

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2004**

- 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Annual Skagit Conservation District Partnership Breakfast Meeting (New Life Lutheran Brethren Church – 123 Evergreen, Mount Vernon)
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Work Session - Operations Division Manager/Road District Maintenance Supervisors
- *T 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Public Works Department – Chal Martin, Director
1. Public Hearing – Consideration of Revision No. 1 to 2005-2010 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program
 2. Update/Possible Action – Big Lake Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan for Lake Management District #1
 3. Signature – Vendor Services Agreement with Regional Disposal Company
 4. Signature – Resolution Authorizing Loan From Fund 117 to Fund 110
 5. Miscellaneous
- *T 10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Recognition – Outgoing Skagit County Fairgrounds Advisory Board Members, Jack Harlow and Kacy Johnson
- 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Consideration/Possible Action – Adoption of the 2005 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Budget
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Project Update – Regional Exhibition Hall

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, December 14, 2004, with Commissioners Ted W. Anderson, Don Munks and Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

PUBLIC WORKS – CHAL MARTIN, DIRECTOR

1. Public Hearing – Consideration of Revision No. 1 to 2005-2010 Six-Year Transportation Program.

Steve Flude of the Public Works Department stated that the public hearing being held today is in regard to Revision 1 of the 2005-2010 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The TIP was approved earlier this year; however, in the intervening few months, other projects have come forward making the revision necessary.

Mr. Flude reviewed the additional projects as follows: Calhoun Road; Fruitdale Road; Goldenrod Road; Gilligan Creek Road at Salmon Creek; Guemes Ferry Parking Lot; Main Street in Concrete; McGarigle Road; and the Mount Vernon Parking Garage. The North Texas Road project is being updated due to a change in the scope of this project, thus increasing the dollar amount to \$100,000.

There being no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Munks motioned to close the public hearing, which was seconded by Commissioner Dahlstedt. The public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Munks motioned to approve adopting the proposed revisions for the 2005-2010 Six-Year TIP as outlined by Mr. Flude. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dahlstedt and passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. R20040432)**

2. Update/Possible Action – Big Lake Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan for Lake Management District #1.

This item will be brought forth at a later date, which will give staff additional time to review the Plan.

3. Signature – Vendor Services Agreement with Regional Disposal Company.

Rick Haley, Public Works, presented a Vendor Services Agreement with Regional Disposal Company. The contractor would be responsible for identifying and removing loose logs coated with creosote. Several partners of who were in the audience have stepped in to provide various services, including funding and storage.

Mr. Haley advised that this project began with volunteers combing approximately 100 miles of beach looking for stray pilings and loose logs. Dunlap Towing provided their services to remove the logs. To date, over 60 tons of creosote-treated wood has been removed with a total budget of \$40,000. Only \$2,000 has been expended by the County for this cleanup effort.

The Commissioners said they support the protection of our resources and also the volunteers and their efforts.

Commissioner Munks motioned to approve a Vendor Services Agreement with Regional Disposal Company for the disposal of creosote-treated logs from Skagit County beaches. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Contract No. C20040515)**

4. Signature – Resolution Authorizing Loan From Fund 117 to Fund 110.

Public Works Director Chal Martin stated that the River Improvement Fund is in need of a loan in the amount of \$650,000 to provide for a positive cash flow until revenues have been received. The need arises from notification on November 24, 2004, of the loss of \$1.2 million in expected federal revenues. This loan shall be repaid with interest at the County investment pool rate as determined by the County Treasurer. Mr. Martin said the loan is to be repaid by December 31, 2006.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said he is disappointed that federal funding did not come through and Commissioner Munks agreed.

Chairman Anderson asked that this be a lesson to the County to make sure it has proper funding before committing to projects. He also requested a detailed expense account of what Harry Hosey's company has been paid to date.

Commissioner Munks made a motion to authorize an Interfund Loan in the maximum amount of \$650,000 from Road Fund #117 to River Improvement Fund #110. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. R20040433)**

5. Miscellaneous.

A) Dave Brookings, Public Works Administrator, spoke in response to the potential flood event that occurred this past weekend. He said on Friday, December 3, 2004, the weather forecast predicated a 35-foot crest for the Skagit River at Concrete, which prompted the Emergency Operations Center to begin preparations for flooding. The forecast was downgraded by the weather service throughout the night; however, problems were discovered at Cockreham Island and at Milepost 12.2 on the South Skagit Highway. Public Works staff worked diligently with the US Army Corps of Engineers to rectify the problem at Milepost 12.2, which was caused by last year's flood event. Mr. Brookings commended the County's Flood Fight team for responding to the problem on such short notice.

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Mr. Brookings also said he attended a meeting last week sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to talk about 2003 disaster projects, many of which occurred in District No. 3. The topic and goals of the work session were to reach consensus on how best to fix these projects. Mr. Brookings feels that the disaster relief process is broken as the Agency couldn't agree on either the agenda or the purpose of the meeting; let alone how to fix the problems. Because of the delay and failure to bring a solution to these problems, the County ends up working in the middle of the night risking the lives of the work crew and the public fixing something that should be addressed long before an emergency develops.

Chairman Anderson said he sees no reason why dry creek beds can't be cleaned out in the summer to prevent problems in the event the Skagit River rises.

Mr. Brookings asked for the Board's assistance, perhaps in the way of political pressure, to encourage these agencies to move forward with necessary projects. The Commissioners agreed to strategize with the Public Works Department to prepare correspondence for their signature.

- B) Mr. Martin discussed helping a family that lives on the Sauk River relocate their home. The property was threatened after the October 2003 flood event. The family did have flood insurance and took action this summer to have their place moved. Public Works decided that they wanted to partner with them in order to make the transition go smoothly. However, all work needed to be done under the County umbrella including the selection process for a contractor. Mr. Martin said the Department didn't jump on the project soon enough. As flood insurance only covered 50% of the costs associated with the relocation, the Department is requesting that \$10,000 be given to the family to help defray some of their costs. Mr. Martin indicated that a contract will be drawn up and placed on next week's Consent Agenda for the Board's signature.
- C) Mr. Martin informed the Board that there are now different expectations between the parties who signed the agreement for additional flood storage in the Baker Dam system. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Anderson said the County ratepayers will be the audience for this public relations battle.

RECOGNITION – OUTGOING SKAGIT COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS, JACK HARLOW AND KACY JOHNSON.

Skagit County Fair Manager, Audrey Smith, presented Mr. Jack Harlow with a plaque commemorating his years of commitment to the Fair Advisory Board. Unfortunately, Ms. Kacy Johnson was not available for the presentation.

Mr. Harlow said he enjoyed the first six years he spent on the Fair Board but feels the last year has been a disaster. He said he hoped the Commissioners were happy with the decisions they have made regarding the Fairgrounds.

The Board thanked Mr. Harlow for volunteering his time over the years and added that without volunteers, the County wouldn't be able to accomplish all that they do.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Commissioner Munks stated that based on the finding of the consultant that the County retained to investigate the claim for damages submitted by Peter and Laurel Browning in connection with the County's administration of Building Permit No. 03-1572, he made a motion to deny the claim in its entirety. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Munks motioned to have Skagit County join the effort being organized and funded by the American Forest Resource Council (AFRC), and confirm that, as a Washington State trust land beneficiary, the County wishes to join as an intervener in the WEC vs. DNR II litigation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dahlstedt and passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION/POSSIBLE ACTION – ADOPTION OF THE 2005 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) BUDGET.

Commissioner Munks was excused for this part of the agenda.

Trisha Logue, Budget Administrator, presented a Resolution authorizing the adoption of the 2005 Emergency Medical Services budget. She said it has been recommended that staff meet with Aero-Skagit Emergency Services for contract negotiations. Ms. Logue also stated that recruiting will begin next year for an Operations Manager for the Central Valley Region.

Commissioner Dahlstedt noted that draft minutes, which are attached to the proposed budget, still need to be approved; therefore, the motion being brought forth will be contingent on their approval.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to adopt the Emergency Medical Services Budget for 2005, which was seconded by Chairman Anderson. The motion carried. **(Resolution No. R20040434)**

PROJECT UPDATE – REGIONAL EXHIBITION HALL.

Commissioner Munks was excused for this portion of the agenda.

Bob Vaux, Parks and Recreation Director, gave a staff report on the continued research and potential project planning for a proposed regional exhibition hall located near Skagit Valley College. The building would be housed on a 15-acre site owned by the Rogers family, whose only concern is living out the rest of their years at their homestead.

Mr. Vaux said he and Commissioner Dahlstedt have held several discussions with area mayors about the concept of an indoor recreation center and they all seem receptive to the idea. The question is whether or not the County Commissioners want Mr. Vaux to move forward with this concept.

Chairman Anderson said he likes these kinds of projects; however, the devil is always in the details. He also added that if we purchase the land, develop the property and build the complex, then the County should own it, not Skagit Valley College. He said he would not sign off on the project if it were any other way.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said when he was asked to serve on this task force and met with Skagit Valley College President Dr. Gary Tollefson it was with the understanding that the idea of this project would be to protect the integrity of the County's Parks and Recreation Department.

Chairman Anderson also noted that if the County is going to take on a project of this magnitude then they'd better know where the necessary funds to build it are going to come from. He said the mayors will agree to anything until it comes time to pony up the money. Chairman Anderson said it would be better to ask the school districts for funding.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ted W. Anderson, Chairman

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Don Munks, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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