

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 19, 2016, with Chair Lisa Janicki, Commissioner Ron Wesen, and Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Janicki called the proceedings to order at 9:31 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Auditor's Office - Jeanne Youngquist, Director:

Chair Janicki introduced Chief Deputy Auditor Barbara Leander.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding Amending Skagit County Code Chapter 1.20 Adjusting Boundary Lines of Skagit County Voting Precincts in the Cities of Sedro-Woolley, Burlington, Anacortes, Mount Vernon and Unincorporated Skagit County

Ms. Leander provided information about the boundary line adjustments and the methods used to determine placement of boundary lines and whether or not to divide or create new voting precincts.

Elections Supervisor David Cunningham provided additional information regarding Washington State Code and the creation or division of voting precincts. Before Chair Janicki opened the public hearing, Ms. Leander also shared information with the Commissioners on another topic. Ms. Leander said that many of the ballot drop boxes located throughout Skagit County were so well used during elections that they would be installing larger capacity boxes and she encouraged their continued use.

Chair Janicki opened the public hearing at 9:43 a.m.

Seeing no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 9:44 a.m.

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

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 10:00 a.m. and introduced Mr. Adams.

1. Veterans Park Fundraising Kick-off

Parks, Recreation, and Fair Director Brian Adams provided some background information on the formation of the idea for the Veterans Park at the Northern State Recreation Area and briefed the Board on the main features of the Veterans Park. He thanked Veteran and Community Member John Schmidt for taking the lead on phase one of the park: building the picnic shelter. A ribbon-cutting/groundbreaking ceremony for the picnic shelter has been planned for May 20, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. at the park located off Helmick Road in Sedro-Woolley.

Mr. Adams shared that additional fundraising would be needed to complete work on the Veterans Park and that a local non-profit for the Veterans Park was now ready to accept donations to that end. He said that donations could be mailed or dropped off at:

Skagit County Veterans Community Park Rallye Auto Sales 1010 Old Hwy 99
Burlington, WA 98233 Telephone: (360) 757-7770

Commissioner Dahlstedt shared how the idea for a park honoring veterans had started with a request from Doyle Guffie to display a large billboard sign honoring veterans which he acquired at the Northern State Recreation Area. He said that donations and materials were needed to complete the park and that Representative Dan Kristiansen was donating the wood needed for the picnic shelter through his personal business.

Veteran and Community Member John Schmidt said that he and other local veterans had been wanting to work on a project to honor veterans and provide a gathering place for them and the community. He said that the concrete and dirt work were being donated and he encouraged people who wanted to contribute money or items for the park to give to the non-profit Veterans Community Park 501(c)(3) at Rallye Auto Sales.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 10:24 a.m.

c) 11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Proclamation Recognizing Earth Day

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 11:00 a.m. and introduced Parks and Recreation Director Brian Adams. Mr. Adams presented the proclamation acknowledging Earth Day from a parks and recreational perspective and shared information about upcoming events and work parties to celebrate Earth Day in Skagit County.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Adams for the information and Commissioner Dahlstedt read the proclamation regarding Earth Day in Skagit County.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 11:07 a.m.

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

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 11:30 a.m. Since no one was present for county and individual success stories, public comment period, or miscellaneous announcements, the Commissioners agreed to move into the 11:45 a.m. success stories from local non-profit organizations.

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

e) 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Success Stories from Local Non-Profit Organizations

Mary McGoffin, Executive Director of Skagit Community Foundation introduced Carla Arnold from Youthnet.

Carla Arnold, Co-Executive Director of Youthnet provided information about their non-profit organization which was formed in 1969 to assist youth and families in Skagit, Snohomish, Island, San Juan and Whatcom counties. She said that Youthnet's mission was to provide services to youth and families which would help them attain a successful future and that much of their focus was on foster children and families. Ms. Arnold also shared that Youthnet had recently partnered with Leadership Skagit to provide a program for youth aging out of foster care who still needed to gain the skills needed for college, work, and living on their own.

Ms. McGoffin introduced Kenny Holzemer from an organization that Skagit Community Foundation had recently learned about: Growing Veterans.

Kenny Holzemer, Development Director, shared information about Growing Veterans including funding sources and farm locations. Mr. Holzemer said that Growing Veterans helped

reintegrate veterans into society after active duty by growing, selling, and donating food from one of their farm locations. He said that many veterans returning from active duty suffered from physical and mental injuries. Mr. Holzemer said that 20 veterans take their lives each day due to Post-Traumatic Stress injuries and that Growing Veterans vision was to end the isolation that leads to suicide and make sustainable agriculture the norm. Growing Veterans Mission is to empower military veterans to grow food, communities, and each other through peer-support and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training certification. To learn more about Growing Veterans or to donate visit growingveterans.org or call (360) 333-7712. The Commissioners thanked Skagit Community Foundation for inviting Ms. Arnold and Mr. Holzemer to share information about their non-profit organizations.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Janicki adjourned the proceedings at 11:55 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Lisa Janicki, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board