

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 8, 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. - 10:00 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Director:

Director Dan Berentson; and County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter, were present and introduced Representative Chris Lytton, Department of Commerce Director of Economic Development for the Clean Technology Sector Brian Young, and Governor's Maritime Industry Sector Lead, State of Washington Department of Commerce, Joshua Berger.

Other Attendees:

Port of Anacortes Commissioner Keith Ruben, Thomas Boucher with Senator Rick Larsen's office, and Joe Downes with Senator Maria Cantwell's office.

1. Presentation of the Electric Ferry Design Concept by Joe Payne, P.E., of EESImarine (Electrical Engineering Systems Integration for the Marine and Offshore Industries); and Eric Engelbrecht, Vice President of the Marine Division of Art Anderson Associates

Ferry Operations Division Manager Rachel Rowe introduced Joe Payne, Professional Engineer, of EESImarine (Electrical Engineering Systems Integration for the Marine and Offshore Industries).

Mr. Payne provided a PowerPoint presentation introducing the EZE Ferry (Electric -Zero Emissions) electric ferry design concept.

PowerPoint Presentation:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/12072015/>

Mr. Payne introduced Vice President - Marine Division of Art Anderson Associates Eric Engelbrecht. Mr. Engelbrecht provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding various funding alternatives that Skagit County may qualify for which

included the State of Washington Department of Commerce Clean Energy Fund 2; United States Maritime Administration Funding programs; and public and private partnerships.

PowerPoint Presentation:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/12072015/>

There was a discussion regarding requirements for federal funding and deadline requirements; vanadium redox flow battery technology, the design, structure of the ferry; and the potential to recycle the batteries and parts.

Ms. Rowe noted that the M/V Guemes could continue to operate for another 10 to 15 years but would need a major overhaul that could include re-powering the current vessel with new engines, transmissions, and outdrives.

Mr. Young expressed support for the electric ferry and noted that his office would be willing to help Skagit County locate funding sources for the project if the County decided to move forward.

Steve Orsini of Guemes Island and member of the Guemes Island Ferry Committee addressed the issue of global warming; expressed support for a non-emitting ferry, and spoke about the reliability of the vessel.

Bud Ulman of Guemes Island raised the question about whether the design would fit into the existing dock and if there would be funding for non-electric boats.

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

b) 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Parks, Recreation, and Fair - Brian Adams, Director:

1. Commemoration of Tursi Trail

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 10:12 a.m.

Director Brian Adams provided pictures of John Tursi showing him sitting in a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) truck at Deception Pass State Park and a picture of the new Tursi Trail connection. Mr. Adams provided a brief history of Mr. Tursi's philanthropic community service.

Mr. Adams thanked Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Steve Fallquist; the Public Works Department; Bob Vaux; John Pope; Friends of the Forest; John Semrau; Liz McNett Crowl; Tim Manns; Skagit Land Trust; Jack Hartt; Molly Doran; Bill and Marcia Zirbel; and Harold Mousel for their collaboration on the project.

Executive Director of Skagit Land Trust Molly Doran said that the Tursi trail connected the Anacortes Community Forest Lands and Deception Pass State Park. Ms. Doran said that Mr. Tursi was a pioneer conservationist and provided the history of his conservation efforts.

Bob Vaux of the City of Anacortes thanked the Board of County Commissioners, the City of Anacortes, and a variety of elected officials for their support of the project.

Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Board John Semrau read an excerpt from the 2003 Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan and thanked everyone for the success of the project.

Coordinator of Skagit Healthy Communities Liz McNett Crowl spoke about the importance of trails and the impact on the community.

Anacortes Friends of the Forest Denise Crowe expressed her appreciation of Mr. Tursi's humanitarian devotion, friendship and encouragement.

Mr. Tursi expressed his appreciation for Whidbey and Fidalgo Islands and shared memories of forest lands and experience with the wildlife on the Islands. He said that he contributed funding to the City and the State and that it gave him great satisfaction. Mr. Tursi thanked the property owners who deeded their property to contribute to the Trail.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Tursi and his wife for their lifelong contribution to the community, generosity and his hard work with the CCC.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:56 a.m.

c) 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

The Commissioners commented on the Tursi Trail.

2. Public Comment Period

There was no one present to provide public comment.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Commissioners reminded everyone to stay safe during the inclement weather.

d) *5:30 p.m. Skagit Valley College, and the SVC Foundation Board of Governors 37th Annual Holiday Reception (McIntyre Hall, 2501 East College Way, Mount Vernon)

IV. EMERGENCY SESSION:

Chair Dahlstedt, Commissioner Janicki and Commissioner Wesen met in an Emergency Session to consider a Resolution declaring an emergency for storm and flooding.

Chair Dahlstedt called the emergency meeting to order at 2:45 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2015.

Commissioner Janicki read the Resolution into the record:

Whereas, a series of weather systems brought heavy rainfall and high winds to Skagit County beginning on or about December 8,

2015, and currently continuing, causing the Skagit River to rise to at or near flood stage; and

Whereas, these storm conditions and rains caused localized flooding, slides and/or damages throughout many areas of Skagit County, resulting in damage to property and government infrastructure; and

Whereas, it was or will become necessary for Skagit County personnel to take action to help prevent further damage to property and government infrastructure within Skagit County; and

Whereas, RCW 36.32.270 allows the County to waive competitive building requirements pursuant to RCW 39.04.280 in the event of an emergency.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of County Commissioners hereby declare that an emergency exists effective at 1:00 p.m., on December 8, 2015, and hereby authorize the expenditure of funds as required to meet the emergency.

Public Works Director Dan Berentson announced that the Emergency Coordination Center would open at 5:00 p.m. this afternoon.

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Declaration of Emergency for Storm and Flooding. **(Resolution No. R20150386)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 2:51 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chair

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board