

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, February 3, 1998**

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Commissioners' Staff Meeting.
*T 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	<u>Board of Health – Peter Browning, Director.</u> 1) Introduction of New Environmental Health Staff Member. 2) Discussion - Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Skagit County. 3) Discussion – Women, Infants & Children Program (WIC). 4) Child Death Review. 5) Discussion - Coordinated Prevention Grant for 1998 and 1999. 6) Discussion – Clean-Up of Former Shake Mill Site in Hamilton. 7) Miscellaneous.
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Parks Projects Update.
*T 11:00 a.m. – Noon	At Risk Intervention Specialists (ARIS)/Best SELF Program Update.
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Executive Session – Personnel, Litigation and Land Acquisition.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 3, 1998, with Commissioners Robert Hart, Ted W. Anderson and Harvey Wolden present.

BOARD OF HEALTH – Peter Browning, Director.

1. Introduction of new Environmental Health Staff Member.

Ken Willis, Environmental Health Supervisor, introduced Polly Dubel, Environmental Health Specialist I.

2. Discussion – Sexually Transmitted Diseases in Skagit County.

Cathy Brady, Family Nurse Practitioner in the Adult Care Health Center, gave a brief overview of the work, future trends and goals of the clinic. She advised that effective in January, the main focus of the clinic is the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. She reviewed pertinent statistics relating to sexually transmitted diseases. She discussed the cooperation of various agencies throughout the county and the sharing of information in this regard. Ms. Brady stated that education and prevention is an on-going component of the program. Skagit County is the main test site for HIV testing and counseling, including the needle exchange program, abstinence and safe sex programs.

Ms. Brady gave a brief update on the activities of the Teen Clinic, which offers such services as Family Planning, Sexually Transmitted Disease Diagnosis and Treatment, and HIV Testing and Counseling.

Ms. Brady noted that future goals include increased partnerships with various communities in the County, further community awareness, and reduction in the incidence of sexually transmitted diseases.

3. Discussion – Women, Infants & Children Program (WIC).

Susan Brown, Nutritionist for the WIC Program, explained that WIC is a federal program generated as a part of the Child Nutrition Act and is a supplemental food nutrition program. The purpose is to target key nutrients that are lacking in low-income families. She discussed the eligibility requirements for the WIC program. She detailed the healthy food that is distributed to qualified families. She stated that the County's program has three locations in Skagit County included Community Action, the County Health Department, and Affiliated Health Services. Ms. Brown advised that they are currently serving approximately 600 individuals.

She noted that the State Monitor gave the program activities a glowing report.

4. Child Death Review.

Linda Ehrlich, Public Health Nurse, discussed Child Death Review and the members of the review team. She reviewed some specific examples of the team's activities and the reasons for this important function. She reviewed statistics of the 16 deaths of children in Skagit County.

Ms. Ehrlich then reviewed Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) activities. She explained that SIDS is the sudden death of an infant under one year of age that remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation, including performance of a complete autopsy, examination of the death scene, and review of the medical history. She reviewed the common risk factors for SIDS and the importance of the infant sleep position to reduce the incidence of SIDS. Ms. Ehrlich reviewed some specific statistics regarding SIDS in Skagit County.

5. Discussion – Coordinated Prevention Grant of 1998 and 1999.

Briff Pfaff, Environmental Health Specialist, discussed the Coordinated Prevention Grant, explaining that the grant is a 2-year program wherein the County will receive \$50,000 per year to fund various activities including illegal dumping investigations, and other activities at the licensed solid waste facilities (recyclers, composters, solid waste station). She advised that this grant is about 40-45% of the funding for the solid waste activities of the County. The grant will be forthcoming for signature, and will be presented at a later date.

6. Discussion – Clean-Up of Former Shake Mill Site in Hamilton.

Vin Sherman, Environmental Health Specialist, reviewed several slides showing areas around the County where illegal dumping is occurring. He specifically reviewed the area in Hamilton around a former shake mill that was burned down several years ago. He stated that there is great improvement at the site but there is much more work to be done.

7. Miscellaneous.

There were no miscellaneous items for discussion.

PARKS PROJECTS UPDATE.

1. Concerning the proposed Frailey Mountain Shooting Range, Jon Aarstad, Director, reviewed a letter from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the items necessary to complete the requests in that letter. He discussed that in order to obtain a reconveyance, a survey would need to be completed by Skagit County and will take the elements identified in scope for the EIS and go through and do a boundary survey. A rough estimate from Jeff Skodje stated that it will cost about \$20,000 to complete these reconveyance requirements. Funding will need to be obtained as it was not budgeted in the Parks budget. A request for proposals will be necessary when the funding is determined to be available.

The Board commented that this seems like a high dollar amount for the services to be provided. Chairman Hart indicated that the County, however, does need to get these details completed and accomplish these tasks as inexpensively as possible.

Alicia Huschka, Budget Director, suggested that perhaps there would be some reserve monies available in the Parks Acquisition Fund. Mr. Aarstad said that he and Ms. Huschka would meet to discuss this in more detail.

Mr. Aarstad advised that one response to the Request for Proposals for the Development and Operation of the Frailey Mountain Shooting Range. He advised that the response is being reviewed by four individuals, and Mr. Aarstad hopes to make a recommendation to award the bid in the near future.

2. Mr. Aarstad next discussed the Centennial Trail Skagit River Bridge project and the three options that are before the Board for the Highway 9 bridge problems. These options include:

Option 1: An ISTE A grant application has been submitted to construct a pedestrian platform on the SR9 Highway Bridge crossing the Skagit River. DOT has estimated this cost to be 2.1 million dollars (\$200,000 design and engineering and 1.9 million dollars for construction). Skagit county would have to provide 13.5% match totaling \$283,500. Since there is a limit of funds available in the rural element of the ISTE A funds, this project would have to be completed in phases. This is the only option that would provide a dedicated pedestrian and bicycle path crossing the Skagit River.

Option 2: Our original grant contract with the IAC totaled \$650,000. The IAC provides \$325,000 cash and accepted the value of the railroad bridge as our in-kind match. Skagit County needs to replace the value of this match if it plans to remove the bridge. Our match requirement would be \$325,000 that would be spent on additional land acquisitions along this corridor.

Option 3: Skagit County can arrange to "downscope" this project by requesting the IAC to reduce the total stated in the original grant award. We would downscope to \$325,000 and Skagit County would be responsible for a match of \$162,500. Downscoping would remove the bridge factor from the project and allow its removal. Further, Skagit County submitted a final invoice to the IAC requesting reimbursement for expenses incurred during 1997 for this project. This total invoice amounts to \$192,001.07. Skagit County has spent this money from fund 352. If Option 3 is chosen, the IAC would retain \$162,500 from this request and reimburse Skagit County approximately \$29,000. Since we have already paid for project costs up front, we would not have to pay additional costs for the match requirement.

The summary is: Option 1- Skagit County would have to pay \$238,500; Option 2 is that Skagit County would have to pay \$325,000; Option 3 is that Skagit County has already paid its match requirement of \$162,500.

Mr. Aarstad stated that it is important to resolve this issue immediately as we need to withdraw our ISTE A request if Option 1 is not selected.

The Board indicated that Option 3 is the only reasonable alternative. A brief discussion ensued on the implementation of this option.

3. Mr. Aarstad discussed the desire of his staff to have the Skagit County logo or Parks & Recreation Department logo on department vehicles. Chairman Hart stated that the County logo is being used by the Public Works Department, and it would be inconsistent to use a different logo. The Board suggested that the existing County logo be used, with an identifying department name.
4. Mr. Aarstad asked to provide hourly monthly meetings rather than half-hour, to provide an opportunity for monthly division reports from not only Parks, but Recreation and Fair Supervisors. The Board indicated that this would be acceptable.
5. The tour of County Parks with the Parks Advisory Board was briefly discussed. This is scheduled for May 28.
6. Squires Lake Maintenance Responsibilities of Skagit and Whatcom Counties were briefly discussed.
7. Pressentin Park: Mr. Aarstad advised that a private land owner has contacted him regarding construction of a roadway that was a part of the original contract when the Park was originally obtained. Mr. Aarstad indicated that he would be drafting a letter to the landowner addressing various issues.
8. The lease of the railroad siding in Birdsvew adjacent to the Cascade Trail was briefly discussed. The Board indicated that it is supportive of submitting a notice of intent to lease the land.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Staff presented a Resolution providing a defense to Dan Slattery in a lawsuit brought by Eric L. Mikota. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 16867)**

2. Staff presented several contracts concerning the ARIS/Best SELF Program, which had been rejected from the Consent Agenda on February 2, 1998 pending further clarification. The agreements have been modified to contain termination dates of December 31, 1998, and each contract amount has been reviewed. The agreements are as follows:
 - A. Personal Services Agreement with Elizabeth Sherman to provide individual and/or family therapy for ARIS clients at the rate of \$40 per hour for individual therapy, \$20 per hour for group therapy, and \$40 per hour for travel and school consultation. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$20,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03821)**

 - B. Personal Services Agreement with Vanessa Soderberg Kleinman to provide individual and/or family therapy at a rate of \$65 per 50 minute session. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$20,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03822)**

 - C. Personal Services Agreement with Larry D'Arienzo to provide individual and/or family therapy at a rate of \$60 per 50 minute therapy session and \$20 per hour for travel. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and expire on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$20,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03823)**

 - D. Personal Services Agreement with Diaz Karate & Burlington Judo Dojo to provide Karate and judo Chi lessons to be provided two times per week or more to ARIS approved clients. Compensation shall be at the rate of \$85 down payment per student, \$50 per month per student, and \$30 testing fees per student. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03824)**

 - E. Personal Services Agreement with Julian Byrd to provide individual and/or family therapy, anger control or other skills education classes, and group counseling. Compensation will be \$55 for individual, family therapy, and/or consultation, \$60 per hour for education classes, \$70 per hour for groups, and \$20 per hour for travel time. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03825)**

 - F. Personal Services Agreement with Susan P. Gardner for individual, family and group therapy at \$60 per 50 minute session for individual and family therapy, \$80 for group therapy, and \$40 per hour for travel time required for such services outside of office appointments. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03826)**

 - G. Personal Services Agreement with Rosemary MacGregor to provide individual and family counseling, baseline EEG's, EEG training sessions, educational assessment, etc. Compensation will be \$125 for each initial visit and \$80 for each subsequent visit and will not exceed \$10,000. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998. Commissioner Wolden moved

- to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03827)**
- H. Personal Services Agreement with Ruth Mulvihill to provide individual and/or family therapy for ARIS referred clients at the rate of \$40 per 50 minute therapy hour. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03828)**
- I. Personal Services Agreement with Susan Radkins to provide individual and/or family therapy for ARIS referred clients at the rate of \$65 per 50-minute therapy session and mileage to and from school meetings at the rate of \$40 per hour. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03829)**
- J. Personal Services Agreement with Judith McCarthy for individual and/or family therapy for ARIS referred clients at the rate of \$60 per 50 minute therapy hour. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998 for a maximum compensation amount of \$10,000. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03830)**
- K. Personal Services Agreement with Rebecca Love, M.A., for individual and/or family therapy for ARIS referred clients at the rate of \$50 per session, for a maximum compensation amount of \$10,000. The contract will commence on January 1, 1998 and will terminate on December 31, 1998. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 03831)**
3. Staff presented an Application for Dance Hall License for the Pleasant View Inn Tavern located at 52807 Railroad Avenue, Rockport. Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the Application as presented by Staff. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Approved)**

AT RISK INTERVENTION SPECIALISTS (ARIS)/BEST SELF PROGRAM UPDATE.

Mike Woodmansee, County Administrator, stated that Skagit County is a leader in establishing a collaborative effort in youth programs. The Best SELF program was founded in 1992 and has grown from 230 children to over 1,600 children. Skagit County was awarded a \$350,000 juvenile justice grant for these efforts in both the Best SELF Program and the work of the At-Risk Intervention Specialists. Mr. Woodmansee indicated that this presentation is an effort to inform the Board and the public of the status of these programs.

Ken Chovil, ARIS Program Manager, reviewed the benefits of early intervention and prevention. He stressed that the County works collaboratively with school districts and other agencies to help foster teamwork and maximize the goals of early intervention. ARIS has been with the County for approximately 7 years and accepts referrals, working with schools in the County.

Andrea Poolman, ARIS, reviewed her activities in the Concrete, LaConner and Conway School Districts. School District, together with the LaConner and Conway School Districts.

Jocelyn Palmer-Perry, ARIS, stated that she primarily serves the Mount Vernon School District, and she reviewed specific statistics regarding the Mount Vernon School District.

Chris Tobey, ARIS, explained his activities in the Burlington-Edison and Anacortes School Districts, reviewed the details of his internship. Mr. Tobey thanked the Board for their support and flexibility for this program and his doctoral internship.

Mary Allen, ARIS, reviewed her activities in the Anacortes and Burlington School Districts. She reviewed some statistics regarding the successes of the program.

Jolene McEachran, ARIS, reviewed her activities in the Anacortes and LaConner School Districts, stating that she works with children from preschool through Sixth Grade.

Renee Brumm, ARIS, reviewed her activities for the Burlington, Sedro Woolley and Mount Vernon School Districts. She reviewed a specific case that she is working on.

Maria Cancelada, ARIS, announced that she is a new AIRIS employee who will provide service to mono-lingual families.

Dr. Donna Schram, independent evaluator on the Juvenile Justice Program, stated that Skagit County is doing *more in delinquency prevention than not only any other place in the State, but in the nation.* The Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee is funding six projects in Skagit County. She reviewed the specific projects and their positive impacts on the community. Dr. Schram explained the need to focus on the specific group that needs to be addressed, rather than spreading the services too thin. She stated that there were substantial positive findings, and that this project deserves national recognition.

Commissioner Wolden noted that correcting disruptive behavior helps all of the other students in the classroom.

Dr. Schram commented briefly on the prevalence of serious mental health problems in elementary school students who are not aggressive, but are severely depressed. She reviewed the after-school activities available to approximately 240 students at various sites throughout the County.

Dr. Schram that these programs reduced juvenile crime by 23%.

Several parents and friends in the community commented on the various programs discussed today.

Carl Bruner, Assistant Superintendent at Sedro Woolley, commented on the success of the collaborative ARIS program.

Diane Best, Counselor at Mount Vernon High School, stated that ARIS is highly valued in the schools, particularly by the school counselors. She stated that they have no one who can build these bridges for them like the ARIS program.

Ronda Gervino, whose son is a client of the ARIS program, commented on the successful part of his program.

Kelly McBride, parent and member of the community, stated that you cannot place monetary value on the type of services her 3-year-old daughter has been provided with. She commented on the partnership with her case manager and how these services have helped maintain her family. She stated that ARIS seems to take many little steps to make a manageable future.

Tawni Helms, Best SELF Program Coordinator, reviewed the summer enrichment program known as Best SELF. She stated that 1,610 students were enrolled in Best SELF last year. All of the school districts in Skagit County are participants. She reviewed the specific enrollments at each site throughout the County. She reviewed specific service learning projects that were accomplished at each site.

Ms. Helms outlined the program goals for 1998. These include the merger of the migrant program into the Best SELF program, to allow expanded service to more migrant students. She stated that she anticipates no growth in enrollment except as it might pertain to the migrant program. Ms. Helms stated that there will be no further funding of the Do it Right Program, but will look to the school districts for continuation of that program. She stated that *the program is strengthening collaboration with DSHS to get more families connected for subsidies.* She indicated that the Superintendent of Public Instruction would like to see this program replicated in other counties throughout the State.

Commissioner Anderson stated that there is no intention to cut the ARIS or Best SELF programs, but there are tight budget constraints in 1998.

Mr. Woodmansee indicated that the programs have developed a strategy to be effective in ARIS and Best SELF to try to obtain a \$100,000 reduction in budget.

Ms. Helms explained that there are grant opportunities available to explore additional funding.

Mike Jarboe, Best SELF founder, thanked the Commissioners for taking risks in developing this Program. He stressed the need for kids to feel useful and productive, and the need to value kids as highly in our culture as possible. He stated that both ARIS and Best SELF offer an incredibly visionary effort in helping children know that they are important. He stated that the County's genuine interest in kids through this collaborative effort has paid great dividends for this County and has put Skagit County on the map not only at the State level, but also on the National Level.

A video was shown concerning the Best SELF Program.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

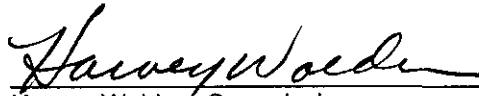
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Robert Hart, Chairman



Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner



Harvey Wolden, Commissioner



ATTEST:



Patti J. Chambers, Clerk of the Board
Skagit County Board of Commissioners