

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2002**

- 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. **Public Works Department – Chal Martin, Director**
- 1) Discussion – Green Road
 - 2) Signature – Resolution Providing Notice of Traffic Revision for Nookachamps Bridge, No. 4001 – Lake View Boulevard, No. 09550
 - 3) Discussion – Consideration of Applications Received to Fill Science Advisory Panel Vacancies
 - 4) Signature – Resolution of Intention for the Reformation and Call for Public Hearing for Lake Management District No. 1 for Big Lake
 - 5) Discussion – Managing Public Works Department Staff Reductions
 - 6) Miscellaneous
- *T 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Planning & Permit Center – Tom Karsh, Director**
- 1) Deliberations – Planning Commission Recorded Motion on the “90-Day” Compliance Issues in Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board Case No. 00-2-0046c
 - 2) Deliberations – Renewal of Interim Ordinance No. R20020037 Establishing Interim Controls on RMI-Designated Properties, Imposing Interim Controls on Certain Properties Within the Big Lake Rural Village, Restricting Application for the Open Space Reserve CaRD Designation Pursuant to SCC 14.18.310, Restoring the Lot Aggregation Provisions of Former SCC 14.04.190(5) and Restricting County Action on Comprehensive Plan Amendments
 - 3) Discussion – Public Meetings, Public Disclosure & More Workshop
 - 4) Miscellaneous
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Bid Opening – 2002 Aggregate Crushing Project CCP 122-8 for Butler Hill Gravel Pit, Upper Samish Gravel Pit, Eagle Hill Gravel Pit
- 11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Public Hearing – To Consider Testimony Regarding Amending the 2002 Budget for the Following Funds in the Approximate Amounts Noted: Convention Center #119, \$1,000; Land Acquisition #340, \$310,250; Park Acquisition, \$305,000.
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Work Session – Purchase Card Program
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Work Session – Preliminary Precinct Revisions for the Purpose of Redistricting

The Skagit County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 2, 2002, with Commissioner Don Munks, Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt and Commissioner Ted W. Anderson all present.

Public Works Department – Chal Martin, Director

1) **Discussion – Green Road**

Steve Flude, Assistant County Engineer, stated that Public Works recently received correspondence from residents on Green Road asking that the road be improved. Mr. Flude then reviewed options for Green Road improvements.

After discussion relative to water and other problems with the road, Mr. Flude recommended looking at a long-range solution for the repair of the road.

Commissioner Munks spoke about speeding concerns on the road. Commissioner Anderson said this road is becoming a big liability to the County because of its poor condition.

2) Signature – Resolution Providing Notice of Traffic Revision for Nookachamps Bridge, No. 4001 – Lake View Boulevard, No. 09550

Mr. Flude explained that this action is a result of an engineering study by Shearrer Design LLC. They recommend that the traffic be diverted to the center of the bridge to isolate the outside cap beam cantilevers from vehicular live load. Mr. Flude reviewed a map showing the location. If the board approves this resolution they will come back with a recommendation for a long-term plan. To replace a bridge like this is estimated to be around \$500,000.

Chairman Munks talked about a similar situation and the fact that people who traveled the bridge soon became used to the disruption while the bridge was being prepared.

Commissioner Anderson asked if there would be a blinking light or something that would call people's attention to the situation.

Mr. Flude said they would install flagging and also would investigate the use of some flashing lights.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to approve the Notice of Traffic Revision for the Nookachamps Bridge #40001 at Lake View Blvd., #09550. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **Resolution No. R20020110**

3) Discussion – Consideration of Applications Received to Fill Science Advisory Panel Vacancies

Ric Boge reported on the applications received to fill the Science Advisory Panel vacancies. He also asked the board if, before making a decision on this, they would like to consider suspending the Science Advisory Panel until the mission becomes more defined.

Chairman Munks asked for discussion about suspending the SAP. He said it seems foolish to continue with the SAP until it becomes clear where the County is going with it. These are volunteer boards. They give up their time to serve and he would hate to see them become disenchanted because of an undefined course of action.

Commissioner Anderson asked about their review of custom buffers.

Mr. Boge said that issue is on hold, but MARP has been completed.

Mr. Boge said that SAP members receive \$100 a meeting in stipend. There is also a great deal of staff time involved. He recommended suspending the SAP until the course of action is clarified. "There are very good people on the panel and they want to be productive and to resolve problems."

Chairman Munks said he would like to look at the resumes and speak to the applicants prior to making a decision. This is an important position to fill. If SAP activity is suspended it may provide more time to look at the three individuals who have applied for the vacancy.

Mr. Martin suggested to the board that interview time could be scheduled with the three applicants.

Chairman Munks thought it would be a good idea and asked the other commissioners for their preference.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said if SAP is going to be put on hold it would not be a good time to fill the position.

Commissioner Anderson motioned that the SAP be temporarily suspended. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Boge recommended that the Commissioners wait to suspend the SAP until after the meeting on April 8, 2002.

Commissioner Anderson then motioned to amend the above motion, stating that the Commissioners would make the decision following the meeting on April 8, 2002. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4) **Signature – Resolution of Intention for the Reformation and Call for Public Hearing for Lake Management District No. 1 for Big Lake**

Lee First presented a Resolution of Intention for the Reformation and Call for Public Hearing for Lake Management District No. 1 for Big Lake

After some discussion, Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to approve the Resolution of Intention for the Reformation and Call for Public Hearing for Lake Management District No. 1 for Big Lake on May 7, 2002 at 10:30 a.m. **Resolution No. R20020111 and R20020112**

5) **Discussion – Managing Public Works Department Staff Reductions**

Chal Martin reported to the board on how the Public Works Department is handling staff reductions. The department is doing well, but it is important to keep the balance of the Road Fund up in order to maintain county roads. The situation has changed substantially over the past two years in terms of the future funding outlook for the county. Because of that he has looked at managing employee attrition very conservatively. Nine positions are now vacant in the Public Works Department, with two more expected. There are about 140 FTE's in the Public Works Department and they are beginning to feel the loss. But, it is important to be sure they can continue to keep employed all remaining staff.

Financial circumstances are becoming more and more difficult. It is important that the Public Works Department stay lean so they can put the money they have to use in funding emergencies and things that come up.

Chairman Munks expressed appreciation for Mr. Martin coming forward with this and agreed that with funding losses the County is going to have to become more and more efficient. "We are going to have to rely on departments becoming more and more efficient. When an employee leaves we need to look at how the department can function without the employee."

Mr. Martin said he did not add to the list early retirement. That is another option that can and should be considered.

Commissioner Anderson said at their work session they discussed this matter with the County Administrator. He emphasized that they need to make sure the unions stay involved in the negotiations. He felt that Mr. Martin has looked at some logical alternatives to layoffs. "The problem we face is we have the peak loads when there are very busy times with the road crew." He added, "we don't have any shovel 'leaners' working for the County".

Commissioner Dahlstedt said he is very happy with Mr. Martin's proposal and he wants employees to have a sense of security about their jobs. Working together as a team is the best solution.

Chairman Munks agreed and stated that everyone is going to have to be involved with what goes on with the County. He then spoke at some length about some of the issues around solid waste.

Commissioner Anderson said he had no comments on this issue at this time.

Commissioner Dahlstedt also had no remarks.

6) **Miscellaneous**

There were no miscellaneous items.

Planning & Permit Center – Tom Karsh, Director

1) **Deliberations – Planning Commission Recorded Motion on the “90-Day” Compliance Issues in Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board Case No. 00-2-0046c**

Linda Kuller, Senior Planner, presented a copy of the Planning Commission Recorded Motion and asked the Commissioners for any further comments or deliberation.

Since the commissioners had no further comments, Ms. Kuller stated that she would bring a resolution for the boards' signature to the next regularly scheduled planning session before the commissioners.

2) **Deliberations – Renewal of Interim Ordinance No. R20020037 Establishing Interim Controls on RMI-Designated Properties, Imposing Interim Controls on Certain Properties Within the Big Lake Rural Village, Restricting Application for the Open Space Reserve CaRD Designation Pursuant to SCC 14.18.310, Restoring the Lot Aggregation Provisions of Former SCC 14.04.190(5) and Restricting County Action on Comprehensive Plan Amendments**

Mr. Karsh advised that it is the recommendation of staff that the Commissioners approve an ordinance supporting the action they took on January 28. The interim ordinance has been in place and under state law the commissioners are required to hold a public hearing explaining why the ordinance should continue until July.

Commissioner Anderson said he feels progress is being made to resolve some of the issues.

Mr. Karsh said the best-case scenario is they will not have to go back to court to resolve this.

Mr. Karsh presented a copy of the proposed ordinance to the Board in the event they wish to review and discuss it at this time. It is an update that reflects that a public hearing was held.

Commissioner Anderson motioned that the County Commissioners adopt an ordinance Reaffirming Interim Ordinance No. R20020037 establishing Interim Controls on RMI-Designated Properties, Imposing Interim Controls on Certain Properties within the Big Lake Rural Village, restricting application for the Open Space Reserve CaRD designation pursuant to SCC 14.18.310, Restoring the Lot Aggregation Provisions of Former SCC 14.04.190(5) and Restricting County Action on Comprehensive Plan Amendments to be in effect until July 15, 2002. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **Ordinance No. R20020113**

3) **Discussion – Public Meetings, Public Disclosure & More Workshop**

Mr. Karsh referred to a workshop on “Public Meetings, Public Disclosure and More” and encouraged the Commissioners to attend the workshop on May 8 in Mount Vernon.

4) **Miscellaneous**

a) Kendra Smith reported. The Commissioners have approved the interim ordinance and, therefore, they now have 60 days to hold a public hearing to adopt the permanent ordinance. A date can now be scheduled to move ahead with the public hearing.

b) Rich Doenges reported. With regard to AFW, the state agencies came out in favor of a MARP option, a 50' buffer. They said they could support this in court. Their point is that the State Conservation Commission is working to amend the CREP contract with farm services agencies to allow CREP funds to be used to support work on this smaller buffer. Another item of interest to Skagit County farmers relates to drainage systems. The federal and state resource agencies decided that they would treat any slough as part of drainage infrastructure. He said that they are making sure the counties have a role in the process as well as the agricultural landowners. State agencies are coming out supporting a buffer that seems more accessible and acceptable. This would not have happened without the real strong position and effective argument by some of our agricultural landowners. He will provide more written information to the Commissioners about this. It is great to see the state come up with something more practical.

Commissioner Anderson wondered if this would come together. The next step is to get some of the state agencies to provide us some timely advice on how to integrate these two. He also wondered why the state changed their position.

Mr. Doenges said he thought there have been unrealistic expectations and there has been a little change in momentum and focus. Chairman Munks said the big change is National Marine Fisheries.

Bid Opening – 2002 Aggregate Crushing Project CCP 122-8 for Butler Hill Gravel Pit, Upper Samish Gravel Pit, Eagle Hill Gravel Pit

Dub Queen, ER&R Coordinator and Barbara Hathaway, Field Engineer, Skagit County Public Works Department, were present to open bids for the above project. The following bids were received:

Puget Sound Surfacers	Total Bid	\$773,770.00
Seegert, Inc.	Total Bid	\$974,825.00
Renker Materials	Total Bid	\$627,342.00
Highland Enterprise	Total Bid	\$847,050.00

Mr. Queen and Ms. Hathaway will analyze the bids and return to the Commissioners with a recommendation.

Public Hearing – To Consider Testimony Regarding Amending the 2002 Budget for the Following Funds in the Approximate Amounts Noted: Convention Center #119, \$1,000; Land Acquisition #340, \$310,250; Park Acquisition, \$305,000.

Chris Stamey, Assistant Director, Budget/Finance reported. Chairman Munks then opened the public hearing.

Since there was no public comment, Commissioner Anderson motioned to close the public hearing. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to amend the 2002 budget as outlined. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **Resolution No. R20020114**

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to adjourn the proceedings. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

Don Munks, Chairman

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Jean Terry, Acting Clerk of the Board