

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2010**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, with Commissioners Sharon D. Dillon, Ron Wesen, and Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Dillon called the proceedings to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Dillon led the gallery to the salute to the flag.

III. AGENDA:

- a) \*7:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Breakfast - Fundraiser for Friendship House (Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church - 1511 East Broadway, Mount Vernon)
- b) 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Proclamation - April 14, 2010 - Arbor Day in Skagit County

Carolyn Kelly, District Manager for Skagit Conservation District, informed the Board that 80% of Skagit County is covered by trees. Skagit County has an interest and understanding of the importance of tree resources.

Kristi Carpenter, Public Information and Education Coordinator for Skagit Conservation District, thanked the Commissioners for the proclamation. Ms. Carpenter briefed the Board on the history of Arbor Day. Ms. Carpenter informed the Board that states celebrate Arbor Day according to their climates and when the best time of year is to plant trees. Ms. Carpenter encouraged Skagitonians to add native plants to their landscape and celebrate Arbor Day.

Al Craney, Forester for Skagit Conservation District, appreciates sharing information with Skagit County regarding the benefits of Arbor Day. Wednesday, April 14, 2010, is Washington State Arbor Day. Friday, April 30, 2010, is National Arbor Day. Mr. Craney discussed the multiple benefits of trees. He informed the Commissioners that the right tree in the right place is very beneficial.

Commissioner Wesen read the Proclamation Celebrating Arbor Day and declaring April 14, 2010, as Washington State Arbor Day.

Chair Dillon informed those present that on Saturday, April 17, 2010, at Northern State Recreation Area, trees would be planted for Earth Day and she encouraged people to participate in the event.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 9:24 a.m.

- c) 9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Proclamation - April as Disaster Preparedness Month in Skagit County

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 9:30 a.m.

Mark Watkinson, Skagit County Emergency Management Coordinator, wanted to let the Commissioners know that the Pacific Northwest is vulnerable to earthquakes similar to the ones that have been experienced in other countries. Mr. Watkinson asks citizens to prepare for emergencies. Skagit County is vulnerable to floods and storms. He urged citizens to make an emergency kit.

Kevin Noyes, Skagit County Emergency Management Coordinator, briefed the Board on the Department of Emergency Management's plans to make their website more user friendly. He informed the Commissioners of trainings that their department is participating in. Mr. Noyes also wanted to point out that Darlene Bessner, retired nurse and Volunteer with Skagit County Medical Reserve Corps, is receiving the Governor's Volunteer Services Award on Monday, April 19, 2010.

The Commissioners thanked the department for their work. They agreed that it is important to be prepared and have a supply kit in case of emergency. Skagit County is prone to earthquakes, flooding, and storms. Skagit County also has dams, bridges, and volcanoes in the area to be aware of and plan for.

Commissioner Dahlstedt read the Proclamation Declaring April as Disaster Preparedness Month in Skagit County.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 9:46 a.m.

d) 11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Public Comment Period

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 11:30 p.m.

Tim Ratfield, of Blue Heron Road in Bow, thanked the Commissioners for repairing the floodgate. He lives near Freestad Lake and heard about the possibility of the county now removing this floodgate. He stated that he received this information from the local paper and that there was not any specific information in the article which answered his questions. Mr. Ratfield would like to know more.

Commissioner Dahlstedt wanted to let Mr. Ratfield know that Dan Berentson would be the person to contact regarding specific information, and that the area was going to be studied. Commissioner Wesen stated that contracts were signed on April 12, 2010, which entailed studying the area for fish restoration projects.

Bob Ratfield, of North Beach Road in Bow, stated that the current tide gate is working great and that there have not been any problems with it since it was installed.

Oscar Graham, of 3643 Legg Road in Blanchard, appreciates the public comment period. He stated that he often watches Skagit 21 Television. He became interested in the draft conservation subdivision ordinance that was proposed by Planning and Development. Mr. Graham showed a photograph of Summer Lake. He stated that it was a bog like wetland with a floating island and is a unique ecosystem in Skagit County. Mr. Graham stated that conserving this area is difficult due to the regulatory system. The lot size of this area makes it difficult to put under conservation. Mr. Graham understands a workshop is approaching to discuss

some of these issues and he hopes the county will take the lead on these issues.

Chair Dillon encouraged Mr. Graham to attend the workshop.

- e) \*6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Opening Reception of the World Tulip Summit (Tulip Town - 15002 Bradshaw Road, Mount Vernon)

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings at 11:44 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Sharon D. Dillon, Chair

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Ron Wesen, Commissioner

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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