

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, March 29, 1999**

*T	10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Proclamation – Law Day USA in Skagit County, May 1, 1999.
	10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Public Hearing – Supplemental Budget.
		CONSENT AGENDA MISCELLANEOUS
	11:15 a.m. – Noon	Executive Session – Personnel, Litigation and Land Acquisition.
	1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Presentation – Northwest Straits Advisory Commission.
	3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Emergency Management Council Meeting, EMS Training Room at the 911 Center, 2911 East College Way, Mount Vernon.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, March 29, 1999, with Commissioners Ted W. Anderson, Harvey Wolden and Robert Hart present.

PROCLAMATION – LAW DAY USA IN SKAGIT COUNTY, MAY 1, 1999.

Commissioner Hart read the Proclamation proclaiming Law Day USA in Skagit County for May 1, 1999. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Proclamation as read. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Proclamation was signed by the Board.

PUBLIC HEARING – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET.

Alicia Huschka, Budget Manager, explained the need for this Supplemental Budget. She advised that this request is specific to the Water Quality Program, explaining that there is additional work to be done at the Edison Sub-Area Wastewater Facility with subsequent additional expenditures of approximately \$76,000. She further advised that there is also \$74,000 of additional funding for water quality related issues in the Nookachamps Watershed. The third item is \$100,000 for the revolving loan fund that is managed through the Treasurer's Office for septic system repairs throughout the County.

There being no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Wolden moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Wolden moved to authorize the Supplemental Budget as explained by Ms. Huschka. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. **(Resolution No. 17382)**

CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Consent Agenda for Monday, March 29, 1999. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:

1. Record of the Proceedings of Monday, March 22, 1999.
2. Record of the Proceedings of Tuesday, March 23, 1999.

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3. Record of the Proceedings of Wednesday, March 24, 1999.
4. Resolution Directing the Treasurer to Proceed with Clearing Title of Abandoned Railroad Right-of-Way. (Previously approved by the Board via interoffice memo; this is the formal direction to the Treasurer.) **(Resolution No. 17383)**
5. Resolution Ordering the Sale of Tax Title Property for property located in Concrete, previously approved by the Board. **(Resolution No. 17384)**

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

6. 1999 Aggregate Crushing Contract – ARC Materials Corporation (Butler Hill Pit, No. 122; Eagle Hill Pit, No. 162; and Upper Samish Pit, No. 171). **(Contract No. 04332)**
7. Letter to the County Road Administration Board requesting withdrawal of the Farm-to-Market Road Project (Milepost 1.80 to Milepost 2.80) from the Northwest Region 1999/2001 Priority Array RAP project funding. **(Approved)**

PARKS & RECREATION:

8. Resolution authorizing Interim Directors Peter Mayer and Dennis Lind to sign certain written contracts and amending Resolutions Nos. 12458, 12658, 16061 and 16337. **(Resolution No. 17385)**
9. Personal Services Agreement with Urban Forestry Services to perform professional horticultural consulting services at various park, facility, trail and open space areas as need on an on-call basis and provide testimony or deposition services. Contractor will be compensated at a rate of \$85 per hour, plus expenses, with a minimum charge of \$150. The contract term begins March 1, 1999 and will continue until terminated. **(Contract No. 04333)**

PLANNING & PERMIT CENTER:

10. Demolition/Clearance/Disposal Plan & Contract with Wedco Construction, Inc. for demolition of four residential structures & appurtenances located on N. Shore Drive, S. Shore Drive, Cape Horn Drive and Thunderbird Lane. The contract is for the total amount of \$17,800. **(Contract No. 04334)**

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. 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 29, 1999, the Board, by a majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:

Payroll warrants numbered 951088 through 951178 in the total dollar amount of \$70,896.48 (Transmittal No. P-11-99); and

Payroll warrants numbered 30756 through 31444 in the total dollar amount of \$657,779.42 (Transmittal No. P-12-99); and

Warrants numbered 41306 through 41620 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$857,737.11 (Transmittal No. C-21-99), and

Warrants numbered 41621 through 41758 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$592,925.46 (Transmittal No. C-22-99).

2. Staff presented a Settlement Agreement with Corbin Volluz, providing for settlement of all of Mr. Volluz's claims against Skagit County. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Agreement as presented by Staff. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. 04335)**
3. Chal Martin, Public Works Director, reviewed a list of how Whatcom/Skagit Counties can use State funds for Salmon Recovery. A discussion ensued regarding the use of such funds and appropriate expenditures.
4. Sky Miller, Surface Water Management Division, presented a letter to the Board for their signature concerning a request for grant monies on behalf of Ducks Unlimited. He explained the three projects involved in this request. The Board signed the letter as presented by Mr. Miller

PRESENTATION – NORTHWEST STRAITS ADVISORY COMMISSION.

Tom Cowen introduced Dan Evans and Lew Moore, advising that they have been leading the efforts in moving through the formation of the Northwest Straits Commission. Terry Stevens, Director of the Padilla Bay Reserve, was also present.

Dan Evans gave a brief history of his background and his involvement in the formation of the National Marine Sanctuary. After this effort was not well-received by the general public and local jurisdictions, he worked with Lew Moore to form the Murray-Metcalf Citizens Advisory Committee to assess the ecological health of the Northwest Straits marine ecosystem and to recommend steps to improve the region's sustainability. He stated that it became clear that shore habitat and marine habitat needed local control and local solutions, and needed to be tailored to work with local governments and jurisdictions. He commented that since the listing of Chinook Salmon, this effort has become all the more important. He noted that Snohomish County is looking at a Northwest Straits Advisory Commission effort to make sure that they gain some protection from the Endangered Species Act itself.

Mr. Moore detailed the activities of the Murray-Metcalf Citizens Advisory Committee, stating that with virtually no funding, this committee accomplished a tremendous level of success to move forward and begin deciding what local involvement is necessary. This success occurred in San Juan County where consensus was reached among 14 individuals with varied backgrounds. Mr. Moore indicated that it is now time to replicate the success of San Juan County's experience in Whatcom, Skagit, Island, Snohomish, Clallam and Jefferson counties. He stated that there is the need to convene a citizen-based non-regulatory committee. He asked the Board to form such a committee and allow one representative from the local committee to become a part of the Northwest Straits Commission. This Commission will consist of one representative from each of these County's commissions, one representative from the Governor's action team, four other individuals, and a tribal representative.

Commissioner Anderson asked about the members to be appointed by the Governor. Mr. Moore stated that five members would be appointed by the Governor, and eight would be appointed by the various commissions.

Mr. Evans stated that this effort will help to restore marine resources and is a bottom-up effort that will tie in with the County's efforts towards salmon recovery. He stated that the basic premise is to bring in federal money to determine the best possible science.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the composition of the commission and the County committees.

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Chairman Anderson stated that he is a natural-born skeptic and whenever it is stated that it is a "bottom up" process, he is suspicious. He commented that he loses interest if there is no proposal to do something about the nets in the river. He commented on the possibilities of takings from a property rights standpoint. He stated that in order to solve the problems of salmon recovery, everyone must "bite the bullet" and give up something. Chairman Anderson further commented on the lack of Federal money received to assist with projects that are ready to go. He stated that if, in fact, the system is from the "bottom up" and not from the "top down" he is fully in favor of it.

Commissioner Hart commented on the need to develop cooperation among all of the different groups involved in salmon recovery. He noted that there are groups working on intertwining issues such as clean water, salmon recovery and other related items.

Commissioner Wolden noted the need to use a consensus approach to these issues. He concurred with Commissioner Anderson that many people may suffer if this is not a fair process.

A lengthy discussion ensued on the process proposed by Messrs. Evans and Moore, and the potential outcome of such a committee's work.

Terry Stevens, Director of the Padilla Bay National Reserve, stated that he has worked for the County in the past and consequently, has a local perspective. He noted that he advocates the use of state/local government involvement. He detailed the workings of the commission and the work done with the San Juan model, urging a strong local citizen involvement. He reviewed the suggested work plan for such a Marine Resource Committee. He indicated that this would not be a financial burden to the County, as funds will be provided to the County for this program, as well as on-going technical assistance. Mr. Stevens stressed the need to put information and resources in the hands of local County groups. Mr. Stevens advised that Tom Cowen is available through the Padilla Bay National Reserve to assist local government in this regard.

Mr. Cowen stated that the only County that has signed up is San Juan County, but all of the other counties have demonstrated some interest. He further stated that San Juan County has not yet convened to select their representatives to the Northwest Straits Commission, but their proposed individual is a Port Commissioner.

A discussion ensued on specific areas of concern.

The Board indicated that they would be taking action on this matter in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

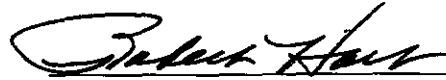
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON



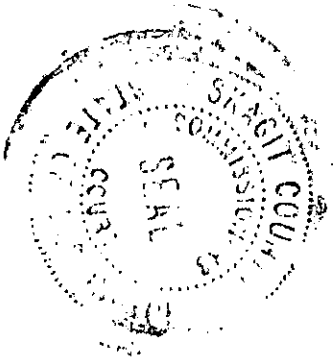
Ted W. Anderson, Chairman




Harvey Wolden, Commissioner



Robert Hart, Commissioner



ATTEST:



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