

January 14, 2003

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Work Session – Operations Division Manager/Road District Maintenance Supervisors
- *T 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Public Works Department – Chal Martin, Director
1. Public Hearing – Consideration of Speed Limit Revision on a Portion of Colony Road, No. 24000
 2. Discussion – Guemes Island Ferry Management Analysis Update
 3. Discussion – Samish Watershed 2514 Planning Process
 4. Miscellaneous
- *T 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Planning & Permit Center – Gary Christensen, Interim Director
1. Consideration and Possible Action – Planning Commission Recorded Motion on Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley Development Regulations (Submitted by July 15, 2002)
 2. Consideration and Possible Action – Sewer Connection Review for Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, PL98-0001 Pulley Ridge Binding Site Plan
 3. Consideration and Possible Action – Interim Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance to Allow for Land Divisions of Suitable Sized Properties for the Development of Public Safety Facilities
 4. Miscellaneous
- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Work Session – Skagit River Feasibility Study
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Decision – Closed Record Appeal of the Hearing Examiner’s Decision Dated September 16, 2002 and Reconsideration Dated November 4, 2002, Submitted by Hendrik (Rick) Weyands, Appeal No. PL02-0704

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 14, 2003, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt and Don Munks present. Commissioner Anderson’s absence for part of the agenda was excused due to a doctor’s appointment.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – Chal Martin, Director

1. Public Hearing – Consideration of Speed Limit Revision on a Portion of Colony Road, No. 24000.

Steve Flude, Assistant Engineer, reviewed the exact location of the proposed speed limit revision along a portion of Colony Road.

Chairman Dahlstedt opened the public hearing.

Two citizens spoke regarding their opposition to a reduced speed limit. They felt 50 miles per hour was a reasonable limit with care given when rounding corners and curves.

Several citizens spoke in support of the proposed revision. However, they all agreed that the speed limit should actually be reduced from 50 mph to 35 mph, instead of 40 mph.

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There being no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Munks moved to close the public hearing. Chairman Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. The public hearing was closed.

Chairman Dahlstedt thanked those in attendance for taking the time to come and air their concerns. The Board will render their decision on Tuesday, January 21, 2003 at 1:45 p.m.

2. Discussion – Guemes Island Ferry Management Analysis Update.

Mr. Flude next discussed the Guemes Island Ferry System Management Analysis. It is currently in the process of being completed and once that is done, the Department will embark on the implementation program. Mr. Flude said all of the recommendations are being taken seriously and the process will probably be a lengthy one. Given the Board's approval, Berk & Associates will be retained to implement the results of the analysis. The cost is anticipated to be \$159,000.

Mr. Flude reviewed the tasks and subtasks that were recommended. He believes the Guemes Island Ferry Committee needs to be involved in the process, as well.

Commissioner Munks said it would be money well spent. The project needs to be finished to prevent the same issues from being brought forward time and time again.

Chairman Dahlstedt expressed the fact that when using public money, you must be careful when making decisions for a select group of individuals. It is a complex issue and he feels the Public Works Department has done an outstanding job of dealing with it.

3. Discussion – Samish Watershed 2514 Planning Process.

Commissioner Anderson returned and was present for the rest of the agenda items.

Chal Martin, Director, said several entities met on Friday to discuss the 2514 Samish Watershed planning process and the meeting was generally positive. Another meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday, January 24, 2003 at the Public Works Department.

Chairman Dahlstedt said the public needs to know that the group that meets is merely an advisory group that is trying to obtain information. Ultimately, the Skagit County Board of Commissioners are responsible for making the final decision. However, input from the property owners and the general public help the Board to make their decisions. He thinks it is critical to work locally to provide a solution.

4. Miscellaneous.

Dave Brookings, Administrator, provided an update on the Baker Dam relicensing project. He highlighted important points that were discussed at the last Economics/Operations Working Group meeting. Much of the discussion was centered around flood control storage from the Upper Baker Reservoir. He indicated that after considerable discussion, the following statement was agreed upon:

We will use the current flood control agreement (74,000 acre-feet from November to March) as baseline and perform analyses on these effects and recommend PMEs accordingly. Note: Current flood control regime will not limit analysis.

Mr. Martin stated that without Mr. Brookings involvement in the process, this statement wouldn't have been considered at all.

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PLANNING & PERMIT CENTER – Gary Christensen, Interim Director

1. Consideration and Possible Action – Planning Commission Recorded Motion on Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley Development Regulations (Submitted by July 15, 2002).

Gary Christensen, Interim Director, stated that deliberations on this item would be postponed until a later date.

2. Consideration and Possible Action – Sewer Connection Review for Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, PL98-0001 Pulley Ridge Binding Site Plan.

Linda Kuller, Senior Planner, stated that the Samish Water District submitted a sewer service application for the Pulley Ridge Binding Site Plan PL98-0001. The application indicates that there is an existing Samish Water District gravity force main line located adjacent to the northern property boundary of the Skagit Valley Casino Resort/Hotel property. The Upper Samish Indian Tribe proposes to connect the binding site plan property to the existing private water lines serviced by the main line. No extension of the public sewer line is required by the action.

Ms. Kuller indicated that staff had reviewed the land use in the area and signed off on the application after correcting the zoning designation. They also noted that final approval of the connection would require the consent of the Samish Water District and the City of Burlington.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve application of the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe for sewer connection, as outlined by Ms. Kuller. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

3. Consideration and Possible Action – Interim Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance to Allow for Land Divisions of Suitable Sized Properties for the Development of Public Safety Facilities.

Ms. Kuller also presented a proposed Interim Ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow for land divisions of suitably sized properties for the development of public safety facilities. She indicated that no comments were received during the SEPA DNS comment period. If the Board were to adopt the Interim Ordinance today, a public hearing would then be held within 60 days.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the Interim Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Ordinance to Allow for Land Divisions of Suitable Sized Properties for the Development of Public Safety Facilities, as outlined by Ms. Kuller. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. **(Ordinance No. O20030002)**

4. Miscellaneous.

- A. Mr. Christensen stated that at tomorrow's meeting with the Skagit Council of Governments, future populations forecast would be discussed, as well as future growth area boundary amendments.
- B. Ms. Kuller also mentioned that the critical areas code enforcement case on Cascade Ag would be closed today.

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DECISION – CLOSED RECORD APPEAL OF THE HEARING EXAMINER'S DECISION DATED SEPTEMBER 16, 2002 AND RECONSIDERATION DATED NOVEMBER 4, 2002, SUBMITTED BY HENDRIK (RICK) WEYANDS, APPEAL NO. PL02-0704.

Commissioner Munks spoke about the reservations he has regarding what is happening in urban growth areas. This particular issue deals specifically with a certain set of circumstances. Based on the Hearing Examiner's decision, Commissioner Munks moved to uphold the Hearing Examiner's decision on Appeal No. PL02-0704 brought forth by Hendrik (Rick) Weyands.

Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and added that the Hearing Examiner's decision was consistent with the City of Sedro-Woolley's development standards. Because of that, he feels he hasn't much latitude in the decision making, however, it doesn't mean he is happy with it. In his opinion, there needs to be some dialog with the City of Sedro-Woolley about the people that live in urban growth areas because, in effect, they are on their own. They aren't represented by the County and the City has failed to convince him that they represent them. Some of the standards that are placed by the City make it seem that they are more in favor of halting development than moving forward with it. The City needs to work with applicants to move the requests forward or else shrink their urban growth areas. Commissioner Anderson also added that it is his hope that Mr. Weyands resubmits a short plat for four individual residences and if he does, that the City will work with him and find a way to bring this project to fruition. The cities need to deal with Main Street improvements through the ULID process with an agreement from the applicant that they agree to participate. He, as a Commissioner, is tired of being snared by city regulations.

Commissioner Munks said he has no other latitude than to agree with the Hearing Examiner. He stated that we are dealing with people that are County residents who live in urban growth areas outside the city limits of Sedro-Woolley. That are bound by what the City of Sedro-Woolley wants done, but may never be annexed into the City of Sedro-Woolley. To expect them to put in a development standard that isn't comparable to anything around them, simply doesn't work. The requirements that Sedro-Woolley has put on for this particular development go way over and above what should have been done. He is also hopeful that Mr. Weyands resubmits an application for four single houses. "Ultimately, these are County residents until the City of Sedro-Woolley annexes them."

Chairman Dahlstedt said he was in total agreement. The need to work harder with the cities to positively resolve the needs of the property owners within these urban growth areas to have reasonable opportunities to utilize their property for their intent is critical. He said obviously, there are agreements in place with the cities that must be honored and upheld. Commissioner Dahlstedt feels we are bound by those agreements but there needs to be more dialog with the cities to move forward and refine this process for mutual benefit.

There was a motion on the floor with a second, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.
(A Resolution will be brought forth at a later date)

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ADJOURNMENT.

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

Don Munks, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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