

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Monday, July 17, 2000**

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Public Comment Period.
10:15 a.m. – 10:30a.m.	<b>CONSENT AGENDA. MISCELLANEOUS.</b>
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Presentation – Mobile Data Computer Usage by the Sheriff's Office.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, July 17, 2000, with Commissioners Harvey Wolden and Robert Hart present. Commissioner Ted W. Anderson's absence was excused.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.**

Howard Gulley, 5815 Yokeko Drive, Anacortes, stated that in going through paperwork involved in County ordinances, he found confusion when he received a copy of one of the procedures and there was no header or footer to help with identifying the order of the document. He next commented on the meaning of "site specific" in a fish and wildlife habitat survey. He asked if such surveys also were required for the County when they submit an application. He stated that there appears to be no definition of "site specific."

Commissioner Hart indicated that if "site specific" refers to a project, then it is the site of the project. If it refers to a problematic area, then it is the entire area of concern. He added that a Fish & Wildlife assessment is required for all road projects done in the County, as well as other projects.

Mr. Gulley asked if outside consultants are used, and Commissioner Hart replied "yes."

Chairman Wolden added that the consultant costs alone on Cook Road were over \$1,000,000.

Mr. Gulley confirmed with the Board that the County has to live with the same rules and have site-specific projects reviewed subject to a Fish & Wildlife habitat study.

Mr. Gulley next spoke on the subject of culverts and flooding caused by logging. He stated that when the County issues a logging permit, drainage mitigation should be a consideration. A brief discussion followed regarding the particulars of Mr. Gulley's property and the issuance of the logging permit to adjoining property owned by Crown Pacific.

**CONSENT AGENDA.**

Commissioner Hart moved to approve the Consent Agenda for Monday, July 17, 2000, and Chairman Wolden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the Consent Agenda was approved.

**COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:**

1. Record of the Proceedings for Monday, July 10, 2000.
2. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, July 11, 2000.

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### HEALTH:

3. Contract with the Washington State Migrant Council wherein Health Department staff will provide childcare consultation services for the period July 3, 2000 through September 30, 2000, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$4,018.60. **(Contract No. 4987)**

### INFORMATION SERVICES:

4. Demonstration Agreement with Xerox for a test of the capabilities of a Xerox printer/copier/scanner to see how well it performs on Skagit County's network. There is no financial obligation other than paying for consumables if the initial supply is exhausted. **(Contract No. 04988)**

### SENIOR SERVICES:

5. Amendment No. 3 to Contract with Northwest Regional Council for Congregate and Home-Delivered Nutrition/Senior Employment Services in Skagit County. The amendment increases the reimbursement rates for COPES Home-Delivered Meals, effective July 1, 2000. The current rate is \$6.43 per meal and the new rate will be \$6.56 per meal. **(Contract No. 04701)**

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

6. Change Order No. 1 to contract with A&A Coatings, Inc. for the Guemes Ferry Transfer Spans – Steel Bridge Cleaning and Painting. The contract will be increased by \$19,750 for a new total contract amount of \$177,165. Change Order No. 1 adds Item #11 to provide for increasing the thickness of the paint on the underside of the ferry transfer spans. It will bring the total paint thickness specified up to the manufacturer's recommendation. **(Contract No. 04960)**
7. Resolution Regarding the Adoption of the Skagit County Road Standards, Version 5.2. **(Resolution No. 17930)**
8. Resolution approving the clarification of the mileposts of Frederickson Road, #65010, and South Campbell Lake Road, #12400, in Skagit County. This change is made in-house to correct County records. **(Resolution No. 17931)**
9. Resolution Calling for Public Hearing for Vacation of a Portion of Unopened County Right-of-Way off of Brigham Road, a private road. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2000, at 9:00 a.m. **(Resolution No. 17932)**
10. Resolution Awarding the Bid of the Prevedell Road, No. 93210, Improvement Project, No. ES93210-1, to One Way Construction, Inc., for a total bid amount of \$186,803. **(Resolution No. 17933)**
11. Professional Services Agreement with Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. for on-call Geotechnical Services. Work will be completed on a Task Assignment Basis. The Agreement will be in effect until December 31, 2001, and the maximum amount payable is \$100,000. **(Contract No. 04989)**

### 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.

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As of this date, July 17, 2000, 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 74254 through 74762 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$3,512,732.60 (Transmittal No. C-44-00).

2. Staff presented on behalf of the Planning & Permit Center, a Resolution Directing the Planning & Permit Center to collect Traffic Impact Fees, on Behalf of the City of Mount Vernon, within the Mount Vernon Urban Growth Area. Commissioner Hart moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Wolden seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.  
**(Resolution No. 17934)**

### **PRESENTATION – MOBILE DATA COMPUTER USAGE BY THE SHERIFF’S OFFICE.**

Mike Almvig, Information Services Director, discussed the mobile data computers under consideration for installation in sheriff and police vehicles throughout the County. He explained that such usage of mobile data computers would allow deputies to stay within their assigned patrol zones, while performing necessary reporting functions that normally would take them out of the field. Such computers would also reduce response times to critical incidents as the officers would already be in their vehicles.

Undersheriff Dave Stafford spoke regarding the efforts to develop community-oriented policing methods. In this regard the MDC would allow officers to spend a greater percentage of time in the field, reducing time in the office preparing reports.

Mr. Almvig reviewed the increase in radio traffic due to increased calls and combined law enforcement agencies on the same frequency. Such increase can have a negative impact on productivity and increased concern for officer safety. Utilizing the MDC via e-mail may decrease many of these risks. He explained that a Mobile Data Computer (MDC) is basically a cell phone connection wherein the officer can look up warrants/orders, vehicle registration and license checks. MDC allow for silent communications amongst deputies in the field, which is also an advantage in stake-out and other situations. Laptops in patrol units would allow for the preparing and approving of reports, receiving and sending of e-mail, office productivity tools would be available to the officers, as well as Assessor maps and other pertinent data to be determined.

Mr. Almvig next reviewed the partnerships that are involved and which create a formula for success while reducing costs and risks. He reviewed the particulars of such partnerships, noting that the City of Mount Vernon is fully on-line with MDC's in its patrol fleet. He stated that all law enforcement agencies in Skagit County are moving to implement MDC's.

Mr. Almvig stated that the total proposed costs for the 38 units needed by the County Sheriff's office, together with associated equipment, would total \$221,400. He added that the Public Works Department would be paying \$100,000 of this amount, so that the total out-of-pocket to the County would be \$121,400.

Upon a question from Mike Woodmansee, County Administrator, Mr. Almvig explained how the laptops are more expensive than normal due to the increased cost of mounting the machines, gel-setting for the rough ride in a vehicle, and being a fully-configured laptop computer.

Commissioner Hart stated that the bottom line is getting the job done better. He asked about estimating the increase in efficiency and ability to do a better job. He stated that spending the money on this type of equipment may be more efficient than hiring additional patrolmen.

Undersheriff Stafford spoke to the increased efficiency of the officers and the consequent decreased liability. He discussed the air time being reduced at Dispatch, and the ability to reduce directed patrol

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time and work toward community-oriented policing. MDC's would reduce phone time and checking in to the office, which would allow for a better utilization of time by the officers. He stated that this would enable the deputies to do a better job for the community and be more efficient, but would not necessarily reduce man hours.

A discussion ensued on the possibility that the cities are expecting to get a lesser cost in their share for the 911 Center. Chairman Wolden stated that he hoped this was not an effort to circumvent E-911.

Mr. Woodmansee stated that unless you cut dispatchers, the dispatch costs would not be reduced. He indicated that there is no guarantee that the MDC's would reduce calls for service, and that if there is a reduction in traffic, it would be administered proportionally to all jurisdictions.

Commissioner Hart commented that there is good probability that the Department would gain a half hour to an hour of effective patrol time from each officer with the MDC's.

Mr. Almvig reiterated that the MDC's would provide information to the deputies in their vehicles, which in turn would keep the deputies in their assigned patrol zones thereby reducing trips to the office and resulting in increased productivity. There would also be decreased response times to critical and urgent calls, and increased deputy safety through immediate access to information systems. He commented on the possibility of the MDC's being mug-shot capable.

After this presentation, the Board reviewed the MDC equipment.

**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**

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Harvey Wolden, Chairman

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Robert Hart, Commissioner

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Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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