

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, June 21, 1999**

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| 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Public Hearing – Amending the Boundary Lines for Various Voting Precincts in Skagit County to Reflect Annexations by the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, and Mount Vernon. |
| *T 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Presentation – Northern State Recreation Area Task Force. |
| 11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | CONSENT AGENDA.
MISCELLANEOUS. |
| 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Public Hearing – To Consider Testimony regarding an Ordinance Imposing an Additional .04% Sales and Use Tax to be Credited against the State Tax for Purposes of Financing Public Facilities to be effective August 1, 1999. |
| 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Bid Opening – One New Latest Model 3-Axle Truck with Bin Roll-Off System. |
| 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Work Session – Update on the Skagit River Feasibility Study and Salmon Recovery. |

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

PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDING THE BOUNDARY LINES FOR VARIOUS VOTING PRECINCTS IN SKAGIT COUNTY TO REFLECT ANNEXATIONS BY THE CITIES OF ANACORTES, BURLINGTON, AND MOUNT VERNON.

Marie Nelson, Elections Supervisor, reviewed the specifics of the boundary line amendments being proposed to reflect the annexations by the cities of Anacortes, Burlington, and Mount Vernon.

There being no public comment forthcoming, Commissioner Wolden moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Wolden moved to amend the boundary lines for various voting precincts in Skagit County to reflect the annexations by the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, and Mount Vernon. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Ordinance No. 17473)**

PRESENTATION – NORTHERN STATE RECREATION AREA TASK FORCE.

Louie Requa, Northern State Recreation Area Task Force, stated that the Task Force is asking for the Board's support of the design and construction of a multi-use event center and playfields for the Northern State Recreation Area. He reviewed a packet of materials that he presented to the Board. He reviewed the exact location of the site, noting that the property is currently owned by Skagit County Parks & Recreation. He explained that a majority of the property is located in the urban growth area of Sedro Woolley.

He reviewed the historical highlights of this property, stating that the original visioning for the site began in 1984. The land was dedicated for recreational uses with a major stipulation that 50 acres be set aside for public educational uses. Mr. Requa advised that the County had included the site as an element and master plan concept of the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted in June of 1998.

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Mr. Requa spoke about the formation of the Task Force. He commented on the Board's promised support of a project if a group of private citizens could get the "ball rolling" on development of this site. He asked that the Board support the work of the Task Force and contribute \$250,000 per year for five years to assist in this regard. He stated that two committees have been formed by the Task Force: Youth Playfield Committee and Multi-Use Facility Committee. He further discussed that the facilities needed to be in Sedro Woolley's urban growth area in order for urban services to be provided.

Mr. Requa stated that the funds requested would allow for the commencement of the design and permitting process of the Youth Playfield Area, with construction slated to begin in 2000. The funds would also provide for scoping and planning of the Multi-Use Facility. He reviewed a map of the proposed playfield locations and mitigation areas.

Mr. Requa stated that this is an aggressive proposal, and that the Task Force wants to build a facility that will serve as a regional park. He again asked the Board to support the proposal by pledging \$250,000 or more for five or more years to support this effort.

Mike Crawford advised the Board that this wonderful piece of property has been waiting for 15 years for development and that the time to act is now. He spoke to the potential for the entire region and the benefits for generations to come. He stated that the planning has basically been done, and that the Task Force members have been working for years to get to this point. He stated that the money that the County would invest would produce great dividends, including potential revenues. He asked the Board to consider committing \$300,000 per year for ten years to assist with this project.

Spud Walley, Mayor of Sedro Woolley, thanked the Board for considering this project and noted that it could be a real status symbol for Skagit County. He stated that the Sedro Woolley City Council has committed \$18,000 for the next two years to the activities of the Task Force. He asked the Board to also lend their support.

Vern Sims stated that he has been associated with the Northern State Recreation Area for years; commenting that this is one of the greatest non-performing assets ever imagined. He spoke to the need to mitigate youth problems and provide entertainment for young people. He indicated that the site would be a regional facility, with no noise or traffic problems. He encouraged the Board to support the project financially.

Jon Aarstad, City of Burlington, stated that Mayor Tjeerdsma encourages the Board's consideration of the request from the Northern State Task Force as it will be a positive step in reducing juvenile delinquency. He spoke about the healthy environment, and the understanding of sportsmanship through interactive play with others. He stated that such a project would increase the County's quality of life. He spoke to the need to consider the long-term maintenance responsibilities and needs of the proposed facility. He further mentioned that the County's financial support would, in turn, generate other monies throughout the community and through grants. Mr. Aarstad stated that the City of Burlington will support the facility through volunteerism. He encouraged the Board to assist in moving the project forward.

Mike Janicki spoke regarding the need for additional playfields in Skagit County, and urged the Board to contribute funds to further the project.

Loren Cavanaugh, City of Burlington Parks & Recreation Department, voiced support for the project, specifically the playfields portion of the complex. He asked the Board to support the commitment of the Task Force and donate funds to the project.

Sharon Dillon, Sedro Woolley, asked the Board to commit \$300,000 per year for ten years to help facilitate this wonderful plan. She also spoke to the adequacy of parking at the site.

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Don Van Etten stated that he presented this project concept to the Board of Realtors last week, and the reaction was quite wonderful. He also urged the Board to contribute to this project.

Carroll Dillon, member of the County Parks & Recreation Board, spoke regarding the perfect fit of this project in the Parks & Recreation master Plan. He asked the Board to carefully consider the initial funding of this project.

Rick Jones, Superintendent of the Burlington-Edison School District, indicated his and the District's support for the project, and the commitment it represents to the young people of the County

Mike Anderson stated that this project will draw people to the Valley and produce revenue. He urged the Board to support the project.

Gloria Rivera asked for in-kind donations of equipment, supplies and labor so that applications for grant monies can contain a local match. She encouraged the County's support.

Dick Moore, Sedro Woolley, spoke in favor of the multi-cultural center and the importance of non-athletic pursuits of children. He stated that many young people would benefit from this facility.

Howard Miller, former County Commissioner, spoke to the advantages of the location of the proposed site, noting that the area is served by two highways, Highway 20 and Highway 9.

An unidentified woman commented on the needs of at-risk youth, and the benefits of the multi-use facility.

Pam Barrett spoke regarding the revenue that could be generated by such a facility and thanked the Board for their consideration and their support of the Cook Road Playfields.

Jan Lovig from Mount Vernon, spoke regarding the tremendous shortage of sports fields in the County, and the economic impact of a multi-purpose facility. She noted the need for a long-term commitment for the maintenance of the multi-purpose facility.

Terry Christianson, Anacortes, stated that this project is worth doing, pointing out that there are not enough playfields in the County to provide for the activities of future generations. He commented that the proposed facility would be a regional facility, and will serve the entire County. Mr. Christianson spoke regarding the economic return to the County from such a complex, and urged the Board to seriously consider the funding requested.

Jeri Krampetz, Director of Operations for Pacific Northwest Trail Association, talked about the natural area of the proposed project, and asked the Board to support the project financially with as many dollars as possible.

Bill Stendal, Sedro Woolley, spoke to the lack of ballfields in the County, and encouraged the Board to support this proposal.

Diane Crawford commented on the many opportunities for the multi-purpose center and the revenue that would be generated from events held there. She asked the Board to financially support the project.

Mr. Requa reviewed the detail of the proposed ballfield configuration. He stated that a cross-section of people have signed a petition in support of the project. He reviewed the exact location of the multi-use event center. He reiterated the economic benefits to the County, and the cultural aspects of the project. He requested that the Board fund the project for \$300,000 per year for ten or more years.

A resident of Helmick Road expressed concern about traffic patterns and parking, and the impacts on the neighboring landowners.

Mr. Requa stated that the Task Force has a sub-committee looking into interviewing design groups capable of designing this type of facility. He stated that Skagit County Parks & Recreation Department will be assisting in the selection of such a designer. He stated that the concerns of the neighbors will be addressed during this design and planning process.

Commissioner Hart asked Mr. Requa for the estimated total cost of the project. Mr. Requa responded that he did not know, and that there is much planning and scoping to be done yet.

Commissioner Hart stated that recreational project monies come from Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funds, and that there is very little available money in that fund. He stated that the Legislature denied the use of distressed county monies for recreational purposes or affordable housing. Commissioner Hart further stated that the general fund does not have a great deal of money to spare, with salmon recovery efforts and criminal justice expenses. He stated that there is no question that we need more playfields in the County.

Commissioner Anderson concurred that the REET money has been allocated this year, but noted that \$200,000 was allocated to the Mount Vernon Stadium Project, and that might be a project that does not happen. He stated that the stadium project could be submitted next year for reconsideration.

Commissioner Wolden replied that the Mount Vernon Stadium Project is not yet dead.

Commissioner Hart commented that the distressed county funding can be used for infrastructure such as roads and bridges, so there might be an opportunity to potentially use some of this money for roads or sewer improvements surrounding the project site.

Commissioner Wolden stated that Helmick Road had not been upgraded while the County had been waiting to see what would happen in the Northern State Recreation Area. He stated that this is an unprecedented type of complex that will have a positive impact on the economic development to the City of Sedro Woolley and Skagit County. He stated that he would like to see a better cost analysis of the entire project.

Commissioner Anderson commented that planning is a pretty expensive part of this project, and that the Task Force has raised enough money for the initial consultant. He stated that once this is built, the facility will be a County-owned facility, and there will be many partnerships with other groups.

Commissioner Wolden noted that long-term maintenance would definitely be a factor.

Commissioner Anderson indicated that there needs to be some kind of commitment to get the preliminary design completed.

Commissioner Hart stated that there is no question that the County wants to build this type of facility, and that the public is most always supportive of such projects. He stated that the County does not want to go out to a levy for funding. He further commented on the need to determine the future maintenance costs to the County Parks & Recreation Department.

Commissioner Anderson stated that the next best step is to interview the consultant to determine the cost of the project.

Commissioner Wolden commented that no Board has given more money to schools and parks projects, and been dedicated to the youth of Skagit County than this Board. However, he noted the need to have full knowledge of the total costs involved to be fair to all of the taxpayers of Skagit County.

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Mr. Requa reiterated that the Task Force is a purely volunteer group, and are operating on a limited budget. He again urged the Board to financially support the project for the initial scoping and planning of the playfields.

CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Consent Agenda for Monday, June 21, 1999, items 1-5, items 7-14. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Hart then moved to approve Item No. 6, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Upon call for the question, Commissioners Hart and Anderson voted for the approval of Item No. 6, and Commissioner Wolden voted "nay." Item No. 6 was approved.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:

1. Record of the Proceedings of Monday, June 14, 1999.
2. Resolution Appointing Tom Stowe to the Boundary Review Board for the term May 16, 1999 through May 15, 2003. **(Resolution No. 17474)**

INFORMATION SERVICES:

3. Out-of-State Travel Request for Karen Radcliffe to attend a Hands on with HP-UX 11.0 Workshop in Vancouver, Canada, for the total amount of \$1,086. **(Approved)**

BEST SELF:

4. Facility Use Agreement with the Marblemount Community Center to house the Marblemount location of the Best SELF Program, for the period June 14 through August 13, 1999 for the total sum of \$1,075. **(Contract No. 04460)**

FARMLAND LEGACY PROGRAM:

5. Grand Deed of Conservation Easement with John Francis Roozen and Alexis J. Roozen Family. The protected property is approximately 33.08 acres in size and is predominantly open farmland, and the payment to the Grantee is \$40,836.08. **(Contract No. 04461)**

PLANNING:

6. Resolution Reversing the Hearing Examiner's Decision and Granting a Variance Request to Mildred I. Rosenbach and Keith D. Monteith. **(Resolution No. 17475)**

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

7. Vendor Services Agreement with Monroe Entertainment for training and consultation services in regards to making effective presentations for a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,000 at a rate of \$65 per hour. **(Contract No. 04462)**

INFORMATION SERVICES:

8. Interlocal Cooperative and Customer Service Agreement for the mutual purchase of goods and services from each jurisdiction and from other third party vendors through contracts executed and administered by the County or City. The Agreement is effective on the date of execution and will continue until terminated by either of the parties. **(Contract No. 04463)**

SHERIFF'S OFFICE:

9. Personal Services Agreement with Daniel B. Fosso to supervise and review legal research performed by law Library staff on behalf of post-conviction inmates incarcerated in the Skagit County Jail. Contractor will be paid a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,000 for work performed under this contract. The contract begins July 1, 1999 and will terminate on June 30, 2000. **(Contract No. 04464)**

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES:

10. Personal Services Agreement with C.O.R.E. Teen Seminars to provide seminars focusing on self-esteem, anger management, problem solving, personal safety, conflict management and other social skills for youth, ages 13-18 years. The contract begins January 1, 1999, and will continue until terminated. Compensation rates are detailed on Exhibit "B" and there is no stated not-to-exceed amount included in the contract. **(Contract No. 04465)**

PUBLIC DEFENDER:

11. Addendum to contract with The Language Exchange, Inc. changing the compensation portion to include a rate of \$40 per hour for Spanish interpreters, \$50 per hour for American Sign, and at an amount to be negotiated at the time of requirement for some "exotic languages with a two-hour minimum per appearance. **(Contract No. 03847)**

SENIOR SERVICES:

12. Amendment 1 to Contract with Northwest Regional Council for a one-time capital allocation of \$16,500 as requested by the Skagit County Senior Services Department for purchase of commercial food preparation equipment. **(Contract No. 04186)**

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

13. Vendor Services Agreement with Materials Testing and Consulting, Inc. for pavement cores along the shoulder of Pioneer Highway just east of the Fir Island Road intersection for a not-to-exceed amount of \$600. The contract will commence on June 24, 1999 and will continue until the work is completed. **(Contract No. 04466)**
14. Resolution Implementing Interlocal Agreement and Interlocal Agreement with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide for the design, construction, and construction supervision of a cooperative fish passage project at the Starbird Road crossing of Fisher Creek. Skagit County will be responsible for 50% of the engineering, fieldwork, permitting, construction, and construction supervision costs anticipated to total \$46,500. **(Contract No. 04467)**

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, June 21, 1999, the Board, by a majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:

Warrants numbered 46890 through 47497 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$4,080,342.90 (Transmittal No. C-45-99); and

Warrants numbered 47498 through 47499 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$16,965.59 (Transmittal No. C-46-99).

2. Mr. Martin spoke regarding a personnel matter involving the surface water management position to spearhead salmon recovery in Skagit County. He explained that the Department had advertised for the "Fish Head" position, and the response did not generate the type of skills or experience that the Department would like. He recommended that the Department be allowed to re-advertise this position at a Range 30 as opposed to a Range 25.

Commissioner Hart indicated that this would pose a problem as the position reports to Sky Miller, who is at a Range 28.

Mr. Martin countered that whoever is the boss is the boss, and oftentimes in the private sector, technicians are paid more than the bosses.

Commissioner Hart expressed his understanding of the difficulty in finding someone for the position, and commented that he doubted a candidate could be found with the skill level the Department is looking for that deserves to be paid more than Sky Miller.

Chairman Anderson stated that he could foresee a reclassification request coming after this person is on board at a higher range, and noted that this seems to be in conflict with the County's personnel policies.

Commissioner Wolden commented that it does not sit very well to advertise for a position at a specific range, and then have the candidate ask for a higher salary than stated in the job announcement.

A discussion ensued on current market values for engineers, and the ability to get the right person for the job being advertised.

The Board directed the Department to rethink their position, and suggested having Sky Miller assume the "Fish Head" duties, and relieve him of other particular duties that could be handled by administrative personnel.

3. Staff presented a Resolution approving a Superior Court Fee for Trial De Novo of an Arbitration Award as allowed by the Legislature with the passing of Substitute House Bill 1663. The filing fee for trial de novo of an arbitration award would be set at \$250. Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Resolution as presented by Staff. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. (Resolution No. 17477)

PUBLIC HEARING – TO CONSIDER TESTIMONY REGARDING AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING AN ADDITIONAL .04% SALES AND USE TAX TO BE CREDITED AGAINST THE STATE TAX FOR PURPOSES OF FINANCING PUBLIC FACILITIES TO BE EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 1999.

Alicia Huschka, Budget Manager, explained that in the 1999 Legislative Session, House Bill 2260 was passed which related to distressed counties and a credit of sales tax. The legislation's intent was to promote economic development in rural distressed counties, and would increase the tax returned to such counties from .04% to .08%. She explained some of the specifics of the legislation as it relates to Skagit County. She further explained that the monies can only be used for infrastructure such as bridges, roads, domestic and industrial water facilities, sanitary facilities, etc.

Ms. Huschka reviewed a worksheet projecting the dollars that would be generated and the amount of bond-issuing capacity that the County would have as a result. She stated that the monies can be collected over a 25-year period of time.

Chairman Anderson opened the public hearing.

Don Wick, EDASC, thanked the Board for their support in leveraging projects and creating jobs.

There being no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Wolden moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Wolden moved to approve the Ordinance amending Chapter 3.09 of the Skagit County Code to impose an additional .04% sales and use tax to be credited against the state tax for purposes of financing public facilities to be effective August 1, 1999. Commissioner Hart seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 17478)**

BID OPENING – ONE NEW LATEST MODEL 3-AXLE TRUCK WITH BIN ROLL-OFF SYSTEM.

Charlie Sisson, ER&R Coordinator, opened the following bids for one new latest model 3-axle truck with bin roll-off system:

Western Peterbilt, Inc.
PO Box 24065
Seattle, WA
Bid Bond Enclosed
\$107,758.50 (Option 1, \$7,564.76; Option 2, \$644.39)

Valley Freightliner, Inc.
1720 Jackson Lane
Mount Vernon, WA
Bid Bond Enclosed
\$105,303.28 (Option 1, \$7,492.10; Option 2, included)

Valley Freightliner, Inc.
1720 Jackson Lane
Mount Vernon, WA
Bid Bond Enclosed
\$103,222.54 (Option 1 \$7,492.10; Option 2 included)

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Valley Freightliner, Inc.

1720 Jackson Lane

Mount Vernon, WA

Bid Bond Enclosed

\$107,064.46 (Option 1 \$7,492.10; Option 2 included)

Motortrucks, Inc.

2501 Henson Road

Mount Vernon, WA

Bid Bond Enclosed

\$108,015.21 (Option 1 \$6,994; Option 2 included)

\$105,117.54 (Option 1 \$6,994; Option 2 included)

Kenworth Northwest, Inc.

11300 31st Street Drive NE

Marysville, WA

Bid Bond Enclosed

\$106,106.76 (Option 1, \$7,491.96; Option 2, \$702)

Mr. Sisson advised that the bids would be reviewed and a bid award recommendation forthcoming.

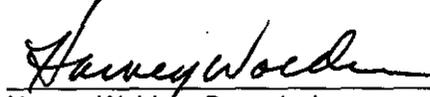
ADJOURNMENT.

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

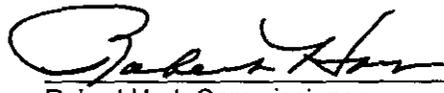
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



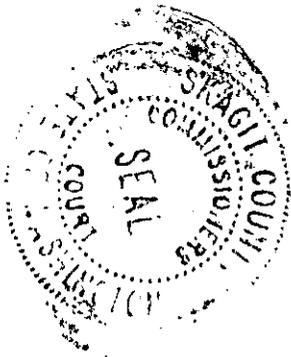
Ted W. Anderson, Chairman



Harvey Wolden, Commissioner



Robert Hart, Commissioner



ATTEST:



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