

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

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 29, 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 8:30 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Facilities Management:

Chair Dillon introduced Consultant Roger Howard.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding the Disposal of Skagit County Real Property Located at 2221 Riverside Drive, Mount Vernon

Consultant Roger Howard briefed the Board on the property being considered for disposal. He said it was commonly referred to as the Litchmen Building and was currently leased by Community Action Agency of Skagit County. He said the purpose of the public hearing was to receive testimony regarding the disposal of the property.

Chair Dillon opened the public hearing at 8:34 a.m. Seeing no one present to provide testimony Commissioner Dahlstedt made a motion to close the public hearing at 8:35 a.m. which was seconded by Commissioner Wesen. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Howard informed the Commissioners that according to the Washington State Statute, the Board needed to make a decision on the matter within three days. Mr. Howard presented a Resolution to authorize the process to dispose the property.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve moving forward with the disposal of Skagit County real property. **(Resolution No. R20130315)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Dillon asked what the next steps were and Mr. Howard answered that the Treasurer would select a date for the public auction and a legal notice would be published in the newspaper with the details.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 8:37 a.m.

2. Miscellaneous

Mr. Howard did not have any miscellaneous items to discuss.

b) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners:

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 9:32 a.m.

1. **Decision: Closed Record Appeal No. PL13-0315 Submitted by Blue Coastal Holdings, Inc. Regarding the Hearing Examiner's Decision: Shoreline Variance, No. PL13-0037; Critical Areas Variance, PL13-0036; and Zoning Back Variance, PL13-0031**

The Commissioner's deliberated about the application and appeal and agreed that the Hearing Examiner's decision was not clearly erroneous.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to deny the appeal brought forward by Blue Coastal Holdings, Inc. and affirm the Hearing Examiner's decision. **(Resolution No. R20130316)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

Commissioner Dahlstedt clarified with Senior Planner Leah Forbes that the petitioners could still work with Planning and Development Services on an updated proposal that was more in line with Skagit County's code. Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 9:37 a.m.

- c) 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Interim Director:

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 10:30 a.m. and introduced Solid Waste Division Manager Kevin Renz.

1. **Presentation by the Board of County Commissioners: Certificate of Commendation for Janice Proper**

Solid Waste Division Manager Kevin Renz informed the Board that Janice Proper had worked for 20 years in the Public Works Department, first in Engineering, then in Solid Waste. He and others who had worked with Janice Proper over the years wished her a very happy retirement and said that they would miss working with her.

Janice Proper thanked her co-workers and talked about her time with Skagit County.

The Commissioners thanked Janice Proper for her years of service and Commissioner Dahlstedt read the Certificate of Commendation in recognition of dedicated public service rendered on behalf of the people, the community, and in the public interest, faithfully and unselfishly by Janice Proper from October 25, 1993 to October 31, 2013.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 10:46 a.m.

- d) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Interim Director:

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 11:03 a.m.

1. **Work Session: 2014 - 2019 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Annual Construction Program (ACP)**

Engineering Technician Forrest Jones presented a draft of the six-year TIP. It included the potential addition of seven new projects: 1. abandoned railroad bridge removal (study), 2. Centennial Trail (Big Rock to Clear Lake), 3. Davis Slough bridge project (South Skagit Highway), 4. Finney Creek Road (stabilization), 5. Guardrail (various locations), 6. River Bend Road improvements (raise and repair),

and 7. South Skagit Highway Realignment (feasibility).

Mr. Jones also briefed the Board on each of the projects that were anticipated to remain on TIP, and each of the projects that would be removed from TIP. Mr. Jones and the Commissioners discussed the next steps. Mr. Jones said that a public hearing would be held on the proposed six-year TIP and that it was scheduled to be adopted by the end of November.

The Commissioners discussed the need for a pedestrian-friendly way to cross the Skagit River and wondered if the abandoned railroad bridge could be used for that purpose.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the draft TIP and to move forward through the public process to finalize it. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.**

Mr. Jones said that many of the projects included on the 2014 ACP were also on the six-year TIP. Project costs were discussed and Mr. Jones said that the final ACP would be ready to adopt after Public Works' 2014 budget was completed. Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:27 a.m.

e) **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**

Randy Good of Sedro-Woolley commented on the process of discussing and adopting the annual six-year TIP, encouraging public input before discussing the program with the Board. He also commented on the work session held on Agriculture in Skagit County on Monday, October 28, 2013 and said that the Future Farmers of America high school program was important to continue. Mr. Good ended by sharing an article from reason.com titled "Rails to Trails: A Train Wreck for Property Owners".

**2. Miscellaneous Announcements**

Chair Dillon announced the following upcoming public hearings:  
November 5, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. regarding the Application for Franchise Agreement with Skagit County Drainage and Improvement District No. 15.

November 12, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. regarding the disposal of Skagit County real property located at 309, and 315 South Third Street, Mount Vernon (this public hearing was rescheduled from November 5, 2013, pursuant to Resolutions Nos. R20130313 and R20130314).

November 26, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. to regarding 2014 – 2019 six-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

f) **1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Natural Resource Senate Committee Meeting**

IV. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings for the day.

**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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Clerk of the Board