

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2010**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 11, 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 9:01 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

- a) 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Presentation - Various Washington State University (W.S.U.) Cooperative Extension Programs

Ned Zaugg, Director of Skagit County W.S.U. Cooperative Extension, introduced Kari Russom, part-time Coordinator of the Master Gardener Program.

Ms. Russom provided an overview Dig It kids' garden program, which she said is designed to bring second and third grade students to the W.S.U. Discovery Garden in the fall and spring to work with W.S.U. Master Gardeners. Ms. Russom introduced Monica Crossan, a volunteer with Master Gardener Program. Ms. Crossan spoke about the First Bloom and Head Start programs.

JoAnne Austin, Family and Consumer Science Extension Educator; Holly Thompson, Food Sense Youth Coordinator; and Rita Ordonez, who is a parent, reported on the benefits of the Food Sense program. Ms. Austin said the program educates low income children and parents about healthy food choices, increases physical activity, educate their parents, and encourages positive behaviors that lasts a lifetime. She also stated it is a federally funded program, and is operating throughout 27 counties in Washington. Ms. Austin pointed out that the program receives \$223,000 from the federal program. She went on to explain that the program cost-shares with various school districts and the county.

Christine Betchley, Interim Beach Watcher Coordinator; and Laure Brooks, Marine Science Teacher at Mount Vernon High School spoke about the Beach Watcher program. She stated the program's activities include festivals, events, youth camps K-8 classroom, beach visits, and young beach stewards training.

William Freitas, 4-H Extension Educator indicated 4-H in Skagit County was created in the 1920's, and is currently serving approximately 500 youths. He stated 4-H teaches the "Six C's; which are competence, character, caring, confidence, connection and contributions.

Lee McNeil of the Sea-Tech program was present to speak about the program. Mr. McNeil stated the Sea-Tech 4-H Club placed third place at the at the 2009 Marine Advanced Technical Education (MATE) International Remotely Operated

Underwater Vehicle (ROV) Competition in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. He also mentioned that the team has qualified, through a regional competition, to compete at the 2010 MATE International ROV Competition taking place in June at the University of Hawaii, at Hawaii-Hilo. Mr. McNeil introduced Stanley Janicki, who is a member of Sea-Tech Club.

Jennie McGuigan, First Bloom Coordinator, explained that the First Bloom Program is a National Parks Foundation program that connects kids to nature and national parks. The Skagit County program is primarily located in eastern Skagit County.

Don McMoran, Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Education, and Stanley Janicki spoke about the Tractor and Farm Safety Program. Mr. McMoran also invited the Commissioners to attend the driving day challenge on June 5, 2010.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 10:01 a.m.

- b) 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Discussion/Work Session with Department of Ecology Director, Ted Sturdevant

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 10:08 a.m.

Dan Berentson, Natural Resource Administrator for Public Works, stated the purpose of this work session was to meet the new director of the Department of Ecology and provide an overview of nearly \$5.6 million in grants that the Department of Ecology provides to Skagit County.

Ted Sturdevant, Ecology Director, was present and introduced Jeannie Summerhays, Regional Director - Northwest Regional Office; and Jacque Klug, Water Resources Section - Northwest Regional Office.

Corinne Story, Environmental Public Health Manager, explained that the Skagit County Health Department has five grants with the Department of Ecology, which include the Solid & Hazardous Waste grants in the amount of \$56,958; Local Source Control Partnership in the amount of \$124,029; Site Hazard Assessment in the amount of \$45,800; Drinking Water (well delegation) in the amount of \$120,000 and On Site Sewage (septic) System in the dollar amount of \$46,020.

Gary Christensen, Director of Planning and Development Services, indicated the grants his department receives from the Department of Ecology include: On-Site Septic Systems Repair in the amount of \$2,000,000; Outreach and Compliance for Improving Water Quality in the Samish Watershed in the amount of \$33,700; and Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program Update in the of \$650,000.

Allison Mohns was present to explain and answer questions regarding the aspects of the On-Site Septic Systems Repair.

Betsy Stevenson was present to explain the Outreach and Compliance for Improving Water Quality in the Samish Watershed grant and the Comprehensive Shoreline Master Program Update. She also explained the public's response to the Clean Samish Initiative.

Michael See, Stormwater Coordinator, explained the National Pollutant Discharge

Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Permit.

Jeff McGowan, Salmon Habitat Specialist, spoke about Fish Habitat and Restoration; and Hydrology (Groundwater) - Hansen and Red Creek projects.

Gary Stoyka, Hydrogeologist, explained the grants and projects associated with Instream Flow Rule process, which includes the Big Lake Water Reclamation Facility.

Tracy Alker, Water Resources Technician, explained the Lake Management and Marine Resources programs.

Kevin Renz, Solid Waste Division Manager, discussed how Skagit County uses the Coordinated Prevention Grant funds in recycling, education, and community litter cleanup programs.

Mr. Sturdevant stressed the importance that the National Association of Counties Organization has in protecting the funds collected by the Model Toxics Control Act.

Rick Haley, Water Quality Analyst, explained the fecal coliform bacteria problems in the Samish River and spoke about the Clean Samish Initiative.

There was a discussion held regarding voluntary compliance versus strict regulatory compliance.

Jeanne Summerhays commented on how important it was to the Department of Ecology to have the information provided to them in such a concise format. She went on to comment on the departments efforts to preserve agriculture, wetland banking issues, and continuing to maintain the relationship with the county.

Jacque Klug commented on the Carpenter and Fisher Creeks and the U.S. Geological Survey study.

Mr. Christensen discussed the Alternative Futures program.

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

Seeing no one present during the public comment period, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public comment period, Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:34 a.m.

d) 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Presentation/Update - Skagit County Budget

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 2:00 p.m.

Trisha Logue, Budget and Finance Director, provided an overview of the County budget as of April 30, 2010.

Ms. Logue stated as of the first trimester the General Fund had a balance of \$6,650,232, and that salaries and benefits were tracking as expected.

She indicated sales tax revenue was approximately y 6.42% below 2009. The General Fund would be \$498,000 short if the current trend continues.

Ms. Logue said she would provide the Commissioners with another update in July 2010.

Tim Holloran, County Administrator, commented on tracking departments' overtime hours.

The Commissioners thanked the departments for providing their monthly budget reports.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings at 2:32 p.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