

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2012**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 10, 2012, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, and Sharon D. Dillon present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 8:30 a.m. Commissioner Wesen's absence was excused.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Public Works - Henry Hash, Director:

1. Presentation: Certificate of Commendation for the Retirement of Donald McKeehen, Traffic Safety Programs Coordinator

Public Works Director Henry Hash, Skagit County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter, Transportation Planning Services Section Manager Ann Marie Gutwein, former Director of Skagit County Emergency Management Tom Sheahan, former Public Works Project Manager Barb Hathaway, Skagit County Sheriff Will Reichardt, Donald McKeehen's son Doug McKeehen, Executive Assistant Jacque Jonas, Engineering Technician Given Kutz, County Administrator Tim Holloran, and Commissioners Dahlstedt and Dillon wished Don McKeehen well in his retirement.

Don McKeehen thanked his coworkers from Skagit County and the multiple agencies Skagit County has partnered with over the last 24 years.

Commissioner Dillon presented a Certificate of Commendation in recognition of dedicated public service rendered on behalf of the people, the community, and the public interest, faithfully and unselfishly by Donald McKeehen from January 5, 1987, to December 31, 2011.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items to discuss.

b) 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Public Works - Henry Hash, Director:

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 9:31 a.m.

1. Work Session: Department of Operations and Equipment Division

Henry Hash introduced Operations Division Manager Cliff Butler.

Mr. Butler gave a brief overview of 2011 and stated that the successes were many and the failures were few. Mr. Butler said that 2011 was marked by sadness with the passing of employees Brad Pinneke and George Schultz. Mr. Butler informed the Commissioners that four employees in Public Works Operations Division were going to take advantage of the early retirement incentive and would be working until February 29, 2012. Mr. Butler introduced Assistant Operations Supervisor Andy Shaw.

Mr. Shaw updated the Commissioners on some of the special projects being worked on throughout Skagit County.

District 1 Maintenance Supervisor Kelly Allen updated the Commissioners on the work being performed on drainage systems, brush cutting, and sweeping, and he stated they were preparing for the snow event.

District 2 Maintenance Supervisor Dale Klinger updated the Commissioners on the work being performed on a road in the Lake Cavanaugh area, as well as work patching roads, maintaining drainage, and maintenance and repair in preparation for the high volume of traffic received during the Tulip Festival.

District 3 Maintenance Supervisor Tony Crosby thanked Public Works for their help in his transition to Maintenance Supervisor. Mr. Crosby updated the Commissioners on the routine mowing and ditch work being performed. He also informed them of a project on Baker Lake Road and Challenger Road cleaning in between guardrail posts in order to preserve the structure of the road and height of the guardrail.

Environmental Specialist Chris Kowitz updated the Commissioners on some of the special construction projects worked on including: a trail project in the Hansen Creek, the clean up from the landslide on South Skagit, drainage utility projects, and fish passage projects. Mr. Kowitz briefed the Commissioners on upcoming construction projects and informed them that Public Works joined the Regional Road Maintenance Forum which provides information on endangered species and gives Skagit County credit for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements.

ER & R Fund Coordinator Mike Elde updated the Commissioners on the department's inventory, reduction of Skagit County vehicles, the replacement schedule for patrol cars, upcoming bid openings, and replacement plans for other county vehicles.

Equipment Maintenance Supervisor George Stucks updated the Commissioners on winter maintenance performed on mowers, oil spreaders, and other machinery, and briefly discussed the retirement of individuals from his division.

Mr. Hash thanked his team for their teamwork, and professional customer service.

The Commissioners thanked Public Works for the updates and Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:02 a.m.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items to discuss.

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

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:30 a.m.

Seeing no public present to comment, Commissioner Dillon made a motion to close the public comment period, which was seconded by Chairman Dahlstedt. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chairman

Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Linda Hammons, Clerk of the Board