

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thursday, September 10, 1998

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Introduction of London Code Enforcement Officer, Sue Rowe.
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Presentation of the 1999 Preliminary Budget.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, September 10, 1998, with Commissioners Robert Hart, Ted W. Anderson, and Harvey Wolden present.

Introduction of London Code Enforcement Officer, Sue Rowe

John Schmidt, Code Enforcement Officer for the Skagit County Planning and Permit Center, introduced Sue Rowe, Code Enforcement Officer from London, England, Borough of Brent, to the Board. Mr. Schmidt will also be visiting London to learn about their code enforcement program. Mr. Schmidt and Ms. Rowe explained to the Board that they are participating in an exchange program sponsored by the American Planning Association's 1998 International Exchange Program.

Presentation of the 1999 Preliminary Budget

Kathy Hill, Skagit County Auditor, presented the 1999 preliminary budget to the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Hill explained that the preliminary budget is basically the same format as always, although this year was the first year the entire process was completed using SFG software. The most noticeable change in the budget is the personnel forecast sheets that Stephanie Wood, Personnel Director, prepared. Other changes include projects at department, division and activity levels, and some other minor changes.

Ms. Hill advised that projected revenues will increase, creating for the first time that she is aware of, a budget surplus. The Board needs to look closely at additional requests for new positions and reclassifications, as there are a number of those.

Ms. Hill told the Board to contact her office for any further reports. David Cunningham and Danny Weinberg are excellent and will be able to provide them with anything they need. The public may also come to the Auditor's Office and look at the document, which is the culmination of a lot of work and planning by a lot of departments.

Commissioner Wolden asked if the SFG program has helped the process.

Ms. Hill replied that it has greatly improved the efficiency of the budgetary process. She also advised the Board that if they wish to have a different format for future years to advise her office as they are able to do a lot more with SFG.

Commissioner Hart noted that departments have been asked to keep to a 3% increase. It does appear that the major changes are in actual projects like E-911, which won't be in the County budget. It also looks like some things are in the budget that are not on-going and are separate from the day-to-day operations. It appears that most of the departments have made an effort to stay within the 3% requirement. The Board will need a couple of weeks to review the preliminary budget submittal.

Mike Woodmansee, County Administrator, indicated that budget hearings with the departments start one week from Monday.

Commissioner Hart added that he appreciates the fact that the County is within the statutory time limit. There are a lot of projects the Board needs to look at, as well as staffing levels and matters that need a response to the public in order to make sure they receive the services they expect.

Commissioner Anderson and the other Board members thanked Ms. Hill and her staff for all their hard work on the 1999 preliminary budget.

MISCELLANEOUS

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.

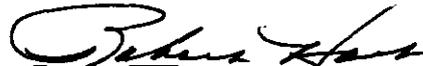
As of this date, September 10, 1998, the Board, by a majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:

- 27618 through 27654, Clearing Fund 696, in the amount of \$281,090.26. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which was carried. **(C-60-98)**

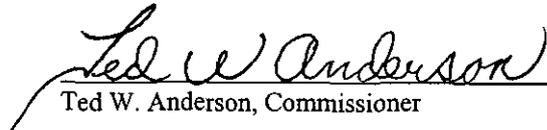
ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wolden motioned to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



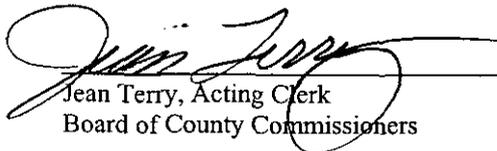
Robert Hart, Chairman



Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner



Harvey Wolden, Commissioner



Jean Terry, Acting Clerk
Board of County Commissioners