussed the financial goals of the foundation, emphasizing that this is not a request for tax dollars and also reviewed upcoming events.

A discussion ensued in regard to the financial aspect of the proposed facility. Chairman Wolden discussed the Northern State Recreational area as a possibility for a location for this type of facility and suggested looking into this. Commissioner Anderson mentioned that there is an overall plan in place for this area, but if this facility would fit into the plan, it would be worth researching. The Board concurred that Mr. Yengich contact Jon Aarstad, Parks Director, in this regard.

Mr. Yengich asked for a letter of support from the Board and the Board concurred. Chairman Wolden made a motion to adopt a letter of support. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Bernard also introduced Mike Hackett as Interim Chair at the Cooperative Extension unit.

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S QUARTERLY REPORT.

Rob Jones, Public Defender, presented the quarterly report of the Public Defender's office to keep the Board apprised of the activities in that department. Mr. Jones spoke of the challenges in this area of the criminal justice system, operating in a time of rising caseloads. Mr. Jones reported that at this point in the year, they are showing a slight decline in the number of felony cases and a slight decline in juvenile cases, reporting however, that there is a dramatic increase in misdemeanor cases. Mr. Jones stated that overall the numbers reflect about the same status as far as caseloads as this time last year. To deal with caseloads without additional staff, Mr. Jones mentioned that additional funding has enabled them to contract out some caseloads. Mr. Jones mentioned that he is convinced clearly that they are doing the best job possible and is proud of his department. Mr. Jones discussed the increase in crime rates and juvenile offender statistics, stating that it is his belief that these rates are the direct result of family collapse and that if we make children our number one priority, we will reduce crime.

Chairman Wolden inquired as to if the Public Defender's office deals with the Becca Bill truancy cases and Mr. Jones reported on how this truancy bill has caused an increased caseload, and while it is an unfunded State mandate, the County must support this increase. Mr. Jones discussed the truancy matters and the impact on schools and local
96
258

government.

The Board thanked Mr. Jones for another very interesting presentation and commended the Public Defender's office for the work they do.

DISCUSSION WITH SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGARDING WATER QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION GRANT.

Carolyn Kelly, Soil Conservation District, reported that the District would like to apply for an implementation grant to provide technical assistance to implement watershed action plans and identify and select sites for targeting of project activities by June 30, 1996. Ms. Kelly stated that in the past the County has provided 10% of the funding, which would amount to \$4,000. Ms. Kelly outlined the other objectives by providing technical assistance to commercial and non-commercial landowners to minimize land use impacts on water quality, develop an evaluation program to demonstrate program effectiveness and maintain project administration. Kristi Carpenter reported on her activities within the Soil Conservation District including the cooperative effort being put into Earth Day. The Board concurred their support. Ms. Kelly also introduced the new technician in the Soil Conservation District.

Ms. Kelly also requested to extend the deadline date of the Nookachamps Watershed Action Plan Education and Implementation grant from July 31, 1997, to July 31, 1998. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to support the letter requesting the extension, as presented. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REGARDING COUNTY FOREST BOARD REVENUES.

Bill Wallace, Northwest Regional Manager, for the Department of Natural Resources, Greg Ariss, Cascade Manager, and Mark Munroe, Public Information Officer, were present today.

Mr. Wallace explained that the Department of Natural Resources manage approximately 133,000 acres in Skagit County of which a large share of the revenues go to Skagit County. Mr. Wallace mentioned that they will be making this presentation to other Counties also.

Mr. Wallace discussed the relationships among Department of Natural Resource Plans, including the asset stewardship plans, policy plans and landscape plans. Mr. Wallace reviewed how regulatory fluctuations have affected state timber sales over the years and the effect of species listings on Department of Natural Resource timber harvests, indicating that future listings will cause greater decreases in state timber sales. Mr. Wallace presented a list of fish species that are currently under review with action considered in the next few years.

Mr. Ariss spoke of the Forest Board Lands in Skagit County currently producing quite a bit of revenue. Mr. Ariss stated that under the HCP, the annual cut was about 39.9 million board foot or 11,400 acre per decade and showed statistics of Skagit County on base acres in Forest Board Trust. Mr. Ariss presented the Forest Board Revenue Distribution in 1996, showing that the State General Fund receives more than 50% of the revenue off Forest Board Land. Mr. Ariss also presented a summary of the revenue forecast.

A discussion ensued in regard to forest management practices.

ADJOURNMENT.

Chairman 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

Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner



ATTEST.


Debby Sims, Clerk
Board of Commissioners