

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2009**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, and Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 8:02 a.m. Commissioner Sharon Dillon's absence was excused as she was on vacation.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Dahlstedt led the gallery in the pledge to the flag.

III. AGENDA:

A. 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Public Works Department - Dave Sheridan, Acting Director

1. Update - Guemes Ferry Operations

Ron Panzero, Guemes Island Ferry Operations Manager, provided the Board with an update of the 2009 Guemes Island Ferry passenger ridership. Mr. Panzero reported that ridership is down slightly compared to the same time period last year but revenue has risen.

Mr. Panzero stated the ferry went from a four-person crew to a three-person crew on March 1, 2009, as directed by the Board of Commissioners. He said the annual haul out of the ferry is scheduled to begin on April 15, 2009, and shall continue through April 25, 2009. Mr. Panzero also discussed the adjusted sailing schedule.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Panzero for the update.

2. Update - Solid Waste Division Operations

Kevin Renz, Solid Waste Section Manager, reported the Solid Waste Governance Board adopted their bylaws at the meeting on March 18, 2009. He went on to say there has been an 8.6 percent reduction in general solid waste tonnage at the Transfer Station but the recyclable tonnage remained consistent.

Mr. Renz stated the Sauk Transfer Station was the only site not affected by the 2008 tonnage reduction. He went on to discuss the proposal to raise solid waste rates.

The Commissioners thanked the Mr. Renz for the update.

3. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Public Works to discuss.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 8:35 a.m.

B. 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Department Head/Elected Officials Meeting

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:32 a.m.

1. Skagit County 2008-2009 Climate Action Initiative

Ryan Walters, Civil Deputy, provided an update of the Skagit County 2008-2009 Climate Action Initiative. Mr. Walters stated the following people were been appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to serve on the Climate Action and Sustainability Taskforce (CAST): John Day, Molly Doran, Ed Gastellum, Teresa Hansen, Kevin Maas, Jane Mayer, Eric Shen, Linda Talman, Nicolette Thornton, Daniel Watters, Danielle Wensauer, Jerry Whitfield, Susan Wood, and Ian Woddenfen. He said the Taskforce has been divided into four topic-specific workgroups, each with three Taskforce members and a variety of county staff members, agency officials, and business representatives.

Mr. Walters went on to say the workgroups will focus on energy (conservation and renewable), green purchasing, land use and transportation, outreach and education. He reported the Taskforce will present a final Climate Action Plan to the Board of County Commissioners by the end of 2009.

2. Skagit County Treasurer's Report

Katie Jungquist, Skagit County Treasurer, updated the Commissioners on the County's investments. Ms. Jungquist stated in the past banks used to require public funds to be collateralized at 10% but due to the failure of the Bank of Clark County and the passage of House Bill 2061, banks are refusing to accept public funds without 100% collateralization. Ms. Jungquist indicated this will impact the County's investment interest revenue by approximately \$500,000.

3. Budget and Finance

Trisha Logue, Budget and Finance Director, announced the following upcoming budget meetings: April 7, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., the Commissioners will meet with elected officials; April 8, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., the Commissioners will meet with Skagit County department heads; May 6, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. the Commissioners will have a follow-up meeting with elected officials; and on May 8, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. the Commissioners will have a follow-up meeting with department heads. The budget meetings will be held in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, located at 1800 Continental Place.

4. Public Works

Dave Sheridan, Acting Public Works Director, provided an update of the Best Road and McLean Road Roundabout Project. Mr. Sheridan stated the project was awarded to BDZ Developers of Everett, who completed it on schedule and under budget.

5. Skagit County's Participation in Earth Hour 2009

Dan Berentson, Public Information Officer for Skagit County, stated on Saturday, March 28, 2009, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Skagit County will officially support Earth Hour 2009, which is a global climate event led by the World Wildlife Fund. Mr. Berentson indicated more than 240 cities around the world have committed to go dark for one hour on March 28, 2009, as tens of millions of people from all corners of the world unite in a call for global action on climate change.

6. Miscellaneous:

Chairman Dahlstedt read a letter the Board received from Skagit County Assessor Mark Leander. The letter stated Mr. Leander will resign his position effective June 30, 2009, due to health issues.

Chairman Dahlstedt stated when an elected official resigns the political party of which the resigning official belongs nominates three persons to fill the vacancy, and passes the names of the individuals to the Board of County Commissioners. He went on to say the Board shall appoint from the three persons nominated the individual who will fill the vacancy. The appointment must occur within 60 days or the authority to fill the vacancy passes to the Governor of the State of Washington. He indicated the person nominated shall fill the position until the election of a successor in the 2010 general election.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 11:00 a.m.

C. 11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Public Comment Period

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:32 a.m.

There was no one present during the public comment period.

IV. 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, the Board by majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:
 - a) Warrants numbered 294463 through 294587 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$645,945.91 (Transmittal No. C-45-09); and
 - b) Payroll warrants numbered 242579 through 243383 in the total dollar amount of \$1,148,774.07 (Transmittal No. P-11-09); and
 - c) Payroll warrants numbered 983047 through 983243 in the total dollar amount of \$257,103.85 (Transmittal No. P-12-09).

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 11:35 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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