

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2003**

- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Work Session – Operations Division Manager/Road District Maintenance Supervisors
- \*T 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Public Works Department – Chal Martin, Director  
1. Public Hearing – Consideration of Changing the Name of a Portion of Blackburn Road, No. 74000, to East Blackburn Road, No. 74020  
2. Discussion – Edison and McElroy Slough Projects  
3. Miscellaneous
- 9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Bid Opening – Morris Street Stormwater Vault Repair, ES9700-3-340
- \*T 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Planning & Permit Center – David Blane, Director  
1. Deliberations and Decision Regarding the Possible Adoption of Interim Ordinance No. O20030006 or Modification of this Ordinance as it Relates to Agricultural Land Uses  
2. Update – Fidalgo Island Subarea Plan CAC  
3. Miscellaneous
- \*T 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Announcement – Formation of the Skagit County Parks Foundation
- \*T 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Public Hearing – To Consider Public Testimony Regarding the Review of Community Development and Housing Needs, to Inform Citizens of the Availability of Funds and Eligible Uses of the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and to Receive Comments on Proposed Activities, Particularly From Low and Moderate-Income Persons and Persons Residing in Skagit County
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Work Session – Library Task Force

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 10, 2003, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Ted W. Anderson, and Don Munks present.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT – CHAL MARTIN, DIRECTOR.**

**1. Public Hearing – Consideration of Changing the Name of a Portion of Blackburn Road, No. 74000, to East Blackburn Road, No. 74020.**

Steve Flude, Assistant Director, reviewed the exact location of the proposed name change for a portion of Blackburn Road. He showed a photograph of the area in question and indicated that the Department is recommending the name change for Blackburn Road to East Blackburn Road, No. 74020.

Chairman Dahlstedt opened the public hearing. There being no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Anderson moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to concur with the Public Works Department recommendation and allow the road name changes as outlined by Mr. Flude. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. **(Resolution No. R2003)**

**2. Discussion – Edison and McElroy Slough Projects.**

Dave Brookings, Public Works Administrator, provided the Board with an update on the Edison and McElroy Slough projects. He indicated that with the recent passage of House Bill 1418, it would allow the

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County to participate in a multi-agency task force to specifically address salmon inter-tidal habitat restoration efforts in Skagit County. This bill would definitely have an impact on the slough projects.

Mr. Brookings said the Edison Slough has a self-regulating tide gate on it and the County has been seeking relief from the Department of Fish and Wildlife to have it removed. The McElroy Slough project is located in Blanchard in the subarea flood zone. He would like to keep the projects linked and prefers to see relief given for Edison Slough prior to moving forward with McElroy Slough.

Chairman Dahlstedt said he has spoken with several ag people that are actively involved with the tide gates. They are still open to finding a positive partnership with fish, drainage and ag needs and also to try and find a mutually beneficial solution. He would like to see the projects continued as the tidegates were put in without a lot of study or research. The State of Washington could benefit from a demonstration project and such a project would be good for the County and ag community together.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he is supportive of McElroy Slough project, however, if you separate the projects then there isn't any leverage with problem solving. He feels a lot of progress has been made and he supports moving ahead.

Commissioner Munks was in concurrence.

**3. Miscellaneous.**

Chal Martin, Director, gave an update on the Skagit Watershed Planning Process and the Samish Water Rights negotiations.

**BID OPENING – MORRIS STREET STORMWATER VAULT REPAIR, ES9700-3-340.**

Janice Marlega, Public Works, opened the following bids for the Morris Street Stormwater Vault Repair, ES9700-3-340:

SRV Construction  
P. O. Box 481  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
Bid Bond Attached  
Addendum Acknowledged  
Total Bid: \$116,250.01

Advanced Construction, Inc.  
14532 North Creek Drive, Suite 618  
Bothell, WA 98012  
Bid Bond Attached  
Addendum Acknowledged  
Total Bid: \$55,500

Christian Anker, Inc.  
34904 State Route 20  
Oak Harbor, WA 98277  
Bid Bond Attached  
Addendum Acknowledged  
Total Bid: \$73,560

Ms. Marlega said after careful review, a bid award would be brought forward with the next couple of weeks.

**PLANNING & PERMIT CENTER – DAVID BLANE, DIRECTOR.**

**1. Deliberations and Decision Regarding the Possible Adoption of Interim Ordinance No. O20030006 or Modification of this Ordinance as it Relates to Agricultural Land Uses.**

Linda Kuller, Senior Planner, gave a brief summary of some of the main issues involved with Interim Ordinance No. O20030006. She indicated that a large majority of those commenting (12) recommended approval of the Ag Advisory Board's recommendation. Opponents said the changes go too far, allowing farmers to erect factories in rural areas with no way for the public to stop them. They would like to have processing facilities approved after the Hearing Examiner has considered the impacts on the surrounding area.

The ordinance will allow processing plants on lands zoned rural reserve, which is generally rural zoning in areas above the flood plain. Rural reserve areas are where development will be directed in the long term as cities expand, and include residential neighborhoods. Agricultural processing is also allowed on agricultural lands, but is still barred on land zoned rural resource. Rural resource zoning covers many areas in the foothills north of Sedro-Woolley and along Highway 9, Highway 20 and the South Skagit Highway.

Chairman Dahlstedt said farmers must be able to compete with foreign producers. Forcing them to locate processing operations on expensive industrial land would just add to the pressures already facing producers.

Commissioner Anderson noted that zoning doesn't always match the historical use of the land. Many areas that were farms were zoned rural reserve or rural resource when the comprehensive plan was adopted, and it makes sense to let people treat them as farms today.

Commissioner Munks stated that he believes that the use of the land is an important issue since farmers used the land long before there was zoning.

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve the Ag Advisory Board's recommendation, striking the wording "50% or greater", "located in Skagit County", retaining the tourism component, and striking the new code section SCC 14.16.865, Agricultural Processing Facility General Provisions. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

**2. Update – Fidalgo Island Subarea Plan CAC.**

Assistant Director, Gary Christensen, discussed the establishment of a Citizen Advisory Committee for the Fidalgo Island Subarea Planning process. He noted that Ordinance No. 18375 adopted a subarea planning process and tasks, while Resolution No. R20030152 established a commitment to initiate and complete a subarea plan for Fidalgo Island. Both of the County actions were in response to Western Washington Growth Management Hearing Board orders and Growth Management Act compliance issues.

Mr. Christensen indicated that it was up to the Board to decide who they wanted to appoint to the Fidalgo Island Subarea Citizen Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Munks advised Mr. Christensen that the list of applicants selected to be appointed to the committee would be forwarded to him by the end of the week.

Chairman Dahlstedt said it is critical to have a good balance on the advisory committee.

Mr. Christensen said once the list is given to him, the Department will put together a resolution formally appointing members of the committee. It will then be forwarded to the County Commissioners for approval.

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**3. Miscellaneous.**

David Blane, Director, briefed the Board on several changes currently taking place within the Department. He indicated that all Planning & Permit Center forms are being reviewed for clarification, customer service is being improved by adding a receptionist desk in the front office lobby, and several customer service employees have been upgraded salary wise to reflect their permit certification status.

**ANNOUNCEMENT – FORMATION OF THE SKAGIT COUNTY PARKS FOUNDATION.**

Bob Vaux, Parks and Recreation Director, announced the creation of the Skagit Parks Foundation, which will provide private individuals and groups the opportunity to advocate for and enhance through private means the high quality parks, facilities and recreation services as provided by the Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Vaux introduced Park Ranger Lou Peterson, who has been instrumental in taking charge of the necessary paperwork to form the foundation, along with Foundation President Chuck Mell.

Mr. Mell works as a System Support Specialist for Verizon in Everett and is also a citizen volunteer. He stated that Skagit County Parks are an investment in the physical, mental and spiritual connection for all citizens with the natural beauty that surrounds them. The Skagit Parks Foundation is a private, non-profit organization committed to providing resources and partnerships that create and sustain beautiful and active parks. Memberships and donations will benefit all citizens and aid Skagit County in providing a broad range of public places for the enjoyment of nature and numerous recreational activities. These donations will be used in a responsible manner that respects our natural resources and sustains the ecosystem for future generations. Mr. Mell indicated that without the help of Mr. Peterson and Director Bob Vaux, the foundation wouldn't be the success it is now.

The Commissioners agreed that this is a wonderful partnership, and they states that the applications to join the foundation will be published on the County website.

**PUBLIC HEARING – TO CONSIDER PUBLIC TESTIMONY REGARDING THE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING NEEDS, TO INFORM CITIZENS OF THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND ELIGIBLE USES OF THE STATE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG), AND TO RECEIVE COMMENTS ON PROPOSED ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY FROM LOW AND MODERATE-INCOME PERSONS AND PERSONS RESIDING IN SKAGIT COUNTY.**

Vanessa Brower, Consultant for Commonground, spoke about the uniqueness of this particular funding source.

Mary Kay James, Executive Director of Friendship House stated that Friendship House has provided services to the homeless of Skagit County since 1986. Currently there are two older homes that are licensed to house 24 people. The turn-away rate is nearly twice the number they are able to serve each year with the two houses. In 2002, 473 individuals were served and 52,000 meals were served. The current facility is not set up to assist single fathers with custody of their children, two-parent families, or single moms with adolescent boys. These were many of the people that were turned away. Ms. James said that in order to remedy this lapse in the program, their intent is to build a larger facility to house families and single women. This development will expand operations to address the tremendous number of family households that do not have access or resources to attain the basic need of shelter. Friendship House proposes to purchase property and build a facility that will address some of the needs of the community.

The Family Center project will provide emergency shelter for approximately 60 families and single women and will be located on La Venture Road in Mount Vernon, between the intersections of Section Street and Broadway. Ms. James indicated that if anyone is interested in contributing to Friendship House, they can call the business office.

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The interpreter for today's Public Hearing is an intern at Friendship House. She agreed that the Family Center project is greatly needed.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

1. Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by R.C.W. 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by R.C.W. 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Board.

As of this date, June 10, 2003, the Board by majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:

Warrants numbered 145915 through 145975 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$879,644.76 (Transmittal No. C-68-03).

**ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

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Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

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Don Munks, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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