

**December 1, 2003**

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Work Session – Commissioners
8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Work Session – County Administrator
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Public Hearing – Adoption of the 2004 Final Budget
10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Department Head Meeting
10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Public Hearing – 2003 Supplemental Budget
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Consent Agenda and Miscellaneous Items
11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.	Public Comment Period
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Executive Session – Personnel, Litigation and Land Acquisition

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, December 1, 2003, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Ted W. Anderson and Don Munks present.

**PUBLIC HEARING – ADOPTION OF THE 2004 FINAL BUDGET.**

Chairman Dahlstedt called the public hearing to order.

Finance Director, Brad Whaley, reviewed the proposed budget for 2004 and noted the General Expense Options, Discretionary/Regional Services and Supplemental Requests. The net impact of Board requested modifications total \$1,014,155.

Chairman Dahlstedt noted that Cost of Living Increases (COLAs) have already been set at 2.5% for the bargaining units. Therefore, non-union personnel will also receive the same increase. He stated that each employee will be paying a portion of their medical and Labor & Industry costs for 2004. Chairman Dahlstedt confirmed that the Elected Officials will not be receiving a salary increase, and will be responsible for paying their portion of medical costs as well.

Sheriff, Rick Grimstead, thanked the Board for supporting Law and Justice.

Superior Court Clerk, Nancy Scott, thinks the Law and Justice budget is a step in the right direction.

Doug Everhart, Anacortes Library Director, thanked the Commissioners for their library support for last year and for their continued support for 2004. He recognizes the fact that these are difficult financial times for all.

Public Health Director, Peter Browning, stated that he thought it was a very good budget process and thanked Mr. Rowe for his input. He cautioned the Board about mental health and alcohol needs that will continue to need funding.

Judy Dudley, President of Friends of the Library, asked the Board to find more money to cover library services as there is a real demand for them.

Chairman Dahlstedt indicated that a \$30,000 contribution is being made to the American Red Cross. During the recent flood event, the local chapter exhausted all of their resources. Commissioners Anderson and Munks concurred and said they don't know what the County would have done without Red Cross services.

Commissioner Munks said everyone is struggling with their budgets. There are essential and non-essential services and it is unfair to cut the essential services while continuing to fund the non-essential services. He stated that the County has arrived at the fairest budget that could be produced.

Commissioner Anderson thanked all of the employees that work for Skagit County, especially the Law and Justice Committee. He also complimented Mr. Rowe and Mr. Whaley, given the circumstances.

Chairman Dahlstedt encouraged the libraries to continue trying to establish a countywide library district. He also thanked Department Heads and said he is glad there were no layoffs this year.

There being no further public comments forthcoming, Commissioner Anderson made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed. The public hearing was closed.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING.**

During the monthly Department Head meeting, the Board introduced Ned Zaugg, the new Director of Washington State University Skagit County Extension. Mr. Zaugg said he has resided in the area for 10 years, knows the issues and is thrilled to be a part of the extension team.

Communications Director, Dan Berentson, provided a video presentation of the areas which suffered flood damage during the October storm event. He indicated that the presentation is also available for viewing on the County website.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING – 2003 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET**

Mr. Whaley reviewed revenue projections and suggested that the 2003 budget be supplemented as follows:

General Fund	County Coroner	\$ 18,000
General Fund	Youth & Family Services	\$ 27,883
General Fund	Contribution to Other Funds	\$200,000
Public Health #101		\$ 72,417
Emergency Services Fund #105		\$ 28,544
Elections Fund #113		\$200,000

Mr. Whaley said the adjustments are needed as the County Coroner's office has incurred autopsy expenses in excess of available budget; a notice has been received that the JAIBG Grant, ARIS Grant, and private funding from La Conner Schools have been approved for the remainder of 2003; Public Health has received grant funding from a variety of sources; Emergency Services have received CERT and Homeland Security funding; and Elections requires cash flow resources to manage the election schedule for 2003.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the supplement budget request, as outlined by Mr. Whaley. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote. **(Resolution No. R20030389)**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA.**

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda for Monday, December 1, 2003, items 1 through 14. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

#### **COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:**

1. Record of the Proceedings for Monday, November 24, 2003.
2. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, November 25, 2003.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:**

3. Resolution calling for a public hearing to consider amending Skagit County Code Chapter 3.16 to include an additional 2% special excise tax. The public hearing will be held on Monday, December 15, 2003 at 10:45 a.m. **(Resolution No. R20030390)**

#### **CONSERVATION FUTURES:**

4. Resolution appointing Michael Hulbert to the Conservation Futures Program Advisory Committee for the term beginning January 1, 2004 and ending December 31, 2007. **(Resolution No. R20030391)**
5. Resolution re-appointing Curtis Johnson, Keith Wiggers, Alan Merritt and Carolyn Kelly to the Conservation Futures Program Advisory Committee for the term beginning January 1, 2004 and ending December 31, 2007. **(Resolution No. R20030392)**
6. Grant Deed of Conservation Easement protecting approximately 147 acres of farmland owned by Terminal Cold Storage and located off West Bow Hill Road at a cost of \$168,000. The land will be purchased by Norm Nelson, Inc. immediately following the easement implementation. Half of the cost of the easement will be reimbursed by the Federal Farmland Protection Program Grant. **(Contract No. C20030489)**

#### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT:**

7. Personal Services Agreement with Cecilia Meintel for the provision of client services relating to the Department of Social and Health Services "Maternity Support Services and Infant Case Management" program. The agreement shall commence on October 1, 2003 and continue through September 30, 2004. The Contractor will be reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis. **(Contract No. C20030490)**
8. Resolution authorizing the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the Skagit Conservation District. **(Resolution No. R20030393)**

9. Interagency Agreement between Skagit County and the Skagit Conservation District for specific activities of the "Bayview Community Clean Water Pilot Project" in the amount of \$10,000. The agreement shall commence on October 1, 2003 and continue through December 31, 2005. **(Contract No. C20030491)**

**YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES:**

10. Personal Services Agreement with Gregory Merrill to provide specialized child, adolescent, adult and family assessment, evaluation and treatment (group and/or individual and/or families) consultation, education classes, monitoring with written reports as required, court testimony and training. The agreement shall commence on January 1, 2004 and continue through December 31, 2005. Compensation is not to exceed a total of \$20,000. **(Contract No. C20030492)**
11. Personal Services Agreement with Susan Miller to provide specialized child, adolescent, adult and family assessment, evaluation and treatment (group and/or individual and/or families) consultation, education classes, monitoring with written reports as required, court testimony and training. The agreement shall commence on January 1, 2004 and continue through December 31, 2005. Compensation is not to exceed a total of \$10,000. **(Contract No. C20030493)**
12. Personal Services Agreement with Stephen J. Ruhl to provide specialized child, adolescent, adult and family assessment, evaluation and treatment (group and/or individual and/or families) consultation, education classes, monitoring with written reports as required, court testimony and training. The agreement shall commence on January 1, 2004 and continue through December 31, 2005. Compensation is not to exceed a total of \$10,000. **(Contract No. C20030494)**

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:**

13. Conditional Waiver Agreement for sidewalk installation adjacent to 720 E. Morris Street, La Conner, between Skagit County and property owners Stephen and Charlene Burks. **(Contract No. C20030495)**
14. Temporary Right-of-Entry Construction Agreement between Skagit County and Timothy E. Cooley and Sharon P. Feller, owners of Parcel No. P70720. The agreement shall give the County and its assigns the right to enter upon said property for the purpose of performing road construction improvements for the Main Street Reconstruction Project, ES9700-5 in Concrete. **(Contract No. C20030496)**

**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, December 1, 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 156973 through 156983 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$2,231.66 (Transmittal No. C-137-03); and

ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to Premera Blue Cross from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$76,870.26 (Transmittal No. C-138-03).

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.**

Tom Solberg, 19019 Minnie Road, Alger, spoke about the Samish River Watershed process. He said the Samish River Watershed Steering Committee will be meeting on December 10, 2003 and they intend to bring in experts to discuss what the flow rule should be. Citizen caucuses have not been included in the process and he feels that the committee is proceeding with a plan that not all parties have agreed upon. Mr. Solberg emailed Bob Powell suggesting that Dr. Crittenden be invited to attend the steering committee meetings. He has yet to receive a reply to his request.

Chairman Dahlstedt said a decision has not been made at this time but ultimately the steering committee will bring forth a recommendation to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Anderson stated that whatever he signs will have to be fair as water rights have to be appropriate for the people. He pointed out that the County is better off now than in the beginning of the discussions. A lot of headway has been made.

**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