

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 12, 2015, with Chair Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner Lisa Janicki, and Commissioner Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 8:32 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Dahlstedt 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 Dahlstedt introduced Planning and Development Services Director Dale Pernula.

1. Discussion/Possible Action: Recorded Motion from the Planning Commission Regarding Permanent Regulations for Marijuana Facilities

Mr. Pernula provided a memo dated May 11, 2015 which was recommending that the Commissioners move forward with the Planning Commission's Recorded Motion on Marijuana Facilities dated May 5, 2015, but with some additional exceptions and considerations. Mr. Pernula outlined the department's recommendations.

Memo and Motion can be found here:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/05112015>

The Commissioners discussed if they should evaluate each proposal before or after the two documents: 1) Planning Commission's Recorded Motion, and, 2) Planning and Development Services additional recommendations, were released to the public for review and comment. During the discussion, Chair Dahlstedt clarified that Planning and Development's memo regarding the Planning Commissions Recorded Motion would be given to the Planning Commission and discussed. Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Ryan Walters and Director Dale Pernula confirmed that it would.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the release of documents for public review, comment and consideration as they were, and that Planning and Development Services work with the Clerk of the Board to select a date for holding a public hearing. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. Miscellaneous

Planning and Development Services did not have any miscellaneous items to discuss.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:31 a.m.

b) 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Public Health and Community Services - Jennifer Johnson, Director:

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:01 a.m. and introduced Director Jennifer Johnson.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding an Application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) General Purpose Program

Ms. Johnson informed the Commissioners that they were present to consider testimony regarding Skagit County's joint application for a Community Development Block Grant from Washington State Department of Commerce to help families purchase affordable homes. She said that Community Services had been working again with Mr. Paul Schissler to apply for the grant funding.

Operations Manager Bob Hicks said that the grant would provide \$25,000 towards the purchase of a home and that approximately 30 homes would be funded. He also said that Island and Whatcom Counties were partnering with Skagit County on the program.

Chair Dahlstedt opened the public hearing at 10:05 a.m.

Kent Haberly was present and was representing Home Trust of Skagit. He briefed the Commissioners on the work Home Trust of Skagit performed to help families obtain permanent, affordable housing. He said that Home Trust of Skagit would be able to provide additional homes with the infusion of grant funds.

Jodi Monroe was present and was representing Home Trust of Skagit. She thanked Paul Schissler for representing Skagit County and for working on the grant application to the Department of Commerce.

John Moon was present and was representing Habitat for Humanity in Whatcom County and he informed the Commissioners that they often partnered with Kulshan Community Land Trust, like Habitat for Humanity in Skagit County partnered with Skagit Land Trust and he shared that the award of the funds from the Department of Commerce would help with their efforts in their communities.

Dean Fearing was present and was representing Kulshan Community Land Trust of Bellingham. He said that if funds were awarded by the Department of Commerce, they would be able to be leveraged to provide affordable homes to low income persons.

Nancy Larsen was present and was representing Whatcom Skagit Housing of Bellingham and she briefed the Commissioners on the work they performed to provide homes through their self-help building program. She said that their biggest challenge was having enough funding to purchase land for the homes that they built.

Paul Schissler of Bellingham said that it was a pleasure to work with Skagit County to find funding sources to help the

community. He said that he began working with Skagit County in 1995 and many successful projects had been funded through grants that they had received over the years.

Seeing no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public hearing at 10:26 a.m. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the application for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) General Purpose Program to the Department of Commerce. **(Resolution No. R20150180)** Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. Miscellaneous

Public Health and Community Services did not have any miscellaneous items to discuss.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:28 a.m.

c) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Emergency Medical Services - Mark Raaka, Director:

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:02 a.m. and introduced Transition Coordinator Earl Klinefelter.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding Proposed Revisions to Resolution No. R20150004, Setting the Ambulance Fee Schedule for the Adoption and Use by all Contracted Ambulance Service Providers in Skagit County

Mr. Klinefelter provided a PowerPoint to the Commissioners reviewing the proposed rate increases to the ambulance fee schedule. PowerPoint can be found here:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/05112015>

Mr. Klinefelter and the Commissioners discussed the levels of service billed by ambulance providers, and, the statewide problem regarding Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement of ambulance services which did not reimburse at the actual cost for services.

Chair Dahlstedt opened the public hearing at 11:19 a.m.

Carol Ehlers of Fidalgo Island was present to remind the Commissioners that 23% of Skagit County was 60 years of age or older and to consider other methods for people to get to the hospital if they needed care, for example by using the SKAT dial-a-ride instead of the ambulance. She said that service provided by SKAT dial-a-ride needed to be improved in Skagit County. She also discussed making sure that the standards for driveways and accessibility to the home by fire or ambulance be improved and updated.

Seeing no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public hearing at 11:25 a.m. which was seconded by Commissioner Janicki. The vote passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Resolution making revisions to Resolution No. R20150004, setting the Ambulance Fee Schedule for the adoption and use by all contracted ambulance service providers in Skagit County. (**Resolution No. R20150181**) Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. Miscellaneous

Emergency Medical Services did not have any miscellaneous items to discuss.

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

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

1. County and Individual Success Stories

No one was present to share any county or individual success stories.

2. Public Comment Period

Lori Scott of Burlington was present to comment on the Planning Commission's recent Recorded Motion and the Planning and Development Services Department's memo of additional recommendations. Ms. Scott briefly reviewed the current set of proposed recommendations and applied them to a marijuana facility located near her residence, Flower of Life Farms. She concluded that if the current recommendations were adopted by the Commissioners, than the Flower of Life Farms would not be in compliance. She pointed out that regulations for businesses and industries changed all of the time, and they had update practices to continue to be in compliance, and, that marijuana facilities should be expected to do the same.

Carol Ehlers of Fidaglo Island was present to discuss the importance of planning for water availability for residents and businesses, incorporating Washington State Laws within the plan, and providing an accurate map showing Skagit County water systems.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

No miscellaneous announcements were made.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 11:45 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chair

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Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

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Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board