

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2013**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 29, 2013, with Commissioners Sharon D. Dillon, Ron Wesen, and Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Dillon called the proceedings to order at 9:15 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Dale Pernula, Director:

Dale Pernula was present to introduce the agenda item and answer questions.

1. Discussion/Possible Action: Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Overview & Concurrence Form

Jack Moore, Building Official, provided an overview of the Concurrence Form Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) for the Washington State Department of Transportation SR 20, Skagit River Bank Stabilization project ten (10) miles east of Concrete.

Mr. Moore requested approval from the Board of County Commissioners to sign the Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency Overview & Concurrence Form.

There was a brief discussion about the project.

Ken Perrigoue, a property owner, was present and commented on negative impact the correction would have on his property.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve to authorize the Skagit County Floodplain Manager to sign the Overview and Concurrence Form floodplain permit FP12-0039. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Planning and Development Services to discuss.

b) 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Public Works - Henry Hash, Director:

Henry Hash Director, and Dan Berentson Natural Resources Manager were present to introduce the agenda item and answer questions.

1. Work Session: Drainage Utility and Clean Water Program - 2012 Accomplishments

Staff Present:

Jan Flagan, Surface Water Section Manager; Chris Kowitz, Environmental Specialist; Michael See, Stormwater Permit Program Coordinator; Dianne Crane, Engineering Technician; Gary Stoyka, Water Resources Section Manager; Mary Sutton Carruthers, Pollution Identification

and Correction Coordinator; Margo Gillaspay, Hydrogeologist; and Jeff McGowan, Salmon Habitat Specialist

Projects Discussed:

Alger, Cain Lake Bioswale; Sauk Store Road Culvert Replacement, Mill Creek Avulsion Barrier Extension; Alger CCC Culvert Replacement, Allen West Culvert; Colony Creek Twin Culvert Replacement; Hansen Creek Asbestos Removal; South of Brigham Lane Outfall Maintenance/Repair; Minkler Road Culvert; Low Impact Development Demonstration Project; and Clean Water Program; and Salmon Habitat Improvement.

Mr. Berentson discussed the successful partnership projects which included the Joe Leary Slough Bridge Replacements; Joe Leary Slough Widening; No Name Slough; Nookachamps Creek Log Jam Removal; Samish Island Pump Station; Kanako Lane; Guemes Island Resort Drainage Correction; Buchanan Hill Drainage; South Skagit Highway at Boyd Creek; Butler Pit Evaluation.

Mr. See presented information about the Regional Street Waste Disposal Facility and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II.

2. Miscellaneous

Mr. Stoyka indicated that the Public Works' Water Resources Department had recently performed an evaluation of the Butler Pit. He indicated that the County owned five (5) pits in addition to Butler Pit. Mr. Stoyka indicated that all of the pits, with the exception of Butler Pit, were exhausted or nearing exhaustion.

Mr. Stoyka reported that there was a stockpile of approximately 317,000 cubic yards of processed material at the pit. He said that the County used an average of 14,000 cubic yards of material each year, 60% to 83% of the chip seal material, and 100% of the road sand material came from Butler Pit and it was the main source of sand for the flood fights.

There was a discussion about the geological investigation, gravel evaluations and the two independent appraisals of the property. He indicated that both appraisals concluded that the highest and best use of the property was for it to be used as a gravel pit.

Mr. Stoyka provided the Commissioners with information on multiple benefits of the Butler Pit property to the County and said the Public Works' staff recommends that the County continue to operate and mine the pit.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Stoyka for the information presented.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:05 a.m.

c) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Auditor Jeanne Youngquist:

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 11:10 a.m.

1. Presentation/Discussion: "Election Results Take Time"

Auditor Jeanne Youngquist provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the election process. Auditor Youngquist explained that in Skagit County 67,769 ballots mailed, 56,575 ballots were returned by mail, through drop off boxes or in person and 111 were returned via e-mail or fax. Auditor Youngquist provided information about the process the Auditor's office performs during an election cycle.

The Commissioners thanked the Auditor for the presentation.

d) 11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Board of County Commissioners:

1. Public Comment Period

Seeing no one present to comment during the public comment period, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public comment period at 11:44 a.m. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. Miscellaneous Announcements

There were no miscellaneous announcements.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:46 a.m.

e) 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Budget and Finance - Trisha Logue, Director:

1. Presentation/Possible Action: Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds of the County and Approving an Interlocal Agreement with the Public Facilities District

Tim Holloran County Administrator and Trisha Logue were present to introduce the agenda item and answer questions. Ms. Logue presented a Bond Resolution and an Interlocal Agreement with the Skagit County Public Facilities District (PFD).

Susan Musselman, Financial Advisor with SDM Advisors, explained that she was the Financial Advisor to the County. Ms. Musselman indicated that if the Commissioners approved the Bond Resolution and Interlocal Agreement, the County would issue bonds on behalf of the PFD. She said that the Interlocal Agreement spelled out the terms of repayment of the debt, which would require the PFD to remit payment to the County prior to the due date of the principal and interest payments.

Marc Estvold was present to thank the Board of County Commissioners on behalf of the PFD.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve a Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds of the County and approve an Interlocal Agreement with the Public Facilities District. (**Resolution No. R20130019 and Interlocal Agreement No. C20130043**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 2:14 p.m.

f) 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Presentation: Skagit County Public Safety Jail Project

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 2:30 p.m.

Marc Estvold Skagit County Public Safety Jail Project Manager provided an overview of the goals of the Coordinating Council which was formed in July 2012 to reach a consensus on a regional public safety facility. He explained that the Council studied three options 1) renovation and/or expansion of the existing facility; 2) construction of a new facility; 3) renovation and/or expansion and outsourcing.

Mr. Estvold reported that after comparing all three options, the Coordinating Council recommended the construction of a new jail with a 400 bed capacity would be the best scenario.

Susan Musselman, Financial Advisor, explained that the Coordinating Council discussed two options to pay for the construction of the new jail. One was a voted bond issue, which would require an excess property tax levy, the other option was a sales and use tax. Ms. Musselman explained that the property tax option could only be used for capital costs but could not be used for operating costs. She indicated that the project needed new funding for both capital and operating costs.

Ms. Musselman explained the complications of the distribution formulas of the sales and use tax. She

said that the overall rate would be 0.3% Countywide, 0.2% would be collected by the County within those cities and distributed under the 60/40 population-based formula, 0.3% would be collected elsewhere in the County and distributed under the 60/40 population-based formula.

Ms. Musselman noted that the voters of the Town of La Conner and City Sedro-Woolley had passed a 1/10 of 1% sales and use tax. She went on to provide scenarios of what would happen if the Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, and Mount Vernon all passed a 1/10 of 1% sales tax.

Ms. Musselman recommended that to reduce the amount of funds borrowed, the County should propose to the voters a 3/10 of 1% sales and use tax on the ballot for the August 6, 2013, primary election. She indicated that if the sales tax resolution passed, sales tax collection could begin on January 1, 2014.

Roger Howard, former project manager for the existing jail, provided a brief history of how the current county jail was built. He explained that in 1979 he submitted a grant application to the State of Washington and the County received \$6.9 million in funds to build the existing jail. Mr. Howard agreed that the jail was overcrowded and that County should build a new facility.

Commissioner Wesen pointed out that from the time the jail was first built, the capital costs to build it were never projected because the funds came from the state grant. He agreed that the County should build a new facility and that it was feasible to fund it with a sales tax.

Commissioner Dahlstedt spoke about the intent of the 3/10 of 1% sales tax. He indicated he would not support a property tax. Commissioner Dillon said she supported the sales tax.

Sheriff Will Reichadt spoke about the overcrowded jail and the need to build a new jail. He indicated that he was encouraged by the work of the Coordinating Council and thanked the Commissioners for their leadership.

Tim Holloran County Administrator commended the Commissioners for committing the necessary resources to hire Marc Estvold, Susan Musselman and Lisa Dally Wilson, and for taking a strong approach to building a local team to review the options for the jail. Mr. Holloran said that next step would be negotiating interlocal agreements with city partners.

IV. 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 376521 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$3,660 (Transmittal No. C-15-13).

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings at 3:35 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sharon D. Dillon, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board