

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2010**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, January 4, 2010, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Sharon D. Dillon, and Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 11:00 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

- a) *8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Briefing - County Commissioners/Administrator
- b) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Announcement of Chair of the Board and Committee Assignments

Chairman Dahlstedt stated that the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners is a position which has been rotated every three years for the last fifteen or twenty years in order for each Commissioner to have a chance to serve.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve elect Commissioner Dillon as the Chair for 2010. Chairman Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Before handing the gavel over to Chair Dillon, one other item needed to be taken care of for 2010 which was deciding on the Board and Committee assignments for 2010. Chair Dillon stated that the Commissioners share some of the duties of the different Boards and Committees which they are appointed to, elected to, or would like to serve on.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve the appointment of boards, commissions, committees, and other organization assignments for 2010. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

The Commissioners changed positions and signed their drawers in the traditional way. Chair Dillon then recessed the proceedings at 11:05 a.m.

- c) 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Presentation on the Sustainability Initiative and the Skagit Council of Governments Resource Conservation Manager Program Update

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 11:30 a.m. and Ryan Walters,

Sustainability Administrator, was present to brief the Board on the status of the Climate Task Force's review of the Climate Action Plan. Mr. Walters stated that after the Climate Task Force is finished reviewing the Climate Action Plan, it would be forwarded to the Commissioners next, and then to the Elected Officials and Department Heads for final review. Mr. Walters stated that small daily habits to implement in the County which are suggested in the Climate Action Plan and in the Resource Conservation Management Program will save the County approximately \$80,000.

Mr. Walters introduced Ric Boge, Resource Conservation Manager with Skagit Council of Governments. Mr. Boge gave the Commissioners an overview of the Resource Conservation Management Program, which is a county-city wide effort. Mr. Boge described the three-pronged approach being used to accomplish the program's goals. Mr. Boge stated that this program is a win-win situation since it helps reduce climate change and saves money. The program focuses on reducing electricity and natural gas usage since these are Skagit County's largest bills. Energy costs in 2008 totaled \$667,269. Mr. Boge compared an electricity usage report from 2008 to 2009 and saw that the kilowatt hours dropped by 3%. Factors which may have influenced the 3% drop include the weather, the conservation effort measure which the Board adopted in early 2008, and changing the way computers are shut-down and put to sleep instead of left on.

The next steps will include collecting information on other utilities, conducting conservation audits with facilities, and meeting with the Sustainably Committee to oversee implementation of the plan. Mr. Boge estimated \$90,000 could be saved with the Resource Conservation plan.

The Commissioners want to be responsible stewards of the environment and be responsible with tax payer money. They stated that they were glad to have all of the major jurisdictions coming together, working on this, and moving forward.

Mr. Boge stated that networking is important and also that the views of those in the facilities department are helpful. Mr. Walters pointed out to the Commissioners and to Skagit County Staff that cooperation, participation, and enthusiasm will be key and that implementing these plans will equal money saved which could equal funding for programs and jobs.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:54 a.m.

- d) 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Consent Agenda and Miscellaneous Items
- e) *2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Executive Session (Personnel)

IV. CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 through 9):

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 1:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Chairman Dahlstedt to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1, 3 through 9, vouchers and warrants and miscellaneous for Monday, January 4, 2010. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

The Commissioners pulled consent agenda item No. 2, the Resolution regarding the open space application of Nookachamps, LLC, CUTROS #1-2009 for further discussion. They had multiple questions about the application and needed more information in order to make a fair decision and make sure that the property was taxed appropriately.

Ryan Walters, Civil Deputy Attorney, was present to discuss some of the issues with the Commissioners about open space law. He explained that most application are for agriculture and forestry lands. These parcels are given a tax break in order to promote the usage of the lands as agricultural and forestry lands. The Nookachamps application has a parcel that is partially agricultural land and partially a wetlands bank. A statute to consider is that this application would create a tax shift, not a tax break.

The Commissioners inquired whether if other counties in Washington State had any situations like this and what they had decided. The Commissioners stated they want to be consistent and fair and this is the first application of its kind so far.

A motion was made by Chairman Dahlstedt to approve rendering a decision on item No. 2 of the consent agenda regarding the Resolution for the open space application from Nookachamps, LLC, on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at 11:15 a.m. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

a) COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE:

1. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, December 29, 2009. **(approved)**

b) ASSESSOR:

2. Resolution concerning an open space application of Nookachamps, LLC, CUTROS #1-2009. **(Item pulled for further discussion. Decision will be made on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at 11:15 a.m.)**

c) FACILITIES:

3. Resolution awarding the Skagit County Security System Install, Test, and Train Project for the County Administration Building, 700 South 2nd Street, Mount Vernon, to Niscayah, Inc. Compensation shall not exceed a total of \$3,399.63. **(Resolution No. R20100001)**
4. Resolution awarding the Skagit County Security System Install, Test, and Train Project for the Commissioner's Administration Building, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, to Niscayah, Inc. Compensation shall not exceed a total of \$34,856.23. **(Resolution No. R20100002)**
5. Resolution awarding the Skagit County Security System Install, Test, and Train Project for the Guemes Ferry Terminal in Anacortes to Niscayah, Inc. Compensation shall not exceed a total of \$28,089.13. **(Resolution No. R20100003)**

d) PUBLIC WORKS:

6. Resolution allowing a deviation from Resolution No. R20080304 for the purchase of one half-ton crew cab pickup truck. After researching the availability of half-ton pickup trucks, Public Works was unable to locate a vehicle that meets the fuel economy specifications of Resolution No. R20080304. **(Resolution No. R20100004)**
 7. Interlocal Agreement with the City of Anacortes to share in the cost of conducting a domestic water use metering pilot study. The metering study is required by the settlement agreement for instream flow implementation between Skagit County, the City of Anacortes, and the Washington Department of Ecology. Skagit County will split the cost of the study with the City of Anacortes and the Washington State Department of Ecology, and will seek in-kind services from the Skagit Public Utility District. The Agreement shall commence upon the date of execution, and shall continue through June 30, 2011. Compensation shall not exceed \$33,000 of the \$92,406 total cost of the project. **(Contract No. C20100001)**
 8. Interlocal Agreement with the State of Washington Department of Ecology to share in the cost of conducting a domestic water use metering pilot study. The metering study is required by the settlement agreement for instream flow implementation between Skagit County, the City of Anacortes, and the Washington Department of Ecology. Skagit County will split the cost of the study with the City of Anacortes and the Washington State Department of Ecology, and will seek in-kind services from the Skagit Public Utility District. The Agreement shall commence upon the date of execution, and shall continue through June 30, 2011. Compensation shall not exceed \$33,000 of the \$92,406 total cost of the project. **(Contract No. C20100002)**
- e) SHERIFF:
9. Vendor Services Agreement with Multi Services, Inc. to provide inspection, repair and maintenance of kitchen equipment and accessories in the Skagit County Jail. The Agreement shall commence on the date of execution, and shall continue through December 31, 2010. Compensation shall not exceed a total of \$5,000. **(Contract No. C20100003)**

V. 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 311408 through 311408 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$50,186.00 (Transmittal No. C-166-09); and
 - b) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to Trusteed Plans Service Corporation from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$69,780.86 (Transmittal No. C-167-09); and

- c) Warrants numbered 311409 through 311760 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$1,004,850.33 (Transmittal No. C-168-09).

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings at 1:44 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Sharon D. Dillon, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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