

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2001**

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| 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | 2002 Preliminary Budget Call.   |
| 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. | Presentation of the Planning Commissions' Recommendation regarding the Strategic Plan to Protect Wild Salmon. |

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 11, 2001, with Commissioners Ted W. Anderson, Don Munks, and Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

**BUDGET CALL FOR 2002**

Norma Hickock-Brummett, County Auditor, stated that this session was scheduled for the Budget Call of 2001 as required by the State RCW's. She reviewed the contents of the packets for budget preparation that were distributed to each department. She explained that the due date for all the materials is August 13 at 4:30 p.m., with all information to be submitted via hard copy rather than electronically.

Ms. Hickock-Brummett went on to explain that submittals of the budget should not be over 3% of the individual department's adopted 2001 budget. She stated that if departments have needs exceeding the 3% limit, submissions should be made in narrative form as a Supplemental Budget Request. She indicated that Budget Work Sessions would be scheduled for the latter part of September and October. She further reported that a preliminary estimate for COLA's are set at 3% for non-union personnel, with union employee COLA's being calculated at 0%, pending the settlement of open agreements. She stated that benefits are included in the personnel forecasts, but may be increased due to possible increases by the providers of such benefits.

Ms. Hickock-Brummett next explained the relevant deadlines for the submission of information. She stated that July 13, 2001 is the deadline for submitting a request to Mike Almvig for an automated system. The request for computer equipment deadline is August 4, 2001. Reclassification for any employees should be completed and submitted to Stephanie Wood by August 14, 2001.

Chairman Anderson said the Board remains optimistic about I-747. That initiative stands to have a tremendous impact on local government, whereas, the other initiatives that have been passed had more of an impact on the State. They are keeping a watchful eye on it, as limiting everything to a 1% increase would be very tough. He states that new construction will nearly fund the 3% COLA for employees.

Tim Holloran, Director of Senior Services, asked if there was a projected forecast on the financial impact that would be made with the passage of I-747. Chairman Anderson said that would be very hard to measure, but they should think of every percentage point as being worth \$100,000. If the tax rate is limited to a 1% increase as opposed to 6% increase, the difference would be half a million dollars. That would have a huge impact on Skagit County.

**PRESENTATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSIONS' RECOMMENDATION  
REGARDING THE STRATEGIC PLAN TO PROTECT WILD SALMON**

Kendra Smith, Assistant Planning Director, presented the Board with a packet containing the Planning Commission's recorded motion and staff report regarding the strategic plan requirement in the Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO).

Ms. Smith states that the County has had a strategic plan for protecting wild salmonid in Section .130 of the (CAO). It has been under appeal and under compliance orders for the last couple of years. In that period of time, the Planning Department has tried to write an ordinance that would bring the county into compliance, but has been unable to do so. An ordinance was written earlier this year and was adopted as an interim ordinance so that the date of adoption requirements could be met. The Board also requested that another plan be drafted based on the Planning Commission's recommendations at that time. This was completed and both the draft and the Interim Ordinance were circulated in the community for public comment and a public hearing was held later.

The Planning Commission deliberated and came to the conclusion that section .130 is not needed in the language. The Commission then made two motions. The first motion was to retain section .130 of the CAO so that it completes the activities described in Section .120 of the CAO. The second motion was to delete language relating to a "Strategic Plan" except for how it relates to both the drainage systems and evaluation areas, and to not approve Interim Ordinance No. 18200 or the draft proposal.

Ms. Smith presented an extensive exhibit list supporting the Planning Commission's recommendation to delete the strategic plan altogether. If the Board chooses to follow the Planning Commission's recommendation, another public hearing will need to be held as well as another State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) threshold determination. In order to follow citizen participation requirements and GMA, it would be best if the Board requested staff to run SEPA and see if any comments are made. If the SEPA were appealed, then that appeal would first go to the Planning Commission, at which time they could also hold the required public hearing. If it is not appealed, the public hearing could come back to the Board since the Planning Commission has given its recommendation.

Commissioner Munks motioned to retain Section .130 of the CAO so that it completes the activities as described in Section .120 of the CAO specifically related to Section 14.24.120(3)(b)(i), the drainage systems and 14.24.120(3)(c), the evaluation areas, and to delete language relating to a "Strategic Plan", except how it relates to Section 14.24.120(3)(b)(i), the drainage systems, and 14.24.120(3)(c), the evaluation areas, and not to approve either the Interim Ordinance No. 18200 or the draft proposal based on the Planning Commission discussion which is summarized in the staff report and attached as Appendix A. Commissioner Munks also instructed Staff to begin SEPA as to the impacts of removal of this section of the Ordinance. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Ted W. Anderson, Chairman

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

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Don Munks, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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JoAnne Giesbrecht, Clerk of the Board  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners