

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2009**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, November 16, 2009, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Sharon D. Dillon, and Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 9:32 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

- a) \*8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Briefing - County Commissioners/Administrator
- b) 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Planning and Development Services Department - Gary Christensen, Director
  - 1. Discussion/Possible Action - Final Binding Site Plan #PL08-0315 for Sierra Pacific Industries

Gary Christensen introduced Brandon Black, Senior Planner, to brief the Board on the Final Binding Site Plan land division for Sierra Pacific Industries. The division includes creating eight industrial lots on 122 acres. The chronology of the application was discussed. The Planning and Development Department recommends that the Final Binding Site Plan be approved.

Commissioner Wesen clarified that all eight lots would have sewer and water from the City of Burlington. Commissioner Dillon thought that this was a good project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Final Binding Site Plan for Sierra Pacific Industries PL08-0315 and sign the final plat mylar. Commissioner Dillon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- 2. Discussion/Possible Action - 2009 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Docket

Commissioner Wesen appreciated that this item was rescheduled from November 3, 2009, to today so that he could be present to vote on the docketing decision. He stated that multiple letters were received from various parties and many asked tough questions. Commissioner Wesen stated he is looking down the road to what Skagit County will look like in 50 years. He discussed the Alternative Futures Project and wonders how these

two requests would fit into this project.

Commissioner Dillon stressed how important it is to distribute population between the cities and the County. She stated that this proposal (Skagit Partners, LLC) is a good proposal, but it needs to go through the Alternative Futures process. With everything that needs to be considered, the Alternative Futures process would be the appropriate venue for this application. Regarding the other item (Keith Johnson), Commissioner Dillon stated she is a proponent of industrial forests. She went on to say that we need to keep in mind what the County will look like in the future and the Alternative Futures process would be the best route for this item as well.

Chairman Dahlstedt stated that the allocation of population needs to be balanced between the cities and county and with commercial and industrial sites. Regarding the timber proposal, the County has had a strong effort to preserve both timber and agricultural land and not allow more conversion of them so this would be inconsistent with our goals. He indicated the Alternative Futures program would help provide direction for the County with both of these requests.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:45 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to move that Keith Johnson PL09-0295 and Skagit Partners, LLC PL09-0324 be denied for docketing. The applications are denied without prejudice pursuant to Skagit County Code 14.08.030(3)(a) in that it cannot be reasonably reviewed within the staffing and operational budget allocated to the Planning and Development Services Department by the Board. The applicant may request a refund of the unused portion of any application fees, and may request the same, or similar amendment as part of a future amendment or review cycle. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Planning and Development Services to discuss.

c) 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Budget and Finance Department - Trisha Logue, Director

1. Presentation of Preliminary Budget for 2010

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:30 a.m.

Trisha Logue, Budget and Finance Director, was present to brief the Board on the 2010 preliminary budget. Ms. Logue stated the general fund total shortfall for 2010 equals \$3,415,075. Past tax revenue collection amounts were showed in order to get an idea of where we have been and where we are. She said revenue from new construction has dropped, which is one of

the items that has had a large impact on the County's budget over the last couple of years. She also stated the second item that has influenced the County's budget is the limitation of the 1% growth in property taxes, and that the levy rate has continued to fall since 2003.

Ms. Logue indicated that for the 2010 budget the County will need to look for ways to increase revenues, collect from other funding sources (grant funds, etc.), reduce expenses, consolidate, and outsource.

Ms. Logue provided a power point presentation which showed new revenues and reduced expense amounts; funding shifts; cuts, and increases. Ms. Logue noted that last year, Skagit County had one pending murder case. Skagit County now has eight pending murder cases and seven of the defendants are indigent, which means that Skagit County pays for both the prosecution and the defense side of the case. The budget for 2010 does not reflect the savings from potential closure days (furlough days) which the unions and the Commissioner's still need to vote on, or potential cuts to the budget by the State of Washington.

Statutorily, the budget needs to be made available to the public next week. A public hearing regarding the budget will be held on December 8, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. The Budget Adoption will be on December 15th, and on December 22, 2009, at 11:00 a.m., a public hearing will be held regarding the levy rate.

Tim Holloran, County Administrator, stated budget cuts include the elimination of 13.9 positions. Mr. Holloran thanked the department heads and the elected officials for their work in presenting a balanced budget. He also thanked the unions for coming to the table to discuss closure days.

Commissioner Dillon thanked everyone for their work on getting through the 2010 budget. Commissioner Dillon said the hardest decision was laying off another 13 Skagit County employees. Commissioner Dillon stated that she looked forward to productive partnerships and tools that will help each department track their budget in 2010. She stressed the importance for each and every department to look at their budget every month.

Commissioner Wesen thanked the staff and all of the county employees. It is not easy job to come up with the \$3 million dollar budget shortfall. He noted as the newest Commissioner, this has been the first budget he has worked on and it has not been easy. He stressed the importance of making sure that the money is used wisely, that it is good for the taxpayers, and that the taxpayers get their money's worth. He was optimistic that things would improve, and reminded everyone that it was not just Skagit County having problems, it is the rest of the State, Country, and world.

Chairman Dahlstedt thanked the elected officials and the department heads. The County's greatest asset are its employees. He noted workloads are increasing as revenues are decreasing. He also urged citizens to shop locally. By doing business locally, the tax revenue stays in the County. Chairman Dahlstedt said he believes that this Country will be fixed from the bottom up, not the top down. He challenged the County to be sure to bring employees who have been laid off back to positions as they become available. Chairman Dahlstedt stated that these budget decisions were ultimately the

Commissioners' choice and he did not want any blame placed on Tim Holloran, Billie Kadrmas, or Trisha Logue.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:52 a.m.

- d) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Consent Agenda and Miscellaneous Items
- e) 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Public Comment Period

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:30 a.m. and opened the public comment period.

Molly Doran, Executive Director of Skagit Land Trust, was present to thank the Commissioners for their acceptance of the property needed for salmon recovery efforts, and for our partnership. Skagit Land Trust will make sure that low impact access to the property is installed.

The Commissioners also thanked Ms. Doran for their partnership. Commissioner Dillon said she was happy to preserve this property and make it available to the public.

Brian Adams, Director of Skagit County Parks and Recreation, was present to inform the Commissioners that this is the second such partnership that the parks department has developed with Skagit Land Trust. He appreciates this opportunity and he is glad to make this possible for the community.

Chairman Dahlstedt requested that the public help keep trash picked up. It costs money to keep litter picked up and it is important to be responsible and work together to keep these spaces litter free.

Seeing no further public present for comment, the public comment period was closed and Chairman Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings.

- f) \*1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Executive Session (Potential Litigation)

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 through 15):

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve the Consent Agenda items 1 through 10, 12 through 15, Ratification Agenda Items 16 through 20, vouchers and warrants for Monday, November 16, 2009. **(Item No. 11 was pulled, pending further discussion)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- a) COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:
  - 1. Record of the Proceedings for Monday, November 9, 2009. **(Approved)**
  - 2. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, November 10, 2009. **(Approved)**
- b) EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

3. Amendment No. 1 to Interagency Agreement No. C20080353 between Snohomish County and Skagit County to extend the original contract by 30 days to allow receipt of 24 multi-band radios by the vendor, who has guaranteed delivery by December 21, 2009. All other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20090191)**
- c) FACILITY MANAGEMENT:
4. Resolution to call for bids for the 5,800 square foot addition to the Skagit County Regional Food Distribution Center in Sedro-Woolley. The bid opening is scheduled for Monday, December 14, 2009, at 2:00 p.m. **(Resolution No. R20090457)**
- d) HUMAN SERVICES:
5. Resolution recommending the re-appointment of Steve Hayes to the Skagit County Substance Abuse Advisory Board. The three year term will expire on November 30, 2012. **(Resolution No. R20090458)**
  6. Resolution recommending the re-appointment of Robert Hicks to the Skagit County Substance Abuse Advisory Board. The three year term will expire on November 30, 2012. **(Resolution No. R20090459)**
  7. Resolution recommending the appointment of Kathryn Kay to the Skagit County Mental Health Advisory Board. The three year term will expire on November 30, 2012. **(Resolution No. R20090460)**
- e) PARKS AND RECREATION:
8. Deed of Right to use land for Salmon recovery between Skagit County and the State of Washington. The Deed of Right will require no funds from Skagit County. They are grant funds from Skagit Land Trust. **(Contract No. C20090461)**
  9. Agreement to Assign Purchaser's Rights between Skagit Land Trust and Skagit County. This purchase is for public park property which has been identified as an important habitat. This transaction is funded by grant funds and will require no funds from Skagit County. **(Contract No. C20090642)**
  10. Closing Agreement and Escrow Instructions for Purchase and Sale Transaction between Skagit Land Trust and Skagit County. This transaction is funded by grant funds and will require not funds from Skagit County. **(Contract No. C20090643)**
- f) PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES:
11. Amendment No. 3 to Contract No. C20070158 with Mark Personius to extend the contract through December 31, 2010 for continued work on the Alternative Futures Project and other on-call planning services as required.

Amendment No. 3 also increases compensation by \$50,000 for a new contract total not to exceed \$200,000. All other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain in effect. **(This item was pulled pending further discussion)**

12. Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. C20080037 with Associated Earth Sciences to extend the contract through December 31, 2010. Total compensation remains unchanged at \$10,000, and all other terms and conditions of the original contract shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20090192)**

g) PROSECUTING ATTORNEY:

13. Settlement Agreement between North Sound Mental Health Administration and Skagit County. **(Contract No. C20090644)**
14. Agreement for Civil Commitment Legal Services with North Sound Mental Health Administration. **(Contract No. C20090645)**
15. Resolution rescinding Resolution No. R20090265 and withdrawing Skagit County's Notice of Intent to Terminate its Participation in the North Sound Regional Support Network. **(Resolution No. R20090461)**

V. RATIFICATION AGENDA (Items 16 through 20):

h) HEALTH:

16. Resolution authorizing the ratification of an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 1. The 2009 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement language could not be finalized until all parties involved with the project dealt with budget reduction issues. **(Resolution No. R20090462)**
17. Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 1 to continue the "Community Prevention/Skagit County Healthy Communities" project. The agreement commenced on January 1, 2009, and shall continue until December 31, 2009. Compensation shall not exceed \$50,000. **(Contract No. C20090646)**

i) YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES:

18. Resolution authorizing the ratification of an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Washington State Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration Region 3. The Region 3 Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration experienced delays in signing the Interlocal Agreement, resulting in delayed delivery of the Agreement to Skagit County. **(Resolution No. R20090463)**
19. Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Washington State Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration Region 3, which allows Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration Region 3 to be reimbursed by the County for costs related to the provision of Exit Strategies, a gang crime intervention/prevention

program. The Agreement shall commence on August 1, 2009, and shall continue through June 30, 2010. Compensation shall not exceed a total of \$49,600, and shall be offset by grant funds from the Washington State Community Trade and Economic Development. **(Contract No. C20090647)**

20. Amendment No. 1 to the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Washington State Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration Region 3, which adds the Certification Regarding Debarment Suspension or Ineligibility paragraph, which is recommended for federal grants. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20090193)**

VI. VOUCHERS AND WARRANTS:

- 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 308414 through 308784 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$1,275,062.05 (Transmittal No. C-143-09).

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

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Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner

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Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Linda Hammons, Clerk of the Board  
Skagit County Board of Commissioners