

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2013**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 26, 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. - 9:30 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Dale Pernula, Director:

Chair Dillon introduced Planning and Development Services Director Dale Pernula.

1. Update: Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Project and Market Analysis Update

Senior Planner Kirk Johnson said he was present to provide the Board with an update of the TDR Project. He introduced several members of the TDR Committee that were present in the audience and said that he would be discussing the preliminary market analysis and possible next steps.

Mr. Johnson also said that Heartland had met with the TDR Committee and next they would be meeting with forest, farm, and land developers to hear their thoughts and concerns about the proposed TDR program.

Mr. Johnson discussed the timeline and milestones that the TDR Committee needed to meet. He said that he was expecting the Commissioners would be ready to make their decision on the TDR Project next summer.

Mr. Johnson emphasized that the TDR Program was voluntary and that they were looking at offering the Density Credit Program alongside the TDR Program.

He addressed fear-based concerns that he had heard from parts of the community that the TDR Program was a tool that would be used to “herd” people together.

He said that initial review showed that there was enough market demand in Skagit County to move forward and implement a TDR Program.

Committee Members Margaret Fleek, Kendra Smith, Allen Rozema, Ed Stauffer, and Martha Bray spoke in favor of the TDR Program.

Community members Ken Osborn and Tim Rosenhan spoke in favor of the program as well.

The Commissioners thanked the TDR Committee and believed that the TDR Program could work well in Skagit County to protect the rural areas.

2. Miscellaneous

Planning and Development did not have any miscellaneous items to discuss. Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 9:35 a.m.

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

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 10:31 a.m. and introduced Interim Public Works Director Dan Berentson.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: 2014 - 2019 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter briefed the board on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process, which projects Public Works was proposing to include on TIP, and which projects were being suggested to be removed from TIP.

Chair Dillon opened the public hearing at 10:45 a.m.

Randy and Eileen Good of Sedro-Woolley were present and shared concerns about the public process and legal notices regarding the Centennial Trail.

Carol Ehlers was present to discuss a transportation map.

Seeing no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Dahlstedt made a motion to close the public hearing at 10:57 a.m. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Resolution to adopt the 2014-2019 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. (**Resolution No. R20130348**) Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 10:59 a.m.

c) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Proclamation Celebrating Skagit County's 130th Anniversary

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 11:03 a.m. and recognized Senator Pearson from the 39th District, Auditor Jeanne Youngquist, and Sheriff Will Reichardt.

Mr. Kelly Molestad was present to provide an accounting of how Skagit County came to be. He shared that those in Skagit often felt neglected by their leaders in Whatcom, and that political forces tried to block the separation of Skagit County from Whatcom County for they feared that other areas would be motivated to follow suit and then Whatcom's resources would dwindle. Mr. Molestad said that after Whatcom blocked the creation of Skagit County, a second bill was created in Whatcom's absence and the bill passed 7 to 5 and was signed into law. He shared that La Conner was the Skagit County seat for the first 10 years and they later moved to Mount Vernon.

Commissioner Wesen read the Proclamation regarding November 28, 2013 as Skagit County's 130th Birthday.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:17 a.m.

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

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 11:32 a.m.

1. Public Comment Period

Ed Stauffer of Alger informed the Commissioners of his educational experience and why he decided to move to Alger, and he thanked the Commissioners for sharing Skagit County's history.

2. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Commissioners wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:42 a.m.

e) 11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Certificate of Commendation for Facilities/Sustainability Coordinator Kaci Radcliffe

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 11:46 a.m. and said that they were present to say goodbye to Kaci Radcliffe who had played significant role in Skagit County's sustainability initiatives.

Facilities Operations Supervisor Ron Kitchener, County Administrator Tim Holloran, former Sustainability Administrator Ryan Walters, and the Commissioners thanked Ms. Radcliffe for her service and they wished her the best.

The Commissioners read the 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 Kaci Radcliffe from March 28, 2011, through November 29, 2013.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 11:58 a.m.

f) 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Community Services - Jennifer Kingsley, Director:

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 1:31 p.m. and introduced Operations Manager Bob Hicks.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: Final Report for the Public Service Grant Component of the Community Development Block Grant

Operations Manager Bob Hicks shared that Skagit County received funding from Washington State Department of Commerce for a Community Development Block Grant and he said that Skagit County passed the funds through to Community Action Agency of Skagit County to provide services to residents in the eastern part of the county.

Lynn Christofersen of Community Action Agency briefed the Commissioners on how they utilized the funds to support public services provided at the resource center in Concrete, WA. She said that 1,500 individuals were served each month and provided with basic needs services.

Chair Dillon opened the public hearing at 1:46 p.m. Seeing no one present to provide testimony, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Commissioner Dahlstedt. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners thanked Community Action of Skagit County for the services they provided.

Chair Dillon recessed the proceedings at 1:48 p.m.

g) 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Community Services - Jennifer Kingsley, Director:

Chair Dillon reconvened the proceedings at 2:00 p.m. and introduced Director of Community Services Jennifer Kingsley.

1. Discussion/Possible Action - .1% Budget Recommendation Presentation

Director of Community Services Jennifer Kingsley said that the 0.1% sales tax had been implemented by the Washington State Legislature and adopted in Chapter 504 in 2005, authorizing counties to fix and impose a sales and use tax in amount of one-tenth of one percent to provide new or expanded chemical dependency or mental health treatment services, and for the operation of new or expanded therapeutic court programs.

She said that the Board of Skagit County Commissioners passed an ordinance imposing the tax in Skagit County on December 19, 2005. Money collected by this ordinance may only be used according to RCW 82.14.460.

Ms. Kingsley informed the Commissioners that an advisory committee made up of 20 members met quarterly to review funding requests and provide funding recommendations. She said that the advisory committee made recommendations towards programs and entities providing services based on five priorities: 1) individuals in the criminal justice system, including new or expanded therapeutic courts 2) individuals in need of treatment who do not have access to other forms of funding or benefits to obtain such services 3) crisis and acute services 4) early intervention and outreach services for children and adolescents 5) create and expand access to services that support people in recovery.

Ms. Kingsley reviewed each funding recommendation and also said that they would need to try to meet increased programming needs in the next couple of years after the new jail was constructed.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Kingsley's staff, the volunteers on the Allocation Advisory Committee and the facilities Skagit County partnered with to provide vital services to Skagit County's residents.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dillon adjourned the proceedings at 2:24 p.m. and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Sharon D. Dillon, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board
