

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2003**

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| 8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. | Work Session – Commissioners |
| 8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. | Work Session – County Administrator |
| *T 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. | Public Hearing – Proposed Edison Sewer Use Ordinance, Skagit County Code 12.64 |
| *T 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. | Public Hearing – Increasing Property Tax Revenues in Excess of Increases in the Value of State Assessed Property, New Construction and Improvements to Property for the 2004 Budget Year |
| 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. | Consent Agenda and Miscellaneous Items |
| *T 11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. | Consideration/Possible Action – Emergency Medical Services 2004 Budget |
| 11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Public Comment Period |
| 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | Legislative Briefing Regarding the 3-Bridge Corridor Project (Burlington Fire Hall – 350 Sharon Street, Burlington) |
| 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Executive Session – Personnel, Litigation and Land Acquisition |

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, December 8, 2003, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt and Ted W. Anderson present. Commissioner Don Munks was excused to attend a Workforce Development Council Meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED EDISON SEWER USE ORDINANCE, SKAGIT COUNTY CODE 12.64.

The Board held a public hearing to receive public comment and consider proposed changes to Skagit County Code 12.64 regarding Edison Subarea sewer use. Staff members Allison Mohns, Planning and Permit Center, and Ron Palmer, Health Department, were present. Ms. Mohns provided a copy of the proposed policies that were adopted by the Edison Advisory Board. In addition, one minor grammatical edit was made to page one. The materials have been reviewed by the Prosecuting Attorney's office.

Doris Robbins, 5841 Ewings Court, Edison, said that she is experienced in writing similar documents and this is a very clear, concise and well crafted document. This document is a model for other communities.

Commissioner Anderson moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Commissioner Anderson moved and Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded a motion to render a final decision on the proposed changes to the Edison Sewer District Ordinance on January 5, at 9:45 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – INCREASING PROPERTY TAX REVENUES IN EXCESS OF INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF STATE ASSESSED PROPERTY, NEW CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS TO PROPERTY FOR THE 2004 BUDGET YEAR.

The Board held a public hearing regarding increased property tax revenues. Finance Director Brad Whaley also presented a number of resolutions to authorize property taxes for 2004. Commissioner Anderson asked about the amount of new construction this year. Mr. Whaley stated that the assessed value of new construction is a record high this year at approximately \$343,853,000.

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Jack Harlow, 14554 Highway 536, Mount Vernon, said that he was told that he does not qualify for the senior tax exemption, and it costs him over \$200 per month for taxes to live on his own property. He also cannot understand why he is being taxed as urban since he does not live in an urban area.

Tony Splane, 714 Sapp Rd, Sedro-Woolley, clarified that property taxes would only increase by 1%. He stated that the senior tax exemption has not been adjusted in a number of years to keep up with inflation. He asked the Board to look into this matter since it is becoming increasingly difficult for senior citizens to stay in their homes.

Commissioner Anderson said that he would check into the senior tax exemptions.

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

Commissioner Anderson moved to approve resolutions to certify property tax levies, authorize property tax increases, and authorize limit factor increases, and to authorize diversion of road levy for traffic enforcement into the General Fund as presented. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. **(Resolution Nos. R20030394; R20030395; R20030396; R20030397; R20030398; R20030399; R20040400; R20030401; R20030402; R20030403; R20030404)**

CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Anderson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda for Monday, December 8, 2003, item 1, and items 3 through 8. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:

1. Record of the Proceedings for Monday, December 1, 2003.
2. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, December 2, 2003.

BUDGET & FINANCE:

3. Resolution authorizing a call for a public hearing regarding a supplemental budget for 2003. The public hearing will be held on Monday, December 22, 2003 at 11:45 a.m. **(Resolution No. R200300405)**

HUMAN RESOURCES:

4. Resolution establishing 2004 salary increases and Health and Welfare benefits for non-union employees. **(Resolution No. R20030406)**

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

5. Memorandum of Agreement between Skagit County and the City of Anacortes for the Boating Safety Program. The agreement shall commence on January 1, 2004 and continue through December 31, 2006. **(Contract No. C20030497)**

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

6. Resolution approving the 2004 Annual Construction Program (ACP). **(Resolution No. R20030407)**

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7. Personal Services Agreement with GeoEngineers, Inc. to provide services for the Silver/Friday Creek Flow Augmentation Project. The agreement shall commence on November 17, 2003 and continue through November 17, 2004. Compensation shall total \$94,500. **(Contract No. C20030498)**
8. Resolution calling for a public hearing for the consideration of the Guemes Island Ferry Task Force Schedule and Fare Policy recommendations. The public hearing will be held on Monday, December 22, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. **(Resolution No. R20030408)**

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. Budget and Finance presented a resolution authorizing a 2003 budget line item changes. **(Resolution No. R20030409)**
2. 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 8, 2003, the Board by majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:

ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to Premera Blue Cross from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$40,626.94 (Transmittal No. C-141-03); and

Warrants numbered 157719 through 158214 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$5,084,233.79 (Transmittal No. C-142-03).

3. Information Services presented a Personal Services Agreement with Probatum Technologies, Inc. for the procurement of an Adult Probation Case Management System. The agreement shall commence on November 3, 2003. Compensation will be \$27,909. **(Contract No. C20030499)**

CONSIDERATION/POSSIBLE ACTION – EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES 2004 BUDGET.

Finance Director Brad Whaley was present to answer question. Commissioner Anderson requested a copy of last years Emergency Medical Services (EMS) budget for comparison. He added that there were several items in the proposed 2004 budget that needed correction. The purchase amount is mathematically correct for ALS vehicles but the line items states “5,” and the Commissioners authorized “3” ambulances. In addition, the Commissioners requested an explanation of the final gain/loss number.

Since no one in the audience wished to speak, Commissioner Anderson moved to close public comment. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Commissioner Anderson moved that the EMS budget with the requested corrections and revisions as discussed be brought forward for approval on next Monday’s consent agenda for final consideration. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

Jack Harlow, 14554 Highway 536, Mount Vernon, expressed his concerns about the budget cuts to the Skagit County Fair and the two people whose jobs were affected.

Don Bockelman, 30623 South Skagit Highway, Sedro-Woolley, addressed the Board regarding his frustration with the Planning Department in the process of trying to divide 80 acres of property that he owns in Day Creek.

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ADJOURNMENT.

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

Don Munks, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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