

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 6, 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 8:30 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. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Director:

1. Proclamation: Flood Awareness Week

Public Works Director Dan Berentson and Manager of Emergency Management Mark Anderson briefed the Commissioners on the activities planned for Flood Awareness Week which included many multi-jurisdictional meetings, training events, and field work.

Commissioner Wesen read the proclamation regarding October 19 through 23 as Flood Awareness Week.

2. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding a Franchise Agreement with Holiday Hideaway Association to Install, Operate and Maintain Facilities for the Purpose of a Water Utility System Across Certain Roads and Rights-of-Way in the Defined Franchise Area

Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Steve Fallquist and Engineering Technician Torey Nelson briefed the Commissioners on the Franchise Agreement that had been finalized with Holiday Hideaway Association. Mr. Fallquist said that the Franchise Agreement was a detailed contract authorized by state law which provided specific terms of protection for the county, and, was the most cost effective solution for Holiday Hideaway to install the water utility system. Mr. Nelson said that the term of the Agreement was 15 years and insurance was set at \$5 million dollars.

Chair Dahlstedt opened the public hearing at 8:56 a.m. Seeing no one present to provide public testimony, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public hearing at 8:57 a.m. which was seconded by Commissioner Janicki.

Chair Dahlstedt asked Mr. Nelson if any written correspondence had been received in opposition to the Franchise

Agreement. Mr. Nelson informed the Commissioners that none had been received in opposition.

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Resolution authorizing execution of the Franchise Agreement with Holiday Hideaway Association to install, operate and maintain facilities for the purpose of a Water Utility System across certain roads and rights-of-way in the defined franchise area. **(Resolution No. R20150325)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Franchise Agreement with Holiday Hideaway Association to install, operate and maintain facilities for the purpose of a Water Utility System across certain roads and rights-of-way in the defined franchise area. **(Contract No. C20150437)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

3. Miscellaneous

Public Works did not have any miscellaneous items to discuss. Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:00 a.m.

b) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Skagit Valley Tulip Festival - Volunteer of the Year Award

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 9:30 a.m. and introduced Executive Director of the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival Cindy Verge.

Ms. Verge briefed the Commissioners on the recent international award won by Marinus Rouw from the International Festival of Events Association. Ms. Verge shared the changes inspired by Mr. Rouw since initially forming the Tulip Festival in 1983 which has grown from a two-day to a month long international festival.

More about Mr. Rouw and the International Festival of Events Association can be found at:
<http://files.ifea.com/Awards/IFEA-Zambelli-VolunteeroftheYear-2015-MarinusRouw.pdf>

Mr. Rouw thanked Ms. Verge for nominating him, and the Commissioners congratulated him for his 33 years of excellent volunteerism.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:46 a.m.

c) 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Dispute Resolution Center - Proclamation Recognizing October as Conflict Resolution Month in Skagit County

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:00 a.m. and introduced Senior Director of Volunteers of America (VOA) LaDessa Croucher. Ms. Croucher noted that VOA served Skagit, Snohomish, and Island Counties and she and Ms. Young provided a PowerPoint presentation to the Commissioners which gave an overview of the programs offered by the Dispute

Resolution Center through Volunteers of America. VOA helped people in need of mediation services, or training, for assistance with small claims court, family medication or foreclosure medication. Contact Information: Dispute Resolution Center (360) 873-8450. There was discussion about another program that was successful: the Restorative Justice Program.

The PowerPoint presentation can be found at:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/10052015>

Ms. Croucher said that the Dispute Resolution Center has been able to resolve 60% of the small claims cases referred by District Court Judges and 80% of family mediation cases. Foreclosure mediation services are also provided by Volunteers of America. Free housing counseling can be received by calling 1-877-894-4663. Ms. Croucher said that when the program started in 2011, VOA received 325 cases. She reported that they had been able to close 205 of them.

Ms. Croucher ended by briefing the Commissioners on some of the new partnerships and programs VOA had been working on which included offering some courses through Skagit Valley College, providing training to local police officers on conflict resolution, and expanded online services.

Commissioner Janicki read the proclamation regarding October as Conflict Resolution Month in Skagit County.

Chair Dahlstedt invited audience member Peter Papadopoulos to the podium. Mr. Papadopoulos shared information about the lengthy and involved training offered by VOA to become a mediator.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:33 a.m.

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

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:31 a.m.

1. County and Individual Success Stories

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

2. Public Comment Period

Dean Shelton of Mount Vernon, Mr. Tim Moser of Sedro-Woolley, and Mr. Ben Oliver of Anacortes were present to share concerns about changes to the county-wide Emergency Medical Services system and Director Mark Raaka.

3. Miscellaneous Announcement

No miscellaneous announcements were made. Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 11:50 a.m.

e) 11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Proclamation: Annual Buddy Walk

Coordinator for Skagit County Parent to Parent Heather Milliren briefed the Commissioners on the upcoming annual Buddy Walk which was being held in Mount Vernon at Bakerview Park to promote acceptance for those with down syndrome. Mother of Serenity Thomas, and Jessica Caldwell both shared how the Buddy Walk had been important to them in their lives and they encouraged the Commissioners to attend.

Commissioner Wesen read the proclamation recognizing October 2015 as Down Syndrome Awareness Month in Skagit County.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 12:05 p.m.

f) 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Proclamation: 4-H Week in Skagit County

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 4:16 p.m. and introduced 4-H Coordinator Dorothy Elsner.

Several 4-H members, leaders and parents joined in the Pledge of Allegiance, the 4-H Pledge and shared stories about their projects and involvement in the 4-H program.

Service Pins were presented to the following volunteers:
Yvette Hyatt; Karen Johnson; and Michael See - 5 years;
Dorey Jones - 10 years;
Lee McNeill - 15 years;
Becky McCullen - 25 years;
Cheri Nelson - 35 years;
Mary Hillyard and Bonita - 45 years.

The Commissioners congratulated and thanked everyone for the presentation and for their service.

Commissioner Janicki read the proclamation recognizing October 4 through 15, 2015 as 4-H Week in Skagit County.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 4:53 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chair

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board