

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2015**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 2, 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 9:31 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Presentation from Northwest Innovation Resource Center

Interim Executive Director Diane Kamionka of NW Innovation Resource Center (NWIRC) briefed the Commissioners on the services they provided to innovators, inventors and entrepreneurs to get their products and ideas to market. She said that NWIRC was created in 2011 as a 501c3 non-profit to support innovation in the northwest and to keep local talent from having to relocate to Seattle or California where similar services are traditionally found.

Ms. Kamionka shared how NWIRC assisted innovators, inventors and entrepreneurs by helping them with their strategy, providing tools about how to accomplish a particular task, and connecting them to others in the community who would be able to help them succeed.

The PowerPoint Ms. Kamionka shared with the Commissioners can be found here:
<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/O6012015>

Commissioner Janicki commented on NWIRC's Board of Directors and was impressed by the areas of expertise and leadership the Board provided NWIRC. She asked how NWIRC was funded.

Ms. Kamionka said that the NWIRC Board was very active in the community and that it was going to be expanding to include members from Skagit and Snohomish Counties. Ms. Kamionka said that NWIRC was funded through a variety of public and private funding opportunities.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Kamionka for sharing information about NWIRC. Chair Dahlstedt suggested Ms. Kamionka contact Kevin Murphy at Skagit Council of Governments to see if any funding opportunities would be available through any of their programs.

Contact information for NWIRC: www.nwirc.com telephone: (360) 255-7870.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:55 a.m.

b) 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Presentation from Northwest Youth Services Regarding Strategic Plan to End Homelessness

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:00 a.m. and introduced Executive Director of Northwest Youth Services Riannon Bardsley.

Ms. Bardsley briefed the Commissioners on the support services and programs offered to homeless youth at Northwest Youth Services. She said annual counts of homeless youth were taken once a year in each county and that Skagit County counted 98 youths. Ms. Bardsley said a more accurate count would be just under 300. She said that some of their partners included Community Action of Skagit County and United Way which helped them provide shelter and other services.

Ms. Bardsley said that Northwest Youth Services provided 18 beds to youth. Another shelter, Oasis Teen Shelter which is part of YMCA, offered 8 beds. She said that the reasons behind youth homelessness were multi-faceted and often involved fleeing a domestic violence situation, gang involvement, and mental illness. She also shared that one in four youth who age out of foster care in Washington end up homeless within a year and that the system was failing our youth.

Ms. Bardsley encouraged community involvement and volunteerism to mentor local youth and change their lives. The Commissioners echoed the need for the local community to step forward towards providing the resources needed to effect change and stability in young people's lives.

Additional information about Northwest Youth Services can be found at www.nwys.org

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:27 a.m.

c) 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Parks, Recreation and Fair - Brian Adams, Director:

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:32 a.m. and introduced Brian Adams.

1. Proclamation: National Trails Day

Brian Adams shared that June 6, 2015 was National Trails Day and he invited Executive Director of Skagit Land Trust Molly Doran, Director of Pacific Northwest Trail Association Jon Knechtel, Director of City of Anacortes Parks and Recreation Gary Robinson, Director of Mount Vernon Downtown Association Ellen Gamson, Jim Taylor of Mount Vernon Trail Builders Association, and Healthy Communities Specialist at Skagit Valley Hospital Liz McNett Crowl to share information about work being performed to maintain and expand trails in Skagit County, and, to suggest some trail opportunities to explore. PowerPoint presentation: <ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/06012015> The Commissioners echoed the importance of trails and also had a brief discussion with some audience members who asked about the ability to create trails on dikes in Skagit County. Commissioner Wesen read the proclamation regarding June 6, 2015 as National

Trails Day in Skagit County. Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceeding at 11:16 a.m.

2. Miscellaneous

Parks and Recreation 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 11:33 a.m.

No one was present for County and Individual Success Stories, Public Comment Period, or Miscellaneous Announcements.

1. County and Individual Success Stories
2. Public Comment Period
3. Miscellaneous Announcements

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 11:34 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chair

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board
