

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, March 20, 2001**

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| 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. | Work Session – Operations Division Manager/District Maintenance Supervisors. |
| *T 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | <u>Public Works Department – Chal Martin, Director.</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Discussion – Employee of the Month Program.2) Discussion – Dike District 17 Storm Water Outfall Reimbursement.3) Discussion – Compensation for Science Advisory Panel Members.4) Discussion – Staff Costs for Initial Agricultural Buffer Program.5) Signature – Resolution to Adopt the Revised 2000 Annual Program for County Roads.6) Signature – Certification of the Failed Vote on the Formation of Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell.7) Signature – Resolution of Intention – Formation of Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell.8) Signature – Call for Public Hearing on the Proposed Formation of Skagit County Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell.9) Miscellaneous. |
| *T 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | <u>Planning & Permit Center – Tom Karsh, Director.</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Discussion – Notice of Intention for Fire Protection District Nos. 2 and 12 Partial Merger.2) Discussion – Notice of Intention for City of Mount Vernon Annexation (Higgins).3) Discussion and Possible Adoption – Interim Ordinance Amending Skagit County Code 14.24 (Critical Areas Ordinance), specifically Section 14.24.130, “Strategic Plan for Protecting Wild Salmonids.”4) Departmental Training Update.5) Proclamation – Recognizing International Building Safety Week in Skagit County.6) Miscellaneous. |
| *T 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Presentation/Discussion – Community Litter Clean-Up Program. |
| 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Presentation by Economic Development Association of Skagit County (EDASC) regarding Washington Community Economic Revitalization Team (WA-CERT) Grant Funding. |
| 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Work Session – Public Works Department: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Agricultural Farmland Buffers.2) Tentative Surface Water Management Section Manager.3) “Regional” Road Maintenance Standards under Section 4d of the Endangered Species Act. |

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The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 20, 2001, with Commissioners Don Munks and Ken Dahlstedt present. Chairman Ted W. Anderson's absence was excused.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Chal Martin, Director.

1. Discussion – Employee of the Month Program.

Chal Martin, Director, advised that the Public Works Employee of the Month Program recognition program is already in existence and is employee driven. He stated that the Department presents a monthly award to an employee, and then presents one annual award. He indicated that in the past, the Department has presented a framed certificate for the winners and a corresponding letter to each personnel file, both for those winning the award and the runners-up. Mr. Martin reported that the program has been running for 3 years and is currently under review. A committee was formed that has come up with suggestions for modification of the program. As a result, it was decided that some sort of incentive might be appropriate. It was suggested that perhaps a day off with pay, or some sort of cash award such as a gift certificate might be alternatives. Mr. Martin stated that he was not fond of the day-off-with-pay option, but would like to look into the possibilities of a monetary award or gift certificate. Mr. Martin indicated that this program would be for the 140-160 employees of the Public Works Department and would cost less than a couple of thousand dollars per year. He expressed his feeling that such awards are appropriate.

Mr. Martin commented that perhaps this type of incentive program should be run countywide. However, many departments are not large enough to warrant monthly awards. Consequently, there could be the perception that this type of program is not fair to all employees.

Commissioner Munks stated that his own preference would be stay away from the day off incentive, but to look into the possibility of some sort of monetary award, with perhaps the employee deciding what type of gift certificate they would like. He indicated that the Board would review the possibility of such awards with the Personnel Director and would report back to Mr. Martin on the possibility of issuing such awards.

2. Discussion – Dike District 17 Storm Water Outfall Reimbursement.

Dave Brookings, Public Works Administrator, reviewed a stormwater outfall structure that was damaged in Dike District 17 from high waters. He detailed the exact location of the structure, noting that this area pays into the Skagit County Drainage Utility, and therefore it is appropriate for the County to reimburse Dike District 17 for the work done. The invoice amount is \$13,496.45.

Commissioner Munks moved to reimburse Dike District 17 for the \$13,496.45 that was expended on the project. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Discussion – Compensation for Science Advisory Panel Members.

Mr. Martin next discussed compensation for Science Advisory Panel (SAP) members. He explained that those not compensated by other agencies or private employers are taking time away from their regular jobs to attend the SAP meetings. Mr. Martin suggested that these members should be compensated at a rate of \$100 per meeting. He stated that the fourth meeting of the committee was held on Monday. He reported that the final panel membership is still being formed, but it was his belief that this would affect 3-4 members of the 10-member panel who are private citizens and are not compensated by a resource agency or private employer.

Mr. Martin indicated that this compensation for SAP members could be a precedent-setting move for the County, and is an important issue to consider. He stated that there are many Citizen Advisory Panels who do much work for the County including the County's Planning Commission. He explained that the work of the SAP is necessary in the County's salmon recovery efforts, and that this stipend would not

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nearly compensate the members for the time involved, but might be a gesture to keep them on the panel. He expressed the need for continuity and to keep the members serving on the SAP.

Commissioner Munks advised that this had been discussed with the Board previously. He commented that this is a specific project requiring specific expertise for service on this panel, and that the panel members have been chosen because of their expertise. The 3-4 people serving on a voluntary basis and not in their official capacities for an agency deserve to have some sort of minimal stipend. He discussed the effect of establishing this policy and the effect on other volunteer committees. He asked Mr. Martin how soon he needed an answer.

Mr. Martin responded that he could draft a Resolution in this regard for the Board's consideration under their Consent Agenda next week. He stated that the Resolution would discuss the special circumstances of the SAP and not address the compensation issues for other committees or panels.

Commissioner Dahlstedt discussed the options for funding, and the possibility that if no funding is forthcoming, it may be necessary to change the entire Critical Area Ordinance.

Mr. Martin indicated that to take this action would be consistent with other actions already taken despite the cloud of funding hanging over the program. He stated that he is a strong advocate for taking this action now, keeping the program in place and not losing time by postponing putting mechanisms in place to facilitate the entire buffer program.

Commissioner Munks further discussed the funding issues, noting that the County has budgeted \$400,000 of available monies out of the general fund for this program. The \$1.5 million is a grant and has not been touched because it may obligate the County to continue with the buffering program as regulated by the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board. He reiterated that if the funding does not materialize, the project would simply go away.

Commissioner Dahlstedt asked if those not being compensated have any problem with the others being compensated. Mr. Martin responded that they did not.

Mr. Martin indicated that he would put the appropriate Resolution on the Consent Agenda next week for the Board's consideration.

4. Discussion – Staff Costs for Initial Agricultural Buffer Program.

Mr. Martin discussed staff costs for the initial agricultural buffer program. He advised that the Public Works Department has formed a section for implementation of the agricultural buffer program, and that currently no new employees have been added. He stated that a number of Public Works Department employees are currently working on this program. The proposed total cost for potential new hires and existing staff is approximately \$450,000, not taking into consideration the additional help that will be required from the Planning & Permit Center and GIS/Mapping. Currently, employees are charging their time to this cost center. Mr. Martin stated that this is staff-intensive type of work and wanted to keep the Board informed of the costs involved.

Commissioner Munks stated that he appreciated the information presented, noting that the public needs to understand that the County would continue to perform all of the duties and functions it has in the past. He discussed the particulars of the program, including baseline monitoring and other intensive tasks. He estimated that the cost to the County would be about \$1,000,000 per year.

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5. Signature – Resolution to Adopt the Revised 2000 Annual Program for County Roads.

Mr. Martin stated that the Department neglected to include three projects that were actually performed during 2000 in the previously adopted Resolution. He described in detail these projects, noting that this is simply a bookkeeping requirement.

Commissioner Munks moved to adopt the revised Transportation Improvement Program for County Roads as presented by Mr. Martin. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. **(Resolution No. 18196)**

6. Signature – Certification of the Failed Vote on the Formation of Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell.

Ric Boge, Natural Resources Project Manager, presented the Certification of the Failed Vote on the Formation of Lake Management District No. 3. He stated that the vote was conducted per the requirements of RCW 36.61.080-.100. The tabulation of all votes cast resulted in the measure failing to achieve the required simple majority for each lake. The Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife sent a letter dated March 5, 2001 to the Board requesting to be allowed to withdraw its “no” votes; thereby enabling the measure to pass. Mr. Boge reported that based on legal opinion from the County Prosecutor’s Office, the County has no authority to grant the withdrawal of the apparently legal and valid ballots cast by the WDFW.

Commissioner Munks stated that, based on the information provided, he would move to certify the failed vote on the formation of Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell.

Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 18197)**

7. Signature – Resolution of Intention – Formation of Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell.

Mr. Boge asked the Board to approve a Resolution of Intention for the Formation of Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell. He explained that as per RCW 36.61.030, the purpose of the Resolution of Intention is to set forth the nature of the lake improvement or maintenance activities proposed to be financed, the amount of money proposed to be raised and by what means, the duration, in years, of the district, and the proposed boundaries of the lake management district. Also, the resolution shall designate the number of the proposed lake management district, and set a date, time and place for a public hearing on the formation of the proposed lake management district.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Munks moved to approve the resolution of intention and designate the proposed Lake Management District as Skagit County Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. **(Resolution No. 18198)**

8. Signature – Call for Public Hearing on the Proposed Formation of Skagit County Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell.

Pursuant to the Notice of Intention approved, Mr. Boge asked the Board to formally Call for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Formation of Skagit County Lake Management District No. 3 for Lakes Erie and Campbell, with the public hearing scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Munks moved to approve the Call for Public Hearing as presented by Mr. Boge. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. 18199)**

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9. Miscellaneous.
- A. Mr. Martin discussed a right-of-way purchase wherein the Department did not follow its own process. He explained this process in detail, and explained that due to some technicalities, the Department exceeded their authority and the initial appraisal amount of \$4,500. He indicated that there was an error in the square footage calculation. Consequently, he asked the Board for approval of the right-of-way purchase. The total purchase price was \$7,500. Commissioner Munks moved for the payment over and above the initial estimate to finalize this easement issue. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- B. Mr. Martin advised the Board that he had submitted the Cook Road project for the annual Partnership for Quality Transportation award sponsored by the Washington State Department of Transportation. He indicated that the project would also be submitted for other awards.

PLANNING & PERMIT CENTER – Tom Karsh, Director,

1. Discussion – Notice of Intention for Fire Protection District Nos. 2 and 12 Partial Merger.

Gary Christensen, Assistant Director, discussed the proposed partial merger between Fire Protection District Nos. 2 and 12. He reviewed the exact location of the subject property. He stated that Fire District No. 2 is proposing to include within its boundaries approximately 600 acres of land that is currently within Fire Protection District No. 12. This partial merger is to facilitate “better fire and aid service.” As a result of this annexation, there will still be an approximately 30-acre tract of land that will remain in Fire District No. 6, which is isolated and independent and not contiguous with the remainder of Fire District No. 6. Mr. Christensen advised that the Board might want to consider, through the invocation of the Boundary Review Board, addressing this 30-acre tract on whether it would make more sense to have a logical service area that would include doing away with this island.

Mr. Christensen reported that the Department would recommend invoking the Boundary Review Board’s jurisdiction to coordinate with the fire districts involved in this issue.

A discussion ensued regarding the exact boundaries and the island of land that would remain in Fire District No. 6.

The Board indicated their approval for invoking the jurisdiction of the Boundary Review Board.

Tom Karsh, Director, explained the various methods by which the Boundary Review Board can be invoked, noting that at the Board’s direction, a letter would be prepared in this regard.

2. Discussion – Notice of Intention for City of Mount Vernon Annexation (Higgins).

Mr. Christensen next reviewed a request by the City of Mount Vernon to annex some acreage in the eastern part of the City. He reported that the City has invoked the jurisdiction of the Boundary Review Board to modify the boundaries of the proposed annexation to “avoid irregular and impractical boundaries and service areas.” The proposed annexation involves an island of unincorporated property adjacent to and north of Division Street in east Mount Vernon. The entire parcel is approximately 40 acres in size and is east of Hagen’s grocery store. Mr. Christensen added that the City intends to acquire 28 acres for park and library services. He stated that the Department had no objections with the proposed annexation.

Commissioner Munks stated that there is definitely a need for the services of the Boundary Review Board and that they serve an important purpose for the people of Skagit County. Commissioner Dahlstedt concurred with Commissioner Munks’ remarks.

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3. Discussion and Possible Adoption – Interim Ordinance Amending Skagit County Code 14.24 (Critical Areas Ordinance), specifically Section 14.24.130, “Strategic Plan for Protecting Wild Salmonids.”

Kendra Smith, Assistant Director, reviewed that the Board had directed staff to develop an interim ordinance on this matter following a public meeting held on February 20, 2001. At that time the Board had, by a 3-0 vote, adopted the provisions of the interim ordinance. She stated that another public hearing would be held in 60 days on this interim ordinance.

The Board signed and adopted the Interim Ordinance as presented by Ms. Smith. **(Resolution No. 18200)**

4. Departmental Training Update.

Mr. Karsh reviewed that every 3 months the Planning & Permit Center closes its doors for regular business for a couple of hours to utilize the opportunity for all staff to be updated on changes in policies, regulations or other necessary training on a specific subject matter. He stated that such a training session was held last Thursday, focusing on the enforcement program. He reviewed the particulars of the enforcement provisions of the new chapter of the County Code, which were adopted in July of last year and consolidated all of the enforcement provisions of building codes, shorelines, and other land use issues. With the Code Compliance Officer taking a job elsewhere, the Department is faced with complaint issues daily, and it is important for staff to respond appropriately. He reported that the Department averages about 500 such complaints per year. He stated that it is the intention of the Department to update the Board periodically on enforcement issues as the year progresses. He thanked the Board for allowing the Department to close their doors for a couple of hours to participate in this training session.

5. Proclamation – Recognizing International Building Safety Week in Skagit County.

Corey Schmidt, Building Official, reviewed briefly the 20-year history of International Building Safety Week, and the need to provide standards that help ensure public safety in the design, construction and use of buildings for the welfare of the citizens of Skagit County. Building Safety Week is held in conjunction with the County's various fire services providers and the County Fire Marshall.

Commissioner Munks read the Proclamation into the record, proclaiming April 8-14 as International Building Safety Week in Skagit County. The Board signed the Proclamation as presented by Mr. Schmidt.

6. Miscellaneous.

- A. Mr. Karsh next discussed the Twin Bridge Marina Project near the overpass of Highway 20 over the Swinomish Channel. He reviewed that the project has had a long history with the County, City of Anacortes, and the Department of Ecology (DOE). In the past, a Settlement Agreement was entered into among the City, County and Twin Bridge to resolve the City's concern for their water pipeline. Twin Bridge entered into a separate Settlement Agreement with the DOE, and based on that agreement, the County allowed their building permits to go forward. DOE has re-issued an enforcement order against Twin Bridge. Apparently, there is some disagreement over the terms of their settlement agreement. Mr. Karsh advised that Twin Bridge is going forward with a revised shoreline permit, and that will be coming up for public review within the next month and a half.

Commissioner Munks asked if this would affect the agreement among the County, City and Twin Bridge.

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Mr. Karsh deferred that answer to John Moffat, Chief Civil Deputy, but indicated that DOE's action does not immediately impact the agreement with the City and Twin Bridge.

- B. Mr. Karsh next discussed the Conservation Futures Advisory Board, which serves as the Agricultural Advisory Board. They have expressed through their secretary, Rich Doenges, to the Planning Department, a concern about an easement the County uses for people wanting to enter into a CaRD, especially if such development is to take place on agricultural land. He stated that when individuals are allowed to cluster homes in farmland, the remaining portion of that farm is to be put into open space. There has been a lot of intense scrutiny on whether that easement should be in perpetuity, or if the farmer would be able to opt out in the future. Mr. Karsh reported that Kendra Smith, Assistant Director, would be meeting with the Conservation Futures Advisory Board to discuss their concerns. In general, the Advisory Board would prefer to see more restrictive language to make it very clear that once the Agreement is entered into, that the easement is held in perpetuity. Mr. Karsh explained that this is not what is currently understood in interpreting the County Code, and that the Advisory Board most likely feels there is a need for more conservative language.

Ms. Smith reviewed the history of the language contained in this section of the County Code and the particular restrictions of the Natural Resource Lands Easement, which could only be overridden by a court order. Easement language stated that certain activities already existing could remain. She stated that the reasoning behind this was that the Commissioners did not want to put that land into perpetuity because those owners were not compensated like Conservation Futures easements. She commented that if the land designation did change through a Comprehensive Plan public process for a zoning change, there would be a substantive and adequate review of the situation.

- C. Mr. Karsh discussed the recent questioning of whether Nookachamps Creek is an appropriately mapped low flow creek under State Law. In particular, Skagit Surveyors questioned whether the County has changed its designating maps from the initial Critical Area Ordinance (CAO) map, which showed low flow streams in May of 1996. He reviewed the specifics of the map in 1996 and currently, which indicated a change had been made. The question is was the change done under the provisions of the CAO. The County Code requires that resource maps be updated based on resource agencies. In this case, a representative from DOE was in Planning's office, noticed Planning's resource map showing low flow streams, and stated that the map was incorrect. DOE submitted information to the County Mapping Department and the County's map was updated based upon such recommendation from DOE. Now there is a question of whether that recommendation followed State law and whether the history of the creek went through the appropriate public process. The Department has requested documentation from DOE, and there is the possibility that the Department erred in changing the map too quickly. Mr. Karsh advised that, to confuse the matter, the revised map was the map that was used for the public process that ended with the updating of all of the Unified Development Code in July of 2000. Once the documentation is received from DOE, the Department will confer with legal counsel to decide on a course of action, including possible revision of the County Code.
- D. Mr. Karsh spoke to a major enforcement action against a property owner who started a moto-cross business on Babcock Road. He stated that the County has been successful in getting a Temporary Restraining Order against the property owner. There is, however, a dispute on the interpretation of the TRO. The Sheriff has been involved, and there may be additional charges for contempt for ignoring the TRO. There will be a preliminary injunction hearing on Friday, March 23, which is the next step in the TRO and allows the property owner to seek legal counsel and to explain why or why not the TRO should be extended or lifted.
- E. Mr. Christensen informed the Board about the Bayview Ridge UGA community planning process. He stated that a 9-member Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) was created to review the

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proposed Bayview Ridge Urban Growth Area (UGA). The CAC met in first in December and then 5 additional times. A community meeting was held at the Burlington City Hall Chambers wherein approximately 100 people attended to learn more about the process. Mr. Christensen stated that last week the CAC met for probably the last time and the recommendations are being reviewed and revised. The CAC will reconvene to review the resulting documents, and an official transmittal will be forthcoming to the Board with a report and recommendations about the significant issues at Bayview Ridge.

Per query from Commissioner Dahlstedt, Mr. Christensen reported that this has been a good group to work with and they developed good common ground for the resultant documents.

- F. Mr. Karsh indicated that last Monday during the Department Head Meeting and a brief review of the Commissioners' attendance at the NACO Meeting in Washington, D.C., Chairman Anderson shared that many counties across the country are now just encountering growth management regulations. It had been noted that Skagit County could certainly share information in this regard. Mr. Karsh reported that the Public Works and Planning Departments are more than willing to develop a program presentation to help other counties through this process, and will be coming back to the Board with a work program for this project.
- G. Mr. Karsh reported on increased interest in energy production facilities statewide and nationwide, and the fact that the Department has been contacted by a number of entities interested in building energy facilities within Skagit County. He stated that there are three types of electrical energy facility requirements in the County's zoning code, including a minor utility, major utility, and major power facility. The definitions for each of these are not clear, and the Department will be wrestling with this issue in the future. He stated that the Department would be meeting with the Port of Skagit County to hammer out an application which has been received.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION – COMMUNITY LITTER CLEAN-UP PROGRAM.

Gary Sorensen, Solid Waste Division Manager, gave a presentation on the Community Litter Clean-Up Program in Skagit County. He stated that this program began in 1998 through the State Department of Ecology. The funding is not a grant, but comes from funds collected from 1.5 cent tax to industries on certain products such as groceries, tobacco, beer, newspapers, glass, metal plastics, etc. Skagit County Public Works Solid Waste Section is the recipient of the funds.

Mr. Sorensen reported that this is a joint project between the Public Works Solid Waste Section, the County Sheriff's Office (Jail), County Health Department, Washington State Department of Corrections and Chinook Enterprises. The Solid Waste Division provides a crew supervisor, vehicle maintenance, program accounting and administration, and coordination of the work of Chinook Enterprises. The Department of Corrections sentences individuals to Community Service/Litter Crew. The Sheriff's Office Program Deputy screens inmates to determine whether they are a high or low risk offenders and whether they are physically able to do the work. The Deputy also establishes the schedule of work. The County Health Department notifies the crew of illegal dumpsites, and notifies for clean-up of private property if a health risk exists.

Crews generally consist of 2-10 offenders, plus a supervisor. Each offender may serve 1 day to a few months. The crews clean up county roads (litter and illegal dumping) and public lands consisting of boat launches, county parks, DNR lands, Fish & Wildlife Access areas, and Health Department sites. Chinook Enterprises concentrates on county road right-of-way litter only. These two crews collected about seven 45-foot railcars full of trash last year.

Mr. Sorensen indicated that the program is a good use of Community Service offenders and frees up County jail space. Crew members feel good about the work they perform, and they help keep Skagit County roads and public areas clean. Hopefully, the existing program will continue to be funded from

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DOE for the additional period of July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003. Mr. Sorensen reported that potential funding has been reduced from \$70,000 for a 1-1/2 year period to \$60,000 for a 2-year period.

Mr. Sorensen next reviewed the projected 2001 costs for the Community Litter Clean-Up Project. These total \$124,000, and include \$56,000 for Solid Waste, \$60,000 for Sheriff's Office, and \$38,000 for Chinook Enterprises.

Mr. Sorensen acknowledged the hard work of Litter Supervisor Laura Kahn, Sheriff's Program Manager Polly Storie, and the Department of Corrections Katherine McKenna-Smith, together with the actual crews performing the work.

Laura Kahn, Litter Supervisor, stated that she cannot say enough about the work that the crews do, and their positive attitude. She read a poem that had been written by the crew.

Katherine McKenna-Smith, Department of Corrections, indicated that oftentimes this program has changed the offenders' lives, keeping them out of the jails and allowing them to give back to the community. She stated that the program this changes the way they live and motivates them to want to do something with their lives. She stated that the Department of Corrections is totally supportive of this program.

Sheriff Ed Goodman thanked the Board for allowing this program to go forward. He stated that there has been a savings of over \$87,000 in jail day fees, and that next year the program should be in the black. He stated that this is truly a joint venture with DOE and the Department of Corrections. He reviewed the overcrowding of the jail and the need to continue with programs such as this. He lauded accolades on Ms. Kahn for her work with the crews and her continued dedication. He thanked Ms. Kahn and the litter crew for their hard work.

Commissioner Munks asked if the identify of illegal dumpers is ever ascertained. Ms. Kahn replied that if three pieces of identified mail can be found, it is turned over to the Health Department, who writes a letter and issues a fine. Unfortunately, she reported, most of the time the fine is not paid.

Commissioner Dahlstedt thanked all involved for their hard work.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On behalf of the Budget/Finance Department, Staff presented a Resolution Modifying the 2000 Insurance Cost Allocation. It was explained that the total dollar amount was not changing, but that there were minor changes to the various allocations. Commissioner Munks moved to approve the Resolution as presented, and Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. **(Resolution No. 18201)**

PRESENTATION BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF SKAGIT COUNTY (EDASC) REGARDING WASHINGTON COMMUNITY ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TEAM (WA-CERT) GRANT FUNDING.

Don Wick, Executive Director of Economic Development Association of Skagit County (EDASC), reviewed the quarterly update of the projects that go on the priority listing for Washington Community Economic Revitalization Team (WA-CERT) Grant Funding. He stated that there are three new projects to add to the list, and all three contain good criteria for submission to the State.

He first reviewed a Project Proposal submitted by the City of Burlington to renovate or expand their current wastewater treatment plant. The City went from a chlorinated plant to an ultraviolet plant, and the change in such process has caused the City of Burlington's treatment plant to be out of compliance. This

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is mostly relative to a local company and an adverse reaction of industrial chemicals. If not rectified, the company, which currently has 450 employees, will be required to leave the County.

Jon Aarstad, City Administrator, reviewed the specifics of the Project Proposal, and discussed the potential that this upgrade would contain in bringing in additional industries. He stated that the City hopes to resolve this issue with engineering and technology assistance.

A discussion ensued on the merits of upgrading the facility, and the possibility of the company changing their process.

The second project submitted is the Similk Beach Sewer System Feasibility Study by Public Utility District No. 1 of Skagit County. This project would assist with the failing on-site septic systems within the Similk Beach area. The feasibility study would determine what sewer improvements need to be made.

Ken Kukuk, General Manager of PUD, reviewed the parameters of the project and the funding sources.

Mr. Wick advised that the third project submitted is for the Town of LaConner for Fiber Optic Infrastructure. The Town is requesting \$109,000 in funding for a feasibility study and engineering reports.

Richard Mattrass, Town of LaConner, reviewed the need for infrastructure within the Town to provide high-tech companies a desirable place to locate.

Mr. Wick reported that he would review the list of projects and would bring a Resolution back to the Board for their consideration.

ADJOURNMENT.

Commissioner Dahlstedt made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ted W. Anderson, Chairman

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Don Munks, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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