

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2014**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 15, 2014, with Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, and Commissioner Sharon D. Dillon present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wesen called the proceedings to order at 8:30 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Wesen 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:

Dale Pernula, Director, was present to introduce the agenda items and answer questions.

1. Presentation/Update: Permitting and Enforcement Programs

Jack Moore, Building Official, provided a graphic depicting annual permit revenues for the years 2009 through 2013 and noted that building permit revenues had continued to increase.

Mr. Moore said that the Building Division's staff had been working toward a resolution to all code enforcement cases.

Mr. Moore said the County participated in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and that Skagit County had completed a response to the Community Assessment Visit (CAV) of the Janicki Cove area which had been conducted by the Department of Ecology (DOE) on behalf of FEMA. He reported that in order to continue to receive a favorable rating for federally backed flood insurance, the County would work with the Janicki Cove community to comply with NFIP requirements.

2. Discussion/Possible Action: Resolution to Establish a 2014 Work Plan for Legislative Land Use Plans, Policies and Regulation Proposals

Mr. Pernula provided an overview of the 2014 major projects which include the following:

Priority Projects:

2013 Comprehensive Plan Amendments (CPA);
Shoreline Master Program Update;
Bayview Ridge Subarea Plan Implementation;
Modifications to Floodplain Management Regulations;
Transfer of Development Rights (TDR); and
2016 Comprehensive Plan Update.

Other Projects:

Rural Forestry Initiative;
Envision Skagit 2060 Implementation;

Annual Capital Facilities Plan Update;
Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan;
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Low Impact Development (LID)
Permit Requirements;
Clean Samish Initiative;
Federal Emergency Management Agency/National Marine Fisheries Service Biological
Opinion Code Amendments;
Low Flow Stream Watersheds; and
Periodic Review of Special Purpose District Utility Plans.

Commissioner Dillon said she would prefer to focus on the Rural Forestry Initiative and Commissioner Dahlstedt agreed. Commissioner Dahlstedt said that the Bayview Ridge Airport Environs Overlay (AEO) zone and Subarea Plan Amendments should be added to the major projects list for future consideration in order to allow the public an opportunity to weigh in on the process.

There was a discussion as to whether the Bayview Ridge AEO should be included on the 2014 Work Plan.

Chair Wesen stated that since there were no Cities willing to receive lands there would be no benefit in including Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program in the major projects listing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dillon to approve the Resolution to establish a 2014 Work Plan for Legislative Land Use Plans, Policies and Regulation Proposals with the following changes: 1) move the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Program to the 2015 project listing; 2) move the Rural Forestry Initiative up to the 2014 project listing; and 3) change the date of Bayview Ridge AEO zone from September 2011 to January 2014. **(Resolution No. R20140108)** No seconder was required.

The vote passed on a 2 - 1 vote with Commissioner Dahlstedt dissenting.

3. Miscellaneous

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

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:09 a.m.

b) 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Interim Director:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 9:30 a.m.

Dan Berentson, Interim Director, was present to introduce the agenda items and answer questions.

1. Discussion: Reauthorization of the Clean Water Program (Fund 120)

Michael See, Water Resources Section Manager, provided a brief history of the Clean Water Program. He said that the Program was established in 2005 to address pollution of water quality in the marine shellfish growing areas of unincorporated Skagit County and to reduce the non-point sources of pollution impacting water quality in the Samish and Skagit River watersheds. Mr. See indicated that budget and finance charges were established in 2005 and had been amended as necessary to cover the costs associated implementing the Program's activities. The assessments and finance charges for the Program were due to expire on December 31, 2014.

Mr. See noted that the Public Works Department administered the Clean Water Program and proposed that the Board of County Commissioners reauthorize the Program; keep the finance charges the same for the next five (5) years; and retain the full-time Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) position.

Mr. See said that if the Board of County Commissioners approved the authorization, the next

step would be to hold the public hearing on May 13, 2014.

The Commissioners expressed their support of the Clean Water Program.

2. Presentation: 2013 Annual Report

Mr. Berentson submitted the Public Works 2013 Annual Report and stated that the Department maintained more than 800 miles of roads in rural Skagit County, operated a ferry system and solid waste facilities. Mr. Berentson introduced Division Managers and highlighted the Engineering; Operations; Ferry; Equipment; Natural Resources; Solid Waste; and Accounting Divisions projects for 2013.

Commissioner Dillon thanked the Solid Waste Division for opening the Sauk Transfer Station for landslide debris from the Town of Oso. Commissioner Dahlstedt thanked the staff for their hard work and dedication and discussed his recent meetings with Congresswoman DelBene; Senator Murray, and Representative Larsen in Washington, D.C. Chair Wesen thanked the Department for the thorough and detailed financial information in the report.

Mr. Berentson pointed out that the County would receive approximately \$35,823,000 in grant funding and would provide match requirements in the amount of \$6,760,000 from 2008 to 2019 and thanked Kelley Marriott and Samantha Clark for administering the grants to make sure that the County was in compliance with the grant requirements. He noted that the County partnered with multiple governmental, tribal, and private agencies to achieve mutual goals of each program.

3. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items for Public Works to discuss.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:03 a.m.

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

1. Public Comment Period

Roger Mitchell of Bow; Jack Arrington of Anacortes; Gary Haglund of Anacortes; Connie Munce of Anacortes; Gary Clancy of Anacortes; Randy Good of Hamilton; Ellen Bynum of Mount Vernon; Kathy Mitchell of Bow; Ed Stauffer of West Alger; commented on the Envision Skagit 2060 project; the grant that the County obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency; the need to preserve individual property rights; SMART Growth principles; the role of government in people's lives; the Delphi Technique; the emphasis on non-motorized transportation and urged the Board of County Commissioners not to adopt Envision Skagit 2060 Recommendations.

Comment Letters Submitted by the Following:

Gary Clancy; Ellen Bynum on behalf of the Friends of Skagit; and Roger Mitchell.

Seeing no further public comment forthcoming, the public comment period was closed at 12:04 p.m.

2. Miscellaneous Announcements

There were no miscellaneous announcements.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 12:04 p.m.

d) 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Planning and Development Services - Dale Pernula, Director:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 1:31 p.m.

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

1. Presentation/Discussion: Envision Skagit 2060 Citizen Committee Recommendations

Kirk Johnson, Senior Planner, said that the formal part of Envision Skagit 2060 had reached its conclusion. He reported that all the funds that had been allocated to the project had been used and that all the tasks had been completed. He provided an overview of the three phases of the Envision Skagit 2060 process and the October 2011 Envision Citizen Committee's Report. He stated that the Committee's recommendations were in line with the current Skagit County Comprehensive Plan in that they encouraged new growth in urban areas and sought to protect natural resource lands.

Sara Young with the Port of Skagit, said that the Port had been involved in the Envision Skagit process and supported the project. Ms. Young spoke about the Port, Skagit County, Skagit Council of Governments, and other partners completing the first phase of a regional inventory of industrial lands, as part of a process to improve economic recruitment efforts, and to determine if new industrial acreage was needed to meet projected employment growth.

Kris Knight with The Nature Conservancy, provided a brief overview of the Farms, Fish and Flood Initiative (3FI). He noted that the overall 3FI mission was consistent with the Envision Skagit's recommendation to encourage local and regional efforts to support natural resource industries and the ecosystem. He indicated the 3FI was a collaborative effort of state, local agencies, natural resource and conservative interests to create and advance mutually beneficial strategies that support the long-term viability of agriculture and salmon while reducing the risks of destructive floods.

Allen Rozema with Skagitians to Preserve Farmland, said that he supported the Envision Skagit project and the 3FI. He discussed preserving agricultural land base while restoring Chinook habitat. He discussed the Agricultural Industrial Cluster Analysis Study.

Margaret Fleek, City of Burlington Planner, spoke in support of the Envision Skagit project and discussed creating urban development opportunities in the City. She said that based on the ideas and recommendations, the City was moving forward to update their Comprehensive Plan and Codes.

Liz McNett Crowl, Consultant with Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) and Coordinator, Skagit Valley Hospital Outreach and Development, Healthy Communities, discussed the Skagit Regional Non-Motorized Plan (RNMP) being developed through SCOG.

Commissioner Dillon said that she believed in the Envision Skagit 2060 Project. She noted that the Envision Skagit 2060 Plan did not change the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Dahlstedt said that many of the Envision Skagit recommendations were already moving forward on he said he always appreciated getting public input. He stressed that it was important to communicate and plan ahead for the future.

Chair Wesen said it was important to plan ahead he said he strongly believed in the property rights of individuals and that the Envision Skagit Recommendations were a model and that any changes would need to go through the Comprehensive Plan process.

Gus Ramos, Envision Skagit Citizen Committee Member, said that he was extremely grateful to be able to participate in the process. Mr. Ramos announced that he would be retiring from the Housing Authority of Skagit County at the end of June and would be leaving the Skagit Valley Area. He thanked the Commissioners for giving him the opportunity to participate in the Envision Skagit process.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items to discuss.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 2:40 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ron Wesen, Chair

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Sharon D. Dillon, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board