

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2013**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, August 20, 2013, with Chair Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner Ron Wesen, and Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Dillon called the proceedings to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Washington Forest Protection Association: Update on Forestry

Chair Dillon introduced Kendra Smith for an update on forestry.

Ms. Smith said that over 88% of Skagit County land was forested. Present to discuss forestlands and their economic impact in the county were representatives from the Skagit County Forest Advisory Board, Washington Forest Protection Association, Sierra Pacific Industries, and Arbor Pacific Forest Service.

Senior Director of Public Affairs of the Washington Forest Protection Association Cindy Mitchell said that over 80% of Washington State was forested. She discussed who owned what percentage of forested lands (Forest Service 37%, Private Industrial 20%, Private Non-Industrial 16%, State 10%, Other Federal 8%, Tribal 7%, Municipal 2%) and said that almost all funds from harvesting timber came from the privately owned lands. Ms. Mitchell shared that lumber from Washington State was the best in the world, that Washington was the second largest producer of lumber in the nation, and that timber was the third largest manufacturing sector in Washington. She discussed how working forests provided revenue and environmental benefits to Washington.

Ken Osborn of Arbor Pacific Forestry Services, Inc. is a landowner and manager of Grandy Lake Forest. Mr. Osborn shared some information with the Commissioners about his company and said that they owned 20,000 acres of forestland in Skagit County which was 6% of the managed forests in the county. He said that his company harvests 9 million board feet of lumber annually and was committed to sustainable forest practices. He discussed Grandy Lake's local philanthropic support in Skagit County, their commitment to managing forestlands, and their involvement with local government through the Planning Commission and other citizen advisory boards.

Tom Nelson, Washington Timberlands Manager of Sierra Pacific Industries, was present to discuss the synergy and relationship between working forests and lumber mills. He shared that Sierra Pacific Industries has been a family owned operation since 1949 and that they owned 89,000 acres of

forestland in Skagit County, 40% of which was managed. He said they own 15 manufacturing facilities and that the facility in Burlington operates 27/7, produces its own energy, and sells excess energy back to the grid. Mr. Nelson discussed employment figures and reported that their lands were all certified under the sustainable forestry initiative. He ended by saying that Skagit County produced the best Douglas Fir, had a stable timber supply, had a stable and friendly business climate and regulations, and had stable infrastructure and transportation options: rail, highway and waterways.

Executive Director of the Washington Forest Protection Association (WFPA) Mark Doumit said that he was advocating for the forest industry and their sustainable practices. He said that the WFPA had met with Commissioners from Peirce, Mason, and Stevens County regarding the importance of this local industry and he wanted to partner with County Commissioners to share the values of a working forest with Washington State legislators.

The Commissioners appreciated the update and concurred that their message needed to be delivered to the legislation.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 10:07 a.m.

b) 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Consideration of the Hearing Examiner's Recommendation for Approval for the Following Open Space Applications:

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 10:09 a.m. and introduced Current Use Specialist Annette DeVoe.

1. Resolution Concerning a Current Use Timber Application of Charmie Lee Dibble to Reclassify 4 Acres from Farm and Agriculture to the Current Use Timber Program (CUTMB #1-2012)

Ms. DeVoe briefed the Commissioners on the property being requested to transfer to the Current Use Timber Program. Ms. DeVoe reported that if approved the parcel would be added to adjacent property already in the timber program.

The Commissioners confirmed there was a forest plan in place.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Resolution concerning a current use timber application of Charmie Lee and Daniel Dibble, Donnie Wallace Life Estate, Trustee CUTMB #1-2012 (**Resolution No. R20130242**) Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. Resolution Concerning a Current Use Timber Application of Kenneth Osborn to Include Approximately 55.28 Acres in the Current Use Timber Program (CUTMB #2-2012)

Ms. DeVoe briefed the Commissioners on the property being requested to transfer to the Current Use Timber Program. Ms. DeVoe reported that if approved the parcel would be added to adjacent property already in the timber program and that the trees were approximately 20 years old.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve the Resolution concerning a current use timber application of Kenneth Osborn CUTMB #2-2012(**Resolution No. R20130243**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

3. Resolution Concerning a Current Use Timber Application of Lois Coonc to Transfer 15 Acres from Farm and Agriculture to the Current Use Timber Program (CUTMB #3-2012)

Ms. DeVoe briefed the Commissioners on the property being requested to transfer to the Current Use Timber Program. Ms. DeVoe reported that the property needed to be transferred from Farm and Agriculture to the timber program to properly match its current use.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Resolution concerning a current use timber application of Lois Coonc CUTMB #3-2012(**Resolution No. R20130244**) Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

4. Resolution Concerning a Current Use Open Space Application of Brett Powers to Transfer 6.1 Acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to the Current Use Open Space Program (CUOS #3-2012)

Ms. DeVoe briefed the Commissioners on the property being requested to transfer to the Current Use Open Space Program. Ms. DeVoe reported that the property was wooded with one access trail and had been left in a wild state. She said that the goal of the owner was to conserve natural resources, protect the stream, and provide cover for wildlife.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve the Resolution concerning a current use open space application of Brett Powers CUOS #3-2012(**Resolution No. R20130245**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

5. Resolution Concerning a Current Use Open Space Application of Ki Bok Yang (Greenwood Land LLC) to Transfer 19 Acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to the Current Use Open Space Program (CUOS #4-2012)

Ms. DeVoe briefed the Commissioners on the property being requested to transfer to the Current Use Open Space Program. Ms. DeVoe reported that the property was located in an environmentally sensitive area and should be correctly classified.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Resolution concerning a current use open space application of Ki Bok Yang (Greenwood Land LLC) CUOS #4-2012(**Resolution No. R20130246**) Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 10:29 a.m.

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

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

1. Public Comment Period

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

2. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Commissioners shared information about recent events they had attended including the Cascade Days Fair in Concrete, a car event at the Port of Skagit, and the Sample of Sedro-Woolley.

They also shared a reminder that Friday, August 30, 2013 was a closure day.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings shortly after 11:30 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Sharon D. Dillon, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board