

collectively with the intent that it shall not impede or infringe upon the operations, statutory duties, and the rights of the respective public entities.

Mr. Brookings also said that the intent of the agreement is to permit local governmental units to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate with other localities and thereby, to provide services and facilities in a manner and pursuant to forms of governmental organization that will accord best with geographic, economic, population, and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities.

Chairman Munks applauded everyone for their involvement and hard work on the partnership.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said that he thought a partnership was definitely needed and he then commented on the risk of flooding in Skagit County. He also noted that this is a great time for the Cities, Dike Districts and the County to come together to forge an overall plan.

Bud Norris, Mayor for the City of Mount Vernon, discussed several components of this issue and expressed his support to help prevent flooding. Mayor Norris invited the Commissioners to attend the partnership's next meeting.

2. Discussion – Fare Rate Phasing for Guemes Island Ferry.

Steve Flude, Assistant Engineer, discussed the fare rate phasing for the Guemes Island Ferry. Mr. Flude explained that the last ferry rate increase occurred on June 1, 2004. He then stated that in May 2004, ticket sales increased from 19,584 to 30,765. Mr. Flude said the increase was due to many tickets being purchased at the old price that could still be used during the new rate period.

Mr. Flude stated that besides lost revenue, staff recommends full implementation at some point in time for the following reasons:

1. Sufficient quantities of ticket books to meet demand would need to be ordered as stock on hand is becoming limited. The Board chose to limit the quantities or refuse sales when out of books.
 - a. Assuming same level of sales as the 4th quarter of 2004, we would need to have 1500-2000 additional ticket books available to meet demand, at an approximate cost of \$2,000.00. (Each ticket print run costs approximately \$2,000)
 - b. The stock on hand would not handle the expected requests. This would strain relations with the islanders as we would be in a position of having to limit the number of books each person could buy, or simply stopping sales when we run out of existing books, which would anger those who are unable to buy.
2. Allowing the continued use of old ticket media will place a significant burden on the ferry crew.
 - a. Without a refund option, there is anticipated a significant increase in the sales of both the car & driver books and the commuter books. People will want to buy additional books to lock in the old price, and we will be bound to accept them for the valid period for each ticket (90 days for car & driver, 1 year for commuters). This would create pandemonium at the dock, as people are trying to buy the books prior to sailing and overwhelming the purser while they are trying to proceed with

regular ticket sales to those in line, most likely disrupting the sailing schedule.

- b. There is also the possibility of people buying large quantities of the books and selling them to friends and family to assist them in circumventing the price increase. Theoretically, it would be possible for someone to purchase 100 or more commuter books and then sell them throughout the year to people who need them.
3. If the rates were phased in, there would be significant training issues with the ferry crew. The crews do not have the advantage of a computerized cashiering system. Much of the cashiering is done by mental math. Frequent changes, therefore, not only confuse this process, but slows down the cashiering.
4. If the rates were phased in, there would be several periods of time that the passengers would need to relearn the rates. This could cause confusion amongst the passengers and crew members. It is believed that a one time change is preferred to several changes requiring additional effort.
5. The final concerns are regarding the formation of a "black market" for older cheaper tickets within the community. It would be ill advised for the County to put the passengers in this type of an environment.

Mr. Flude then stated that for the above reasons, staff recommended that the Board approve a method of refunding old tickets at the point of implementation of the new rates. He also recommended that this be done all at once and not in stages.

Chairman Munks believed that it is important to establish a date for when the old tickets become invalid. He also spoke about phasing in the increase and said that he felt the fairest way to do this would be to set up an account to accommodate phasing in the fare increase to the disabled, low-income and elderly passengers.

Chairman Munks suggested that discussions should continue. A date and time will be established in the near future.

3. Miscellaneous.

There were no miscellaneous items to discuss.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES – GARY CHRISTENSEN, DIRECTOR

1. Discussion – Proposed Extension of On-Call Planner Contract for Mark Personius.

Kirk Johnson, Senior Planner, discussed the extension of the "On-Call Planner" contract.

Mr. Johnson explained that in February of 2005, the Board signed a contract for \$25,000 with planning consultant Mark Personius to provide miscellaneous planning services to the County through 2005. He said that under this contract, Mr. Personius has ably assisted the Department on a variety of projects.

According to Mr. Johnson, it appeared that the \$25,000 available under the contract will have been spent by the end of September and the Department foresees a need for Mr. Personius' continued services through the end of the year. He went on to say that with the Board's approval, the Department would like to prepare a contract extension to authorize an additional \$12,000 for

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consultant planning services with Mark Personius through the end of the year. Mr. Johnson stated that average monthly expenditures are running about \$3,400, so that amount should be sufficient for the remainder of 2005.

Gary Christensen, Director of Planning and Development Services, explained that this item will be brought forth as an agenda item at a later time.

2. Discussion – CTED Competitive Grant Proposal to Develop Criteria.

Mr. Johnson explained that the Department is seeking the Board's approval for a grant application to the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development's FY 2006 Competitive Grant Program. He stated that the proposal would seek approximately \$30,000 in state money to help the County develop standards for the analyses that cities and towns provide in support of proposed Urban Growth Areas expansions.

3. Discussion – 2006 Professional Services Budget.

Mr. Christenson spoke about the preliminary draft of the Department's professional services work program for the year 2006 and beyond. He said that the purpose of this transmittal is to stimulate discussion about prioritizing County projects and assessing available resources. He then stated that this is being done in advance of the Department's discussion with County administrative and budget/finance staff as a part of the 2006 budget process and that the work program is derived from community expectations, on-going work program tasks, County priorities and state mandated requirements.

Mr. Christenson then shared with the Board a work program which indicated how \$590,000 would be spent.

4. Miscellaneous.

Mr. Christensen presented the Skagit County Permit Process Improvement Initiative Kick off information. He said they are now launching Step 2 of the initiative to improve the predictability, efficiency and collaboration of the Skagit County permit system. Mr. Christensen explained that Step 2 develops and implements the procedure, tools, forms and references needed to enact the ten recommendations from the June Step 1 report, which he attached for the Board's review. Mr. Christensen advised the Board that the Latimore Company had been hired to do this project.

BID OPENING – BOILER REPLACEMENT FOR THE LARRY E. MOLLER PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING.

Roger Howard, Director of Facility Management, opened the following bids for the Boiler Replacement for the Larry E. Moller Public Safety Building:

Blythe Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
2201 Humboldt Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
Bid Bond Enclosed
Addenda Enclosed
Total Bid Amount: \$30,818.00

IMAC, Inc.
2525 Old Hwy 99 S.
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Bid Bond Enclosed
Addenda Enclosed
Total Bid Amount: \$35,556.87

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Mr. Howard said the bids would be reviewed and a recommendation would be forthcoming.

PROCLAMATION – “FAMILY DAY – A DAY TO EAT DINNER WITH YOUR CHILDREN” – SEPTEMBER 26, 2005.

Commissioner Dahlstedt read a Proclamation proclaiming September 26, 2005, as Family Day – A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children.

PROCLAMATION – NATIVE AMERICAN DAY IN SKAGIT COUNTY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2005.

Commissioner Dahlstedt read a Proclamation proclaiming September 23, 2005, as Native American Day in Skagit County.

CLOSED RECORD MEETING FOR FINAL PLAT APPROVAL FOR LEKCINTON ACRES SUBDIVISION (PL03-0319), SUBMITTED BY GLEN AND KAREN NICKEL.

Marge Swint, Associate Planner, briefed the Board on the Final Plat request for Lekcinton Acres, which develops approximately 111 acres into an eleven lot land division through the Conservation and Reserve Development (CaRD) land division process. She also said that the proposal included 10-one acre lots and one 101 acre lot with a one acre development right and the remaining acreage is designated as Open Space Preservation Area. Ms. Swint also said that an internal private plat road, onsite sewage, and individual wells will serve the project.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to approve the Final Plat as outlined by Ms. Swint. The motion was seconded by Chairman Munks and passed unanimously.

CLOSED RECORD MEETING FOR FINAL PLAT APPROVAL REQUEST (PL05-0105-ERSHIG BY THE TRACKS), SUBMITTED BY GARY LOHMAN FOR THE CREATION OF A FIVE (5) LOT “CARD” LAND DIVISION.

Brandon Black, Senior Planner, presented a Final Plat approval request by Gary Lohman for the creation of “Ershig by the Tracks,” a five lot residential land division utilizing the Conservation and Reserve Development (CaRD) land division process on a 21.59 acre parcel. He explained that the proposal is to create four residential building lots not to exceed one acre in size, with one separate parcel containing the remainder of the property, which is to be left in an open space designation with no residential building rights.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to approve the Final Plat as outlined by Mr. Black. Chairman Munks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – TO CONSIDER PUBLIC TESTIMONY REGARDING A 2005 BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR PARK IMPROVEMENT FUND #352.

Trisha Logue, Budget/Finance Administrator, as well as Bob Vaux, Director of Parks and Recreation, were present to discuss the 2005 budget amendment for Park Improvement Fund #352.

Ms. Logue explained that Skagit County received additional funds in the form of grants and payments for services subsequent to the budget adoption and the Park Improvement Fund will incur expenditures in categories and amounts other than anticipated in the adopted budget.

Ms. Logue asked the Board to approve the resolution to amend the 2005 budget for Fund 352.

The Board thanked Mr. Vaux for being present and for the appearance of the fields.

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Chairman Munks opened the public hearing. There being no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Chairman Munks and passed. The public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to approve the Resolution as outlined by Ms. Logue, which was seconded by Chairman Munks. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. **(Resolution No. R20050338)**

CONSENT AGENDA.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned to approve the Consent Agenda for Monday, September 19, 2005, items 1 through 17. Chairman Munks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:

1. Record of the Proceedings for Monday, September 12, 2005.
2. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, September 13, 2005.
3. Re-Appointment of Joan Scarboro to the La Conner Regional Library Board of Trustees beginning September 27, 2005, and ending September 28, 2010. **(Resolution No. R20050332)**
4. Re-Appointment of Gillian Sanctuary to the La Conner Regional Library Board of Trustees beginning September 27, 2005, and ending on September 28, 2010. **(Resolution No. R20050333)**

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

5. Resolution supporting an innovative agricultural marketing project in Skagit County, which authorizes the County to give \$15,000 to Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland. They will in turn, together with other support partners, hire and direct an agricultural marketing specialist in developing branding and other marketing schemes for local agricultural products. **(Resolution No. R20050334)**

BUDGET/FINANCE:

6. Interlocal Cooperative Agreement, per Resolution No. R20040342, between Skagit County and the City of Mount Vernon. The County will fund \$19,275 to assist the Mount Vernon Public Library to provide library services to citizens of unincorporated Skagit County. The term of this agreement is January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005. **(Contract No. C20050403)**

CORONER:

7. Personal Services Agreement with Sigmund Menchel, MD, which will perform autopsies and scene investigations. The agreement shall commence on August 1, 2005, and continue through December 31, 2005. \$1,000 will be paid for forensic autopsies and \$500 will be paid for on-scene investigations. **(Contract No. C20050404)**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

8. Amendment No. 4 to the Washington State Department of Health Consolidated Contract **No. C20050048**, which adds additional funding in the amount of \$13,459 for a new contract total of \$848,145 for the HCCW Infant/Toddler, Immunization, and WIC/USDA Breastfeeding programs. Also, sections of the boilerplate language have been updated and replaced. All other terms and conditions of the original contract, including amendments, shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20050158)**

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HUMAN SERVICES:

9. Amendment No. 1 to Personal Services Agreement **No. C20050348** with Skagit Preschool & Resource Center (SPARC), which increases the monthly amount for Developmental Disability Early Childhood services from \$6,000 to \$6,060 due to a 1% vendor rate increase. The maximum amount of the contract increases to \$145,440 for the period July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007. **(Amendment No. A20050159)**

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE:

10. Personal Services Agreement with Praxis International, Inc. to conduct a Praxis Audit examining the response of prosecution of cases involving domestic violence in Skagit County, in conjunction with the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Program grants to encourage arrest and enforcement of protection orders provided to Skagit County in 2002. The agreement shall commence on September 1, 2005, and continue through December 31, 2005. Compensation is not to exceed a total of \$15,061. **(Contract No. C20050405)**
11. Resolution denying the appeal of the Citizens to Save Pilchuck Creek and upholding the Hearing Examiner's Decision approving the Shorelines Substantial Development and Variance Permit, the Critical Areas Variance Permit and Special Use Permit, Nos. PL97-0205, PL97-0206, and PL97-0207. **(Resolution No. R20050335)**

SENIOR SERVICES:

12. Contract between the Skagit County Retired Senior Volunteer Program and the Washington Association of Retired Senior Volunteer Program Directors, which will maintain and increase senior involvement in community programs. Priority will be given for using funds to place retired and senior volunteers in the areas of education, tutoring, English as a second language, drug abuse education, housing, homeless and respite care. The agreement shall commence on July 1, 2005, and continue through June 30, 2007. Compensation shall not exceed a total of \$15,644. **(Contract No. C20050406)**

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

13. Resolution AND Memorandum of Understanding between the Skagit County Sheriff's Office and the North Cascades National Park Service to provide for the protection of human life and property within Skagit County and the National Park system. The agreement shall commence upon the date of execution and continue for five years. No monetary consideration is being paid for this service. **(Resolution No. R20050336 AND Contract No. C20050407)**

TREASURER:

14. Vendor Services Agreement with McMillan Brothers Auction to provide auctioneering services for the Skagit County Surplus Auction to be held on September 30, 2005, at the County Shop in Burlington. The agreement shall commence on September 1, 2005, and continue until September 1, 2006. Compensation will be a 2% commission per bid. **(Contract No. C20050408)**

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES:

15. Amendment No. 2 to Personal Services Agreement **No. C20050149** with Robert Hicks, which adds \$8,528 to cover the costs of an additional 320 hours that are anticipated to be spent in implementing work under this agreement, for a new contract total of \$22,723. All other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20050160)**
16. County Program Agreement – Juvenile Accountability Block Grant between Skagit County and the State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services, which provides \$10,000 in

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funding for a Probation Officer Aide position for the Intensive Diversion Program. The agreement shall commence on September 1, 2005, and continue through August 31, 2006. **(Contract No. C20050409)**

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

17. Personal Services Agreement with Ray Jaren to provide non-engineering services and consultation to Skagit County related to the Army Corps of Engineers' and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commissions' policies on flood control and other related matters. The agreement shall commence on September 1, 2005, and continue until December 31, 2007. Compensation is not to exceed a total of \$15,000. **(Contract No. C20050410)**

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, September 19, 2005, 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 \$104,000.14 (Transmittal No. C-120-05); and

Purchase Card Electronic Payment to JP MORGAN CHASE from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$32,976.67 (Transmittal No. C-121-05); and

Warrants numbered 205578 through 206070 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$1,191,890.59 (Transmittal No. C-122-05).

2. Staff presented a Resolution requesting the transfer of sick leave donations for an employee of the Skagit County Assessor's Office.

Commissioner Dahlstedt motioned for approval of the Resolution. Chairman Munks seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. **(Resolution No. R020050337)**

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

Rich Royston, 2405 Austin Lane Apt. #101, Mount Vernon expressed his concern regarding distracted drivers in Skagit County. He suggested that every jurisdiction in the County should hire one officer to patrol the area and give tickets to those drivers.

Mr. Royston then spoke about the cow milking contest, which was held during the 2005 Skagit County Fair.

ANNOUNCEMENT – LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION SPONSORED BY PEOPLE FIRST OF SKAGIT COUNTY.

David Wilder, President of People 1st of Skagit County, announced that the Legislative Reception Sponsored by People 1st of Skagit County will be held on September 27, 2005, from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at McIntyre Hall.

Both Chairman Munks and Commissioner Dahlstedt thanked Mr. Wilder for his hard work and dedication. They also expressed total support for all of Mr. Wilder's efforts for those with disabilities.

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ADJOURNMENT.

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Don Munks, Chairman

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Melissa Collins, Assistant Clerk of the Board
Skagit County Board of Commissioners