

SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Wednesday, November 1, 2000

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Work Session – Public Works Projects (Sauk Conference Room, 1111 Cleveland, Mount Vernon).
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Work Session – Surface Water Management Division Projects (Sauk Conference Room, 1111 Cleveland, Mount Vernon).
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Special Recognition of Cascades Job Corps Students for work completed at the Mount Vernon Senior Center.

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, November 1, 2000, with Commissioners Harvey Wolden, Robert Hart, and Ted W. Anderson present.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CASCADE JOB CORPS STUDENTS FOR WORK COMPLETED AT THE MOUNT VERNON SENIOR CENTER.

Tim Holloran, Director, Senior Services, explained that Job Corps students and employees were present to be recognized for their painting work on the historic Skagit County Senior Services Center building in Mount Vernon. He complimented the students on a job well done. He then introduced Richard Giesbrecht, Union Painting Instructor at the Job Corps.

Mr. Geisbrecht thanked the Commissioners, Mr. Holloran and Ms. Torset for their support and cooperation on the project. He also thanked Tony Rees and Lori Anderson, Co-Coordiators of the Fair for allowing them to store their equipment on the fairgrounds. He especially thanked Commissioner Anderson for taking the time to come to the Center to view the work during the painting process.

He then talked a little about Job Corps, stating that it is a great program for kids who may need some direction and are willing to work and stay focused. He pointed out that the students who are present represent, not only the painting program, but all of the students from Job Corps in their respective trades. He also asked that Job Corps remain in Skagit County. He then introduced Ron Dickinson, a foreman in the paint program.

Mr. Dickinson thanked the Commissioners and everyone else, explaining that he has been a student at Job Corps since March. He said he did not have a solid path until coming to Job Corps. He now has a driver's license and GED and has learned about work ethics. He described some of the other things he has learned as well as his goal of becoming a journeyman painter for the union. He said he has been named Student of the Month in the paint trade and, along with other students, has completed a lot of community service work. He thanked his family and friends for their support and said he highly recommends anyone in a dead end situation to enroll in Job Corps.

Mr. Holloran stated that the interaction between the seniors and students was really enjoyable. It was a great partnership and it also showed that the community cares about the students. Two of the seniors from the Center, Bob McCormack and Don Herbaugh, made a plaque for each student.

Mr. Giesbrecht noted that Amado Celix, Job Corps Program Field Coordinator, was present. Mr. Celix spends many hours on the road in behalf of Job Corps.

He then introduced the students, and Christie Torset, Director of the Senior Center, presented a plaque to each of them. Christie reminded the students that the project was a really great project and all of the seniors at the Center were very enthusiastic and impressed with their work. She wished the students the best in everything they do.

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Mr. Holloran introduced Darwin Stevens, Vocation Director at Cascade Job Corps. Mr. Stevens thanked the Commissioners on behalf of Job Corps, noting that Job Corps has contributed around 14,000 community service hours.

Commissioners Hart and Wolden both felt that this was a wonderful opportunity for the students and for the community. Job Corps has done an outstanding job.

Commissioner Anderson then spoke, stating that he has been on the Job Corps Community Relations Board for 7 years and has been in a position to see first hand the contributions of Job Corps to the community. He said he also volunteered them for a lot of those projects.

He then explained that there is now a possibility that Job Corps will be moved from Skagit County. He, along with many others, has been working so this will not happen. The annual payroll at Job Corps is \$4,000,000, providing about 130 jobs. It would really impact the community if Job Corps weren't there. He also said he thinks it is the best Job Corps anywhere. The bottom line is always something that needs to be considered, but the success rate of students and the success of the program in its present location are also important.

Commissioner Anderson encouraged everyone in Skagit County, if the Job Corps has ever touched your life, to write a letter of support and mail it to Ted Anderson. He will then package the letters and they will become part of the lobbying effort to keep Job Corps in Skagit County.

Chairman Wolden concluded the meeting, adding his own request for letters of support.

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**

Harvey Wolden, Chairman

Robert Hart, Commissioner

Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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