

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007**

I. AGENDA:

A. *7:00 a.m. Skagit Conservation District Annual Partnership Meeting/Breakfast (The Moose Lodge - 1640 813 South First Street, Mount Vernon)

B. 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Public Works Department - James E. Voetberg, P.E., Director/County Engineer

1. Public Hearing - Regarding the Sale of County Surplus Vehicles and Equipment

Dub Queen, ER & R Manager, reviewed the list of surplus County vehicles and equipment.

Chair Dillon opened the public hearing; however no one was present to offer comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Don Munks to approve closing the public hearing. Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Discussion - Temporary Repairs to Sinclair Dock

Jeff Miller, Public Works Engineer, apprised the Board of damage to the dock at Sinclair Island. He showed photographs and explained what options are currently available. Quotes range from \$45,000 on up, depending which option is selected.

Mr. Miller said an immense amount of feedback has been received from Sinclair Island residents, who prefer a temporary dock until a new one can be built sometime next year.

Mr. Miller said he will continue looking at costs to leave the small section of dock at the site during the winter.

Bob Peterson, Sinclair Island, said there have been a number of injuries on the dock and thinks temporary repairs would be futile.

Mark Mercer, Sinclair Island, suggested that a new float be hauled in and secured somehow for the winter.

Commissioner Munks said the safety of the residents is of the utmost importance.

Mr. Miller said he would come before the Board with an option within the next week or so.

3. Discussion - Change Order Requirement - North and South Fork Bridge

Debris Removal Project #PD-40037-5/PD-40008-4

Mr. Miller next discussed an unforeseen underwater log mat that must be removed on the North and South Fork Bridges. This will require the Board to authorize a Change Order to increase the dollar amount of the contract with Northwest Underwater Construction, LLC for the North and South Fork Debris Removal Project No. PL-40037-5/PD-40008-4. Photographs were provided showing what work would be accomplished with the requested Change Order.

Following several questions by the Commissioners, Mr. Miller explained that the original bid was \$99,366. Nearly \$100,000 in additional monies would need to be used to complete the Change Order.

In light of the cost, the Commissioners decided it would be best to have the underwater log mat removal go out to bid.

4. Signature - Resolution Requesting Qualifications for Group Facilitation and Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Planning for the Surface Water Management Section of Public Works

Rick Boge, Surface Water Manager, requested a signature authorizing a Request for Qualifications for group facilitation and comprehensive flood hazard management planning for the Surface Water Management section of Skagit County Public Works.

Mr. Boge provided a draft timeline in which to implement the new Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) in 2008. He also showed the structure of the Skagit County Flood Zone District. Membership of the Advisory Committee shall consist of the following interest areas: 3 city representatives; 3 Dike and Drainage District Commissioners; 3 environmental representatives; 3 land use representatives; and 3 at-large positions. According to Mr. Boge, membership cannot exceed 15 members.

A motion was made by Commissioner Don Munks to approve requesting the Clerk of the Board to issue a Request for Qualifications for comprehensive flood hazard management planning. **(Resolution No. R20070601)** Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

5. Miscellaneous

Mr. Boge reviewed the 2007 Storms Preliminary Damage Assessment Schedule. Fortunately, Skagit County experienced a very minor event. Counties included in the assessment for public assistance are: Grays Harbor, Lewis, Clallam, Jefferson, Mason, Kitsap, Pierce, King, Pacific, Wahkiakum, Skamania, Snohomish, Skagit and Thurston.

C. 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Public Health Department - Peter Browning, Director

1. Introduction - New Employees

Public Health Director Peter Browning introduced recently hired employees of the Health Department.

2. Discussion - Expanded Board of Health

Alex Von Cube, Health Department, responded to a recent request by the County Administrator and the Board of Health to look into the benefits and potential downsides of an expanded Board of Health. Rapid population growth, increasing ethnic diversity and growing complexity of health issues all make Board expansion reasonable.

Mr. Von Cube provided a Board of Health survey of all Washington State counties showing a co-relation between population size of the Board of Health (BOH). An additional factor of an enlarged BOH is the possibility of forming a "Health District" combining political territory such as the County and cities.

Public Health issues can be very expensive; therefore, the financial burden may have to be carried by all of Skagit County.

According to Mr. Von Cube, the main issues concerning an expanded Board are size, voting versus non-voting members, length of terms of appointment, required qualifications and remuneration.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Von Cube for his presentation and showed interest in proceeding with the concept.

3. Update - 5930 Legislative Funding

Mr. Browning said the Washington State Legislators gave \$20 million to Washington State Public Health for the next two years to see if it would make a measurable difference in Public Health around the State.

Mr. Browning stated that we, as a system, need to ban together and create a plan to move the needle in an agreed upon area of Public Health. This legislative action will bring \$200,000 into the Skagit County Public Health Department for each of the next two years.

Mr. Browning provided a summary of current actions being taken by the Advisory/Planning group.

4. Report - Washington State Department of Health Collection of Key Indicators

Mr. Browning spoke briefly about the Washington State Department of Health, as part of their plan of improvement, to collect more data for local health jurisdictions to use in their planning and program evaluation. He presented the collection of key indicators and asked the Board of Health to identify those that they would like to consider during the current planning

process.

5. Miscellaneous

Britt-Pfaff Dunton, Environmental Health Specialist, stated that currently the Health Department reacts to complaints or inquires concerning hazardous waste handling and disposal at small businesses and households. The majority of hazardous wastes produced in Skagit County come from small businesses and individuals. Many small businesses and households would like information and assistance with how to safely handle, dispose, and reduce the hazardous wastes that they produce.

As part of the Puget Sound Clean-Up Initiative, the Department of Ecology has offered to the Health Department, along with other governments around the Puget Sound, funding to develop a local source control partnership program for Skagit County. The purpose of the proposed partnership is to provide funding for the Health Department to hire a "local source control specialist" who will help small businesses and citizens safely manage hazardous and solid wastes. The funding would allow the Health Department to conduct small business source control site visits, prevention activities, and technical assistance designed to reduce or eliminate hazardous waste and pollutants at the source.

This would create a proactive program where the Health Department can work with small businesses to help avoid contamination and recontamination of previously cleaned up sites, reduce the impacts from storm water pollution and eliminate potential sources of toxics and hazardous waste. The Local Source Control Specialist will fill an important role in providing small business technical assistance to comply with regulations and implement pollution prevention practices. This program will also further Skagit County's goal of proactive approaches to salmon recovery by supporting the clean-up initiative for Puget Sound.

The first partnership contract is offered from January 2008 through July 2009. Under the Local Source Control Partnership, the Health Department will work with the auto body business sector and the medical and dental sectors to provide technical assistance and performance measurements to assess how they are achieving regulatory requirements and pollution prevention techniques. Other Counties will also be participating around the Puget Sound.

Chair Dillon asked the Health Department to bring this concept back to the Board of Health for consideration.

- D. *12:00 p.m. Skagit County Human Services Advisory Board Appreciation Luncheon (The CottonTree Inn - 2300 Market Street, Mount Vernon)
- E. 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Public Hearing - Regarding a Resolution Authorizing Skagit County to Increase Property Tax Revenues, in Excess of Increases in the Value of State-Assessed Property, New Construction and Improvement to Property for the 2008 Budget Year

Trisha Logue, Budget/Finance Director, introduced the public hearing for 2008 levy

rates and levy amounts, which she proceeded to define.

Chair Dillon opened the public hearing.

Jeff Miller, 16625 Mountain View Road, Mount Vernon, said he's amazed how well the County operates with such a small amount of revenue. He congratulated the Commissioners.

There was no further public comment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Don Munks to approve closing the public hearing. Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Don Munks to approve resolutions authorizing the property tax limit factor increase for the 2008 General Levy, Road Levy and Conservations Futures Levy and the resolutions authorizing the tax increase for the 2008 General Levy, Road Levy and Conservation Futures Levy. **(Resolution Nos. R20070602, R20070603, R20070604, R20070605, R20070606, R20070607)** Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

F. 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Adoption of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) 2008 Budget

Ms. Logue spoke of a change to the preliminary EMS budget, which was a line item that had been miscoded. The change didn't affect the bottom line, only the code. She then introduced a resolution authorizing the adoption of the 2008 Emergency Medical Services budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Don Munks to approve a resolution adopting the 2008 Emergency Medical Services budget as outlined. **(Resolution No. R20070608)** Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

G. 2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Public Hearing - Regarding a Resolution Authorizing Skagit County to Increase EMS Property Tax Revenues, in Excess of Increases in the Value of State-Assessed Property, New Construction and Improvements to Property for the 2008 Budget Year

Ms. Logue gave a brief presentation describing the difference between Levy Rate vs. Levy Amount.

I-747 limited the amount of a tax levy increase to 1%. Limitation is in relation to the total levy amount, not the levy rate. As assessed value increases, the levy rate decreases.

The Commissioners were shown a graph outlining levy rate history between 2000 and 2008.

Chair Dillon opened the public hearing; however, no one was present to speak.

A motion was made by Commissioner Don Munks to approve closing the public

hearing. Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Don Munks to approve a resolution authorizing a property tax limit factor increase for the 2008 EMS levy and a resolution authorizing a property tax limit increase. **(Resolution Nos. R20070609 and R0070610)** Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- H. *4:00 p.m. Skagit Watershed Council, Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and People for Puget Sound Holiday Open House (407 Main Street - Second Floor, Mount Vernon)

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Sharon D. Dillon, Chairman

Don Munks, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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