

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2003**

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| 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | <u>Board of Health – Peter Browning, Director</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Update Flu Season2. Discussion – State Board of Health Representatives and Their Roles in Public Health3. Discussion – Gold Star Program4. Update – Water Program in Skagit County5. Miscellaneous |
| 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. | Final Plat Approval of Elysian Meadows |
| *T 10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Proclamation – “Boy Scout Week in Skagit County” – October 6-12, 2003 |
| 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Work Session – Lot Certifications |
| *T 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Parks and Recreation 2003 Summer Report |
| 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Public Hearing – 2003 Comprehensive Plan Amendments |

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 7, 2003, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Ted W. Anderson, and Don Munks present.

BOARD OF HEALTH – PETER BROWNING, DIRECTOR

1. Update Flu Season

Amie Tidrington, Health Department Nurse, gave an update on the flu season. She stated that 36,000 people die yearly in the United States from influenza. The best prevention is washing hands and getting a flu shot. Flu shots are particularly recommended for those who are at high risk – infants, people who are 65 or older, or those with chronic health conditions. Shots are available at area Senior Centers and at the Health Department on Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30p.m. The cost for receiving shots at the Health Department is \$20.00. Shots will be available for employees at the Skagit County Benefits Fair on November 6. The County flu hotline number is 419-3315.

2. Discussion – State Board of Health Representatives and Their Roles in Public Health

Don Sloma, Executive Director of the State Board of Health, and Carolyn Edmonds, who was newly appointed by the Governor to the State Board of Health were present. Ms. Edmonds spoke regarding the commitment by the State Board to strengthen relationships with local boards. She said that the three primary activities of the State Board of Health are policy development, rule making, and meeting with the public and having conversations about health issues. She provided an annual report and a copy of the *2003 Washington State Health Report*.

Commissioner Anderson spoke about some of the successful County programs that such as the Senior Screen program, which was not reimbursable through Medicare, and the Dental Van, which was not included in State funding during the last session. He also spoke about the impacts of the large County migrant population who are unable to afford adequate health care. Mr. Browning added that many seniors are not getting good access to health care because many local physicians will not accept new Medicare patients.

Commissioner Dahlstedt stated that as Chair of the National Association of Counties Food Safety Committee he is requesting help by the State Board of Health to address the issue of required documentation and tracking to ensure that food being shipped to the United States is properly inspected.

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Mr. Sloma commented on the possibility of incorporating this issue in Board of Health discussions at the federal level regarding regulations relating to school lunches.

3. Discussion – Gold Star Program

Matt Kaufman reported on a proposal for a Gold Ribbon Award program that he developed with Corinne Story. The award would be given to food establishments that have had zero significant deficiencies in the past 12 months of unscheduled inspections. This would be an informal award given by the inspector, which could then be displayed in the business. Mr. Kaufman stated that similar programs have been implemented in other counties and costs would be very minimal. The Commissioners all agreed that this was a good idea and encouraged Mr. Kaufman to proceed with the award program.

4. Update – Water Program in Skagit County

Laura Haycox Parent presented an overview of Skagit County's Interdepartmental Water Program. About 5,000 drinking water samples are tested per year and about 1/3 of those are unsatisfactory. The County assists local communities to find solutions to water quality problem. Ms. Parent stated that PUD and Anacortes serve half the population of Skagit County. In addition there are 100 large systems, 120 small systems, and approximately 30,000 individual wells. She also provided background information about Coordinated Water System Plans (CWSP), Skagit County Water Code 12.48 and Growth Management, the Seawater Intrusion Policy and Wellhead Protection. Due to time constraints, it was determined that Ms. Haycox would give the second half of her report at the next Board of Health meeting.

FINAL PLAT APPROVAL OF ELYSIAN MEADOWS.

Marge Swint, Associate Planner, presented background information and the Skagit County Planning & Permit Center Findings of Fact regarding the Final Plat Request for Elysian Meadows. The property is located on Cape Horn Road in Concrete. The preliminary plat was for a ten lot development, but it was reconfigured to nine lots, due to a boundary line adjustment, prior to final submittal. The final plat request is for the division of 95.38 acres into eight 5+ acre lots and one 48+ acre lot. An internal plat road, individual septic systems, and private wells would serve the development. Ms. Swint reported that two letters were received as a result of the notice of development. One letter was regarding overhead power lines and the potential liability of the utilities to the development. The other letter was concerning potential road water runoff from the plat. Both letters were investigated and answered. If the final plat is approved, the mylar will be presented today for signature. A resolution will be forthcoming.

Commissioner Anderson moved and Commissioner Munks seconded the motion to approve the final plat of Elysian Meadows. The motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATION – “BOY SCOUT WEEK IN SKAGIT COUNTY” – OCTOBER 6-12, 2003.

Commissioner Munks read the proclamation to declare October 6-12, 2003 as “Boy Scout Week in Skagit County.” Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Peter Self, Skagit District Executive for Boy Scouts of America introduced several members of the audience, which included several past members of Mount Vernon Boy Scout Troup 1, one of the oldest in Washington State.

PARKS AND RECREATION 2003 SUMMER REPORT.

Patrik Dylan introduced the new Parks Manager Jim Robinstein. Mr. Dylan highlighted some of the summer projects, which included the Fair paving project, the new kiosk at Young's Park on Guemes Island, the shelter at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, the Custer Field renovation, and the trail system at Pressentin Park in Marblemount. He said that the permits have been obtained for the construction of a parking lot at the Northern State Recreation site, and that the department has been awarded a \$600,000 state grant to provide funding toward the purchase of Sares Bluff.

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Lori Anderson, Skagit County Fair Coordinator gave a summer activity report. She said that this year has been very successful for rentals of the facility and people have been very impressed with the improvements to the fairgrounds.

Program Manager Tawnie Helms reported on the Best SELF program. This was the 12th year of the summer program. This year 1100 students were served. She said they are serving a growing number of special education and students who speak limited English. The majority of the students that are served are low-income students.

Dennis Lind, Recreation Manager, gave an update of the Skagit County recreation division. He highlighted several of the sports league. The adult softball league had 84 teams and continued to be the largest program. Mr. Lind also spoke about the summer basketball program, the girls' fastpitch league, summer tournaments, the Clear Lake Triathlon, youth sports camps, and a cross-country run at the Northern State facility. Mr. Lind thanked the Commissioners for their support for recreation programming.

Lauren Woodmansee reported on the *Summer Recreation Guide*, which was the largest ever. Youth trips and camps continued to grow this year. She said that the "Thursday in the Park" tour averages about 20 people per week. Ms. Woodmansee said that Clear Lake Beach had over 15,000 paid participants, and had gross revenue of over \$45,000. This continues to be an amazing facility. Parking still continues to be limited, but they had very few complaints from neighbors. She also reported on the All-Comers Track Meets, which had excellent participation, and a new teen volunteer program.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2003 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS.

Chairman Dahlstedt called to order the public hearing to receive public comment on which of the 2003 Comprehensive Plan amendment proposals should move forward for further consideration by the County pursuant to Skagit County Code 14.08.030.

Assistant Director Gary Christensen stated that 17 applications were presented to the County by the Comprehensive Plan deadline of July 31, 2003. Today land owners and applicants will have an opportunity to discuss the proposals. The Board will not be taking any formal action today.

Kirk Johnson, Senior Planner, discussed the next steps and the review process. On November 4, at 10:00 a.m. the Board will deliberate to determine which of these proposals will move forward and which will be denied without prejudice. The Planning Department has made initial recommendations on the proposals in a memo sent to the Board on September 15, 2003. Those recommendations were also provided to the applicants and any members of the public that have an interest in the process. The Department's initial recommendations are based primarily on procedural or technical considerations, and not on the substantive merits of a proposal. At this stage, the Department considers whether the proposed amendments conform to statutory requirements, the Comprehensive Plan, the County's overall work program obligations, and its GMA implementation strategy. If an application is denied without prejudice that does not mean it cannot be resubmitted. Fourteen of the seventeen applications would add to the urban growth area. They have been presented to the respective cities and have been approved, prior to being forwarded to the County.

Commissioner Dahlstedt clarified that all the Comprehensive Plan amendment proposals needed to move as a block. Mr. Christensen said that was correct that under the provisions of the Growth Management Act all the petitions are to be reviewed concurrently as one batch once a year.

The following public comments were received:

Roberta Clark, 3420 Francis Road, Mount Vernon, spoke about the Mitzel proposal to redesignate 120 acres from agricultural to wetland mitigation bank. She wanted to note that her family had sent a letter contesting this since Mr. Mitzel had indicated in his petition that all affected property owners had been

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consulted and were in agreement. Her family has a neighboring farm and not been in agreement, they had also requested additional information, which was not provided.

Howard Koozer, 22499 State Route 20, Sedro-Woolley, spoke on behalf of his application to include a 12 acre parcel into the Sedro-Woolley Urban Growth Area. He said that development has moved right next to his property. Several large chicken houses have been proposed within 200 feet. The property is bordered by the Janicki Playfields, a new development, and Brickyard Creek.

Bill Youngsman, 2248 NW 190th Pl, Shoreline, WA, spoke about the WJY Associates proposal. Mr. Youngsman said there are two separate parcels on the east side of the south Mount Vernon interchange. This is the second application process to have this property included into the Mount Vernon UGA. These properties are bound by the freeway interchange and the property surrounding them. They have no agricultural value. There is sewer coming to the property this year, and there is current access to both sites.

Gloria Carbert, 20575 Bulson Road, Mount Vernon, spoke and submitted a letter stating that if the 1.3 acre parcel at the SW corner of Hickox Road and Cedardale Road is approved, her family's 5 acre parcel bordering that property should also be redesignated. However, she did not present an application because she was unaware of the proposal until the Mount Vernon City Council meeting.

Mayor Dean Maxwell, PO Box 547, Anacortes, spoke about a piece of property that the City of Anacortes received as a gift in 1998 from Floyd and Mary Willett. This property is served by City utilities and would be an excellent spot for office buildings or commercial development.

Mayor Sharon Dillon, 720 Murdock Street, Sedro-Woolley, stated that the City of Sedro-Woolley is in favor of the Howard Koozer proposal.

John Ravnik, PO Box 361, Burlington, was representing the Sundquist Family that owns property at the intersection of Hickox Road and Old Highway 99. He said that the City of Mount Vernon denied the application due to insufficient utilities; however he had documentation that sewer will be provided to the property and that PUD water is already available. Mr. Ravnik stated that the City of Mount Vernon has supported having the property in the Urban Growth Area.

Fred DeVries, 12797 Thillberg Road, Mount Vernon, a property owner near the proposed Mitzel property and Commissioner for Dike District 20, said that before this proposal is approved there needs to be an ability to drain this property. He wanted to make sure this issue is addressed.

Tom Glade, 6567 Deer Lane, Anacortes, spoke on behalf of Evergreen Islands. He asked that the City of Anacortes' request to expand the UGA is justified. He felt this could be better addressed under the Fidalgo Subarea Plan. Mr. Glade also felt the Culbertson settlement with the Urban Growth Hearing Board somehow circumvented the public process.

David Hough, Mount Vernon School District representative, stated that a substantial amount of additional information was submitted relating to their proposal. In 1996 the District began negotiations with owner to purchase the property. In 1997 they conducted preliminary studies and for some reason 23 acres were included in Urban Growth Area and 10 were not included. The District worked with City of Mount Vernon and they annexed the 23 acres. The District has prepared a Master Plan that included a bus garage and facilities. In 2002 Phase I was constructed. This property is for future operations and maintenance support for the District. The School District is working cooperatively with the City of Mount Vernon and they agreed it is an appropriate use.

Gloria Rivera, Associate Planner for the City of Mount Vernon, presented a memo to withdraw their proposal for 18 acres west of the sewer treatment plant. Their proposal is for trails, which can be accomplished under the County Code. She spoke in favor of the Mount Vernon School District proposal, which could have been a mapping error. She also addressed the WJY Associated proposal, which is also

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supported by the City. She added that the City of Mount Vernon supports the Mitzel proposal and the Sundquist proposal.

Tom Solberg, 1909 Minnie Road, Alger expressed his concerns that these are 2003 Comprehensive Plan Amendments and some were filed in 1997. He would like to see these cleared up and the oldest ones tackled first.

John Ravnik stated that in the summary of department recommendations there are the two applicants that say Eckberg/Burlington-Edison School District and Fox/Burlington-Edison School District. For the record, Burlington Edison School District has withdrawn their application and cooperative work since the original proposals were filed.

Bill White, 10629 Chuckanut Drive, Burlington, said he has an 80 acre piece of property north of Burlington. The property was purchased fifty or more years ago to build a home. Mr. White said the property was not purchased for agriculture. He would like to sell the property as commercial for his retirement.

Commissioner Anderson moved and Commissioner Munks seconded the motion to close the public hearing. The motioned carried unanimously.

Mr. Johnson stated once again that deliberations were scheduled on November 4 to consider which applications will move forward, and which will be denied without prejudice. On those proposals where more information was provided, the Planning Department will provide a recommendation prior to deliberations.

Commissioner Dahlstedt clarified the withdrawal of the Mount Vernon proposal and asked for more information for those who might want to reapply.

Mr. Christensen said that applications need to be provided to the County by the last business day of July or if they involve a municipal urban growth area they need to be submitted by the last business day of March.

Commissioner Dahlstedt added that applicants who are denied are not automatically reconsidered.

Commissioner Anderson commented about the difficulty of considering the applications as a block.

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

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ATTEST:

Shirley Knapp acting Clerk of the Board for JoAnne Giesbrecht
Skagit County Board of Commissioners