

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2012**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, March 20, 2012, with Commissioners Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Sharon D. Dillon, and Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 8:30 a.m.

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. Submittal: 2011 Annual Bridge Report

Skagit County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter was present to introduce Lead Bridge Inspector Forrest Jones.

Mr. Jones provided a PowerPoint presentation and presented the 2011 Annual Bridge Report. It was indicated that the report satisfied the requirements of WAC 136-20-060. Mr. Jones said that Skagit County had 108 bridges within the County road system, which included the Guemes Ferry Docks at Anacortes and on Guemes Island.

There was a discussion regarding the aging bridge system in Skagit County and the potential of securing funding to replace and repair several bridges.

Mr. Jones indicated that the report would be filed with the County Road Administration Board and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

2. Presentation: 2011 Road System Concurrency Assessment

Paul Randall-Grutter introduced Traffic Engineering Technician Given Kutz. Mr. Kutz presented the 2011 Skagit County Road Segment and Intersection Concurrency Assessment Report.

Mr. Kutz indicated that the County was required by Skagit County Code 14.28 and by the State of Washington's Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) to perform annual Level of Service (LOS) standards tests to assess individual road segments and intersection capacity. He reported that for transportation, an A through F scale was frequently used to reflect level of service and to designate a LOS standard. He reported that Skagit County assesses road segments that are traveled by approximately 7,000 cars per day. Mr. Kutz provided a chart depicting the roads that were studied for

2011. He indicated that most of the road segments studied were located on Cook because it was the most heavily traveled road that was not a state highway or city street.

He said that Skagit County met all the concurrency requirements on road segments.

3. Discussion/Possible Action: Resolution Awarding Bid and Appropriating Funds for the Anderson/LaVenture Road Extension Projects Cedardale to Blodgett Skagit County #ES71000-1, Federal Aid #STPUS-7337(005), TIB #9-W-029(002)-1, Blodgett To Blackburn Skagit County #ES71000-1B, Federal Aid #STPUS-7337(004), TIB #9-W-029(002)-1, and South LaVenture Sanitary Sewer System City of Mount Vernon #ES97-72 To Interwest Construction, Inc. in the Amount of \$7,776,592.60

Mr. Randall presented a resolution awarding the bid and appropriating funds for the Anderson/LaVenture Road Extension Projects Cedardale to Blodgett Skagit County #ES71000-1B, Federal Aid #STPUS-7337(004), TIB #9-W-029(002)-1, and South LaVenture Sanitary Sewer System City of Mount Vernon #ES97-72 to Interwest Construction, Inc. in the amount \$7,776,592.60.

Commissioner Dillon said that she was excited that the contractor was from Skagit County.

Commissioner Wesen thanked everyone involved in the project. He said that this project would provide everyone in Mount Vernon better access to the freeway.

Commissioner Dahlstedt thanked the Mayor of Mount Vernon, Senator Mary Margaret Haugen, Skagit County Public Works staff, and all the partnerships involved in bringing the project to fruition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve a Resolution awarding the bid and appropriating funds for the Anderson/LaVenture Road Extension Projects Cedardale to Blodgett Skagit County #ES71000-1, Federal Aid #STPUS-7337(005), TIB #9-W-029(002)-1, Blodgett to Blackburn Skagit County #ES71000-1B, Federal Aid #STPUS-7337(004), TIB #9-W-029(002)-1, and South LaVenture Sanitary Sewer System the City of Mount Vernon #ES97-72 to Interwest Construction, Inc. in the amount \$7,776,592.60.)

**(Resolution No. R20120088)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

4. Discussion/Possible Action: Approval of Extension of Regional Disposal Company Long-Haul Contract as Unanimously Recommended by the Solid Waste System Governance Board

Chairman Dahlstedt recused himself and left the proceedings.

Solid Waste Manager Kevin Renz said that Amendment No. 3 to Regional Disposal Company long-haul contract provided several benefits to Skagit County including rate reductions, improvements in container inventory, minimum standards for rail spur condition, improved minimum tonnage language, and a ten-year term extension. He said the rate reductions were expected to reduce the current system expenditures by \$225,000 per year.

Mr. Hash presented Supplemental Agreement No. 3 to Skagit County Contract No. 001795 with Regional Disposal Company originally entered into on October 4, 1993, regarding solid waste transportation disposal services. Mr. Hash said that Supplemental Agreement No. 3 was unanimously recommended by the Solid Waste System Governance Board.

Joe Casalini with Allied Waste was present to thank Mr. Hash, Mr. Renz for their thoroughness in taking the time to work through the agreement, and for their professionalism while working on the negotiations of the contract.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve Supplemental Agreement No. 3 to Skagit County Contract No. 001795 with Regional Disposal Company originally entered into on October 4, 1993, regarding solid waste transportation disposal services. (**Amendment No. A20120030**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

5. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Public Works to discuss.

Commissioner Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:30 a.m.

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

1. Quarterly Public Works Division Managers Work Session

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 9:34 a.m.

ER&R Manager Mike Elde, Natural Resource Division Manager Dan Berentson, Skagit County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter were present to update the Commissioners on the operations in their divisions.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Public Works to discuss.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:39 a.m.

c) 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Washington State University (WSU), Skagit County Extension - Don McMoran, Director:

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:45 a.m.

WSU Director Don McMoran was present to present awards to Ann Meritt and Sarita Schaffer for their creation of bumper stickers to publicize Skagit County WSU Cooperative Extension in the community. Mr. McMoran went on to speak about the film Apples to Wheat, which he indicated would be available on Skagit 21 television and on YouTube.

1. Introduction of Master Gardener Program Coordinator Lisa Hervieux and Beach Watcher Program Coordinator Nancy Olsen

Mr. McMoran introduced Master Gardener Program Coordinator Lisa Hervieux and Beach Watcher Program Coordinator Nancy Olsen.

Ms. Hervieux indicated that there were 19 interns who had completed the Master Gardener training this season and were ready to go out and serve the community. She reported that the Master Gardener volunteers had provided 11,248 volunteer hours in 2011.

Nancy Olsen provided an overview of the Beach Watcher program. She stated that the Beach Watcher program was based on a capacity building model and that the ultimate goal was to impact the health of the Salish Sea and the watershed that flows into the sea. She indicated that 28 volunteers had enrolled in the program this year.

2. WSU Small Farms and Immigrant Farming Program Update

Coordinator, WSU NW WA Small & Immigrant Farming Sarita Schaffer provided the Commissioners with information about Viva Farms relationship with WSU Extension. She said that WSU Extension and Viva Farms was a collaborative public/private partnership. She indicated that WSU collaborates with Viva Farms to provide technical support and to disseminate information to the local Latino farming community.

Ms. Schaffer said that the Viva Farms/WSU Collaboration won the Green Washington 2011 Award in Agriculture and Natural Resources; and that Viva Farms won the grand prize at Washington's first Social Innovation Fast Pitch Award.

Ms. Schaffer went on to discuss the WSU - Skagit Valley College partnership in the Sustainable Farming and Food Systems, and various other courses available at WSU extension.

3. Family Living Program Update

Food Sense Program Coordinator Jan Curry spoke about the Food Sense Youth Nutrition Program, and the Ideas for Living Adult/Senior Nutrition Programs. She said that the reason for the Family Living Program was that Skagit County had a higher obesity rate than the state average. Ms. Curry said that nutrition education was the answer to reduce the obesity rate in Skagit County

Ms. Curry went on to say that the federal government provided \$220,000 for the youth and adult nutrition and basic life skills education.

Food Sense Youth Program Coordinator Holly Thompson spoke about the program and introduced Food Sense Educators Kim Fox, Sarah Dahl, Jessica Manson, Michelle O'Connor, Sasha Seiden, Holly Thompson, Jan Curry, and Anne Merritt.

Ms. Thompson said that the Youth Nutrition Program objectives were to educate limited income children and parents about healthy food choices and the importance of exercise and to positively impact health related choices that may last a child's lifetime.

The Commissioners thanked WSU for the update.

Chairman Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 11:41 a.m.

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

Chairman Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:45 a.m.

Seeing no one present to comment, Chairman Dahlstedt closed the public comment period at 11:45 a.m.

- e) 11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Program Update: Skagit County Community Action Agency

Executive Director of Skagit County Community Action Bill Henkel introduced Deputy Director Karen Parnell, Community Services Director Lynn Christopherson, Skagit County Community Action Agency Board President Terry Belcoe, and East County Resource Center Coordinator Lou Hillman.

Mr. Henkel provided a PowerPoint and reported that Community Action touched the lives of 37,907 people in Skagit County. Karen Parnell reported on the successful outcomes of the core self-sufficiency program. East County Resource Center Coordinator Lou Hillman reported on the "Stand Downs" that took place in January, and November. She said that 255 veterans took part in the Veterans Stand Down. Ms. Hillman reported on the programs and services available at the Resource Center.

Mr. Terry Belcoe thanked the Commissioners for their involvement on the Board of Directors. He spoke about Skagit County Community Action's ability to adapt to the current economic environment and the introduction of the One Community One Voice Program.

#### IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 12:12 p.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