

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2004**

- *T 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Board of Health – Peter Browning, Director
1. Solid Waste Code Revisions
2. Public Information and Education Award
3. Welcome Baby Update, Including Information Regarding the
 Foundation for an Early Learning Grant
- *T 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Proclamation – April 25-May 2, 2004 as Soil and Water Stewardship
 Week
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Bid Opening – Two Portable Buildings for Guemes Island Ferry
- 11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Bid Opening – Two New Reader Boards for Guemes Island Ferry
- *T 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Consideration of Planning Commission’s Recorded Motion on 2001-
 2002 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Proposals
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Approval of Washington State Economic Revitalization Team (WA-
 CERT) by Economic Development Association of Counties (EDASC)
- 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Fiber Optics Governance Meeting (Hearing Room C)

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 20, 2004 with Commissioners Don Munks and Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present. Commissioner Ted W. Anderson’s absence was excused.

BOARD OF HEALTH – PETER BROWNING, DIRECTOR

1. Solid Waste Code Revisions.

Environmental Health Specialists, Polly Dubbel and Britt Pfaff-Dunton, reviewed the Solid Waste Code revision highlights. Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-350 for solid waste in the State of Washington was adopted in February 2003. Local health jurisdictions are required to adopt this WAC following its adoption by the State within 12 months. Ms. Dubbel said the code has been presented to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and other stakeholders for their input. She indicated that the draft code will be placed on the County website and will go through SEPA review followed by a public hearing.

Ms. Dubbel stated that the County is adopting and rewriting the code to be consistent with the mandated WAC. It adds sections on biomedical waste and the clean-up of drug labs and other contaminated properties, clarifies how chemical wastes are disposed and enhances the investigation and enforcement sections to make it more readable.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said it might be helpful to the television audience if an educational work session was held to further explain the Solid Waste Code revisions. He feels it is better to engage the public through education and preventative measures instead of by enforcement alone.

Mr. Browning said it has always been the policy of the Skagit County Health Department to start with education and then, and only then, consider enforcement.

2. Public Information and Education Award.

Steve Olsen, Environmental Health Specialist, announced that the Skagit County Health Department was recently awarded a grant from the Puget Sound Action Team in the amount of \$32,140. The money will be used to expand the educational and informational campaign for operations and maintenance of onsite

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septic systems. Mr. Olsen said the program has two components, the first of which is to expand public service announcements on the radio, television, newspapers and movie theaters. The second component involves the training of community volunteers to educate and organize their neighbors about caring for and maintaining their septic systems.

Mr. Olsen indicated that the Puget Sound Action Team received 117 proposals and 14% of those requests were funded. Since the inception of the Septic 101 clinics, over 900 people have attended. There are close to 20,000 septic systems in Skagit County and 500 were inspected in 2003. The goal this year is to reach the 1,000 inspection mark. The ultimate goal is for property owners to check their septic systems on a regular basis.

Commissioner Munks remarked that no matter how old or new your system is, they can all fail.

Mr. Olsen said that is why it is important to inspect alternative septic systems every year and conventional systems every three years.

3. Welcome Baby Update, Including Information Regarding the Foundation for an Early Learning Grant.

Jennifer Sass-Walton, Nursing Supervisor, said the Skagit County Welcome Baby program will be expanded into public schools, thanks to a grant that has been awarded to the County. It is a two year grant and \$50,000 will be given each year. She explained that the program will now address the entire community. Ms. Sass-Walton introduced Garrison Kurtz, Director of Programs for the Foundation for Early Learning.

Mr. Kurtz said Skagit County is one of the greatest leaders in the State of Washington with their Welcome Baby program. He said the Foundation has raised \$3.5 million from individuals, corporations and federal grants, in addition to the Gates Foundation gift of \$9.5 million. The grant money for Skagit County will be used to develop a model for working with school districts to encourage them to increase services to families with children under the age of 3.

Mr. Kurtz stated that public health efforts cannot be effectively promoted without a literate population that values self-care and is capable of self-control. Brain research shows that long-term impacts of imperfect neural connectivity and development of other brain structures results in cognitive, socio-emotional and physical difficulties, which interferes with effective learning. Effective functional learning cannot happen in the absence of physical health.

Current priorities for the Health Department will include the promotion of children's health and well-being, good nutrition and physical activity, supporting parents as their children's first teachers, improving access to high-quality childcare and preschool, and connecting communities, schools and families to enable a child's success in school and in life.

Meredith Baker, Coordinator of the Welcome Baby program, said this grant will allow the hiring of a fulltime employee to work with the Sedro-Woolley School District as part of a pilot program. The pilot program was suggested by Assistant Superintendent, Carl Bruner, as a way of providing assistance in preparing children for school. Ms. Baker said one of their goals is to involve fathers and increase activities in the Spanish speaking community.

PROCLAMATION – APRIL 25-May 5, 2004 AS SOIL AND WATER STEWARDSHIP WEEK.

Kristi Carpenter of the Skagit Conservation District addressed the importance of healthy soil for our daily survival. She then announced the winners of the annual poster contest.

Commissioner Dahlstedt read the Proclamation for Soil & Water Stewardship week into the record. The approval of the Proclamation was moved by Commissioner Dahlstedt and seconded by Commissioner Munks. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

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BID OPENING – TWO PORTABLE BUILDINGS FOR GUEMES ISLAND FERRY.

Guemes Island Ferry Manager, Steve Cox, opened the only bid submitted for two portable buildings for the Guemes Island Ferry. It was received from:

Pacific Mobile
3304 156th Street NE
Marysville, WA 98271
Bid Bond Enclosed
Total Bid: \$26,507.22

Mr. Cox said he would bring forth a recommendation in the near future.

BID OPENING – TWO NEW READER BOARDS FOR GUEMES ISLAND FERRY.

Mr. Cox opened the following bids for two new reader boards for the Guemes Island Ferry:

Meyer Sign & Advertising
2608 Highway 99 S
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Bid Bond Enclosed
Total Bid: \$37,713.20

Data Display
5004 Veteran's Memorial Highway
Holbrook, NY 11741
Bid Bond Enclosed
Total Bid: \$49,700

National Sign
1255 Westlake Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109
Bid Bond Enclosed
Total Bid: \$37,924.70

Heath NW
727 South 96th Street
Seattle, WA 98108
Bid Bond Enclosed
Total Bid: \$61,037.95

Mr. Cox said he would review the bids and bring a recommendation before the Board within the next few weeks.

CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECORDED MOTION ON 2001-2002 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT PROPOSALS.

Kirk Johnson, Senior Planner, said that on March 2, 2004, the Planning Commission voted 8-0, with one member absent, to recommend approval of the 2001-2002 Comprehensive Plan Amendment proposals.

Mr. Johnson said six of the proposals would make fairly simple Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Map corrections that need to be processed as Comprehensive Plan Amendments. He reviewed each proposal as follows:

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Harold Fowler

The subject parcel was designated Cottage Industry/Small Scale Business. The Planning Commission concluded that the property was incorrectly designated and should be redesignated Rural Business.

Rozema Boat Works

The two subject parcels were inadvertently not mapped as part of Rozema Boat Work's Rural Marine Industrial designation. The Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Map should be corrected to show redesignation from Rural Village to Rural Marine Industrial.

Wilfred Schulze

This parcel supports a business use that is located in the same small cluster of Rural Business-designated properties within the prior strip of C-LI zoning along Memorial Highway. Therefore, it should be redesignated from Rural Intermediate to Rural Business.

Skagit Wild Bird Supply/Fleming

This parcel is also located along Memorial Highway in the same cluster of Rural Business-designated properties and should be redesignated to Rural Business.

Burrell Cook

These parcels are an integral part of an existing Rural Business designation and should be redesignated from Rural Intermediate.

Geoffrey Gent

These properties located on Guemes Island Road were zoned Commercial-Limited Industrial until 1999. When the new GMA-based rural commercial and industrial zoning was established, the property was not given a Rural Commercial designation but was instead designated Rural Reserve. They should be redesignated Rural Business, which is intended to recognize and provide reasonable expansion and change of use opportunities for existing isolated nonresidential uses in the rural area that provide job opportunities for rural residents.

Emily Ellen Egbers

The proposed map amendment would redesignate approximately 50 acres from Rural Resource-NRL to Rural Reserve. The Planning Commission agrees with the applicant's contention that the subject properties do not meet the soils criteria for their current designation.

Mr. Johnson said that during a public hearing, it became apparent that an ownership dispute exists within the Egbers family over some of the subject parcels. However, all affected family members were either present or represented and all expressed support for the proposed change.

Because certain adjoining properties not included in the proposal have the same soil types, they too should most likely be redesignated to Rural Reserve. However, some of the Planning Commission members raised concerns about making these additional changes without consulting affected or surrounding property owners.

The Planning Commission directed Department staff to consult with County legal counsel about the Department's authority to make additional designation changes administratively, after notification of the property owners. The Department has authority to make certain administrative map changes under SCC 14.04.030. However, legal counsel advised these particular changes might not be within the scope of that code provision.

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Therefore, Mr. Johnson said the remaining properties that may be improperly designated will be addressed at the earliest opportunity, most likely the 2004 Comprehensive Plan Amendment cycle.

Vendovi Island, LLC

Mr. Johnson said this text amendment would make changes to certain sections of the Comprehensive Plan and Skagit County Code to allow subdivisions for residential purposes and construction of single family residences and accessory structures on certain saltwater islands, as long as alternative fire protection measures are provided. The islands affected by the amendment are those that do not have designated natural resource lands or Public Open Space of Statewide/Regional Importance, and are outside of a public fire district. They include Vendovi, Sinclair, and Allen Islands.

Mr. Johnson said the Planning and Permit Center appreciates the Planning Commission's work on the 2001-2002 Comprehensive Plan Amendment proposals, and recommends approval of those proposals consistent with the Planning Commission's recorded motion.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to approve the 2001-2002 Comprehensive Plan Amendment proposals, as recommended by the Planning Commission in its recorded motion dated March 2, 2004. Commissioner Munks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF WASHINGTON STATE ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION TEAM (WA-CERT)
BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (EDASC).**

Don Wick, Executive Director of the Economic Development Association of Skagit County (EDASC) reviewed with the Board three project proposals received for consideration and placement on the WA-CERT priority list. The first proposal was submitted by the Town of Hamilton for a flood mitigation project requesting \$205,000 in funds. The second proposal was submitted by the Skagit County Community Action Agency on behalf of the Family Resource Center partnership for the expansion of the Resource Center. The monetary request is for \$1,404,500. The third proposal comes from the Sedro-Woolley Fire Department for a Regional Live Fire Training Facility requesting funding in the amount of \$31,555.

Mr. Wick next reviewed three project requests, which were submitted during the first quarter and he then provided various WA-CERT project updates.

Mr. Wick said he would bring forth an updated prioritization list on Monday, April 26, 2004 at 1:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ted W. Anderson, Chairman

Don Munks, Commissioner

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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