

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, April 1, 1997

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| 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | Commissioner's Staff Meeting. |
| | Flag Salute. |
| 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Consideration of Voice Mail Greeting for Jail Facility. |
| *T 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. | Board of Health - Peter Browning, Director. 1) Update - Food Protection Program. 2) Presentation - Dental Clinic on Wheels. 3) Miscellaneous. |
| *T 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Parks Projects Update. |
| *T 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Facilities Projects Update. |
| 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. | Bid Award - 1997/1998 County Legal Printing. |

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 1, 1997, with Commissioners Harvey Wolden and Robert Hart present. Commissioner Ted W. Anderson's absence was excused.

CONSIDERATION OF VOICE MAIL GREETING FOR JAIL FACILITY.

Sheriff Ed Goodman and Dan Slattery, Sheriff's office, were present today to discuss the Jail phone system. Sheriff Goodman reviewed the situation at the Jail, reporting that the numerous calls to the Jail are all answered in the Control Room by the Control Room Deputy whose job also includes monitoring other crucial security issues. Sheriff Goodman reported that the majority of calls received at the jail are inquires as to jail hours, visiting hours, if a certain individual is in jail, and such. Sheriff Goodman stated that the request is to have these types of calls answered by a recorded message with certain general information available.

Dan Slattery emphasized that the Jail phone number is entirely separate from the Sheriff's office number and also reported that the Public Defenders and other attorneys do have access directly to phones in the cell blocks. Dan Slattery announced that having the recorded message available will reduce the impact on the Control Room Deputy and will improve the Control Room functions.

Sheriff Goodman mentioned that there was previously an attempt to route these calls to the Sheriff's office, but the current volume of calls to the Sheriff's office is substantial and they cannot handle even a slight increase. Sheriff Goodman discussed the current duties of the Control Room Deputy and the anticipation of additional duties with the implementation of the 911 system. The Board was invited to tour the Jail facility in order to witness the activity that takes place in the Control Room.

Chairman Wolden announced that he is very much opposed to voice mail systems that replace live bodies which deny the public access to personal assistance and continued by explaining that these systems make it very difficult to communicate and is frustrating. However, Chairman Wolden explained that the situation in the Jail Control Room seems a little different from previous County voice mail system experiences, as the main incoming line actually comes into the Sheriff's office. Sheriff Goodman clarified that they are not attempting to eliminate any contact with the public, but are merely trying to better utilize the Control Room Deputy's functions. The only other option would be to have an additional staff person in the Control Room, which is an unsuitable alternative.

Commissioner Hart stated that he does not have problem with this as long as there is a voice mail message that clearly states how to easily access a live person if preferred. Chairman Wolden agreed that this should be used merely as a tool to assist the public with general information.

Sheriff Goodman reiterated that the Sheriff's office phone is answered by a live person 24 hours a day.

Commissioner Hart made a motion to authorize a voice mail system in Control Room of the Jail as long as the voice mail message contains instructions on how to easily access a live person. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD OF HEALTH – Peter Browning, Director.

1. **Update – Food Protection Program.**

Corinne Story presented an update on the Food Protection Program, reviewing the history of the program. Ms. Story noted that major causes of foodborne illnesses are poor hygiene and not keeping food at a proper temperature.

Ms. Story identified the three primary components of the program as consumer education, the permitting/inspection, and foodborne illness investigation and reviewed each of these functions.

Ms. Story reported that the regular inspection schedule is the most effective tool in preventing foodborne illnesses in retail establishment. Ms. Story also mentioned that there is always room for improvement and that they will continue to strive towards better methods. Ms. Story encouraged people to call the Health Department if they suspect a foodborne illness.

A discussion ensued in regard to outdoor food safety and Ms. Story stated that a brochure has been prepared and distributed throughout the County and it was well received.

2. **Presentation – Dental Clinic on Wheels.**

Kim VanEpps, Oral Health Coordinator, reviewed the statistics of dental care and access in the County and at the State level. Ms. VanEpps reported on the success of the Smile Mobile which targets children with no dental insurance. Ms. Van Epps also reported on the lack of adult dental care for many in the County.

Ms. Van Epps discussed the Northwest Medical Teams Healthcare Van and the Health Department function in order to help citizens access these services. Ms. VanEpps discussed the screening process involved and the process of determining eligibility. Ms. VanEpps stated that they will be looking toward the community service groups for financial assistance for the healthcare van and mentioned that it is anticipated that the van will be in the County approximately one week per month, as it will also be travelling to other Counties.

A brief discussion ensued in regard to the Health Department function in this dental clinic on wheels venture. The Board continued with a discussion on the tremendous impact on emergency rooms, physically and financially, with people accessing emergency dental assistance who are not covered by a dental health care plan. Mr. Browning stated that this van can also be used for off-site immunizations, even though at this time the focus will be on the dental aspect of health care.

The Board concurred that they are very much in support of the Northwest Medical Teams Healthcare Van.

3. **Miscellaneous.**

Peter Browning, Director, introduced Ken Willis as the new Environmental Health Supervisor. Mr. Willis stated he is very honored to accept this position. Mr. Willis announced that he has been with the Health Department for 22 years and is looking forward to working with the new Director, Mr. Browning.

PARKS PROJECTS UPDATE.

Fairgrounds -

Jon Aarstad, Parks Director, introduced Tony Rees of the Fairgrounds to discuss the recent 1997 Sportsman Show. Mr. Rees presented and discussed the survey results of the show evaluation, stating that overall the show was well received with approximately 2,500 in attendance. Mr. Rees mentioned that they hope to double the number of vendors and participants next year.

Mr. Aarstad introduced Lori Anderson of the Fairgrounds who discussed the upcoming Flower and Garden Faire, which will be held at the Fairgrounds on April 11, 12 & 13, 1997. Ms. Anderson stated that there will be landscape and floral displays, commercial vendors, arts and crafts displays and how-to workshops. Admission will be \$2.00.

Ms. Anderson also mentioned that the Kids Spring Fair will be held at the Fairgrounds.

Mr. Aarstad announced that as in previous years, a Resolution must be signed by the Board for funding of the revolving fund for these upcoming events.

In this regard, Mr. Aarstad presented a Resolution for the Funding of Revolving Fund for Skagit County Flower & Garden Faire in the amount of \$500 from April 1, 1997, through April 30, 1997. Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve the Resolution, as presented. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Resolution No. 16499).

Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve a Resolution, as presented, for the establishment of Revolving Fund for Skagit County Kid" Spring Fair in the amount of \$1,000 from May 1, 1997, through May 30, 1997. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Resolution No. 16500).

Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve a Resolution, as presented, for the Funding of Revolving Fund for Skagit County Fair in the amount of \$35,000 for the months of August and September of 1997. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Resolution No. 16501).

Ms. Anderson provided an update on the Skagit County Fair entertainment reporting that a contract is not signed at this time, however, it is quite certain Waylon Jennings will perform and they are taking reservations at this time. Also, the former lead singer of Three Dog Night will be performing on Friday night.

Cook Road Playfields –

Mr. Aarstad reported that they are getting close to completion on this project and that they would like to request an amendment to the current agreement to allow the purchase of a lawnmower for mowing the playfields. Mr. Aarstad stated that he recommends this amendment. Commissioner Hart inquired as to if we would be merely the purchaser of the lawnmower or if this entailed responsibility of providing maintenance and such. Mr. Aarstad stated that the County would only be providing the funding for the acquisition, not the maintenance or daily operational aspects of the playfields.

In this regard, Mr. Aarstad stated that he will prepare an addendum to the agreement and bring it to the Board for signature on the Consent Agenda.

LaConner Tennis Court Project –

Mr. Aarstad reported that Megan Lisser and Tim Bruce have been very involved in this project and that an Interlocal Agreement is in the process, hopefully to be signed by the LaConner School District shortly.

Soccer Fields –

Mr. Aarstad announced that there is a definite lack of soccer field space in the County and reported that he recognized the need to address this issue. Mr. Aarstad has since then contacted several individuals involved in the soccer program through school districts and communities to have them organize and develop some sort of solution to the problem, possibly similar the soccer playfields developed in Whatcom County. Mr. Aarstad reported a tremendous amount of enthusiasm from this group in attempting to develop all weather surface fields as well as grass fields. A brief discussion ensued.

Fairgrounds –

Mr. Aarstad mentioned that the County owns two tents that are kept at the Fairgrounds and reported that it takes quite a bit of staff time to erect and disassemble the tents when they are used and discussed the issue of responsibility of damage that occurs which is costly. In this regard, Mr. Aarstad asked the Board for their position on letting other entities use these tents in the future. Chairman Wolden stated that it was his opinion that these tents should be reserved for use only by the County or EDASC. Commissioner Hart agreed and also stated that he did not think the tents should be used off the property as they were expensive to repair and it was difficult to transport them without damage occurring. The Board concurred.

FACILITIES PROJECTS UPDATE.

Roger Howard, Facilities Manager, reported on the Burlington Shop facility project, stating that this project is progressing.

Mr. Howard also discussed the parking lot project, mentioning that this plan has been submitted to the City of Mount Vernon engineering department for review.

Mr. Howard presented the parking lot and landscaping plan of the Brakefield Building which has been submitted to the City of Mount Vernon, hoping the City will take into consideration the concept of landscaping in order to maximize the number of parking spaces on the site. Mr. Howard reported that this will be at the May Planning Commission meeting. Also discussed briefly was the remodeling plan for the inside of the building.

Mr. Howard also provided an update on Courthouse Foundation project, reporting that 410 yards of concrete was poured successfully and that it reached its strength about four days after the pour. The contractor is currently laying the steel for the East half of the building now. Mr. Howard reported that the elevator is now shut down. April 9th is the next scheduled concrete pour and then the contractor can return the dirt under the building and general cleanup will ensue for completion of the project.

Mr. Howard also mentioned that there are interviews scheduled with eight architects on Thursday for the upcoming projects and that he anticipates selection completed by Friday.

BID AWARD - 1997/1998 COUNTY LEGAL PRINTING.

Patti Chambers, Administrative Coordinator, presented a Resolution awarding the bid for 1997/1998 legal printing to the Skagit Valley Herald at the rate of \$2.50 per column inch. Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16502).**

MISCELLANEOUS.

1.
Gary Christenson, Senior Planner, presented a Resolution requesting a Report and Recommendation from the Planning Agency on Planning Commission Recommendation on Draft 1997 Skagit County Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Hart made a motion to approve the Resolution, as presented. Chairman Wolden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16503).**

ADJOURNMENT.

Chairman Wolden made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Hart 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