

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, June 14, 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. Emergency Medical Services - Mark Raaka, Director:

Emergency Medical Services Director Mark Raaka outlined the four (4) proposed changes to the Central Valley Ambulance Authority Board:

- 1) Composition of the Board members;
- 2) Selection process of individuals to fill the positions;
- 3) Change terms limits from two (2) years to three (3) years;
- 4) Add a new item no. 4. under section no. 3 of the Ordinance to indicate that member terms would be limited to three (3) terms of three (3) years each, nine (9) years total for each member.

Mr. Raaka noted that the proposed changes were made in collaboration with Central Valley Ambulance Authority Director Kirk Hale. Mr. Raaka outlined the proposed process to appoint and/or reappoint members to the Central Valley Ambulance Authority Board which were also outlined in Exhibit "B" to the proposed Ordinance. He noted that the proposed changes would more accurately reflect the current composition of the Central Valley Ambulance Authority Board and would help to assure a standardized process for appointing and reappointing members to the Board.

Link to Proposed Ordinance No. O20090004:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/06132016/>

1. Public Hearing to Consider Testimony Regarding Potential Revisions to Ordinance No. O20090004 Relating to Central Valley Ambulance Authority

Chair Janicki opened the public hearing at 9:37 a.m. seeing no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public hearing at 9:38 a.m. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Raaka indicated that he would present the Ordinance to the Board of County Commissioners for their consideration on the Consent Agenda on either Monday, June 20, 2016 or Monday, June 27, 2016.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 9:40 a.m.

b) 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Director:

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 10:00 a.m.

1. Update by Ferry Operations Division Manager Rachel Rowe - Electric Ferry

County Engineer Paul Randall Grutter and Ferry Operations Manager Rachel Rowe introduced the agenda item; Global Account Manager, Marine Technology Manager Luke Briant with

Siemens Industry, Inc.; and John Ockerman with Ockerman Automaton Consulting. Ms. Rowe announced that Skagit County was in the very beginning stages of planning for the replacement of the M/V Guemes and that the County had not entered into a contract with Mr. Brian or Mr. Ockerman. She said that the preliminary work was being performed on a volunteer basis.

Mr. Briant and Mr. Ockerman provided an overview of the work that their companies provided and presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding battery powered ferries; the technology used to power the vessels; estimated cost of the vessel; and design concepts for the replacement ferry.

Mr. Briant provided information and a video about the Opperdal, Norway All Electric Ferry MV Ampere and explained that all-electric vessels could reduce maintenance costs, and were more efficient.

Mr. Ockerman said that Ockerman Automation Consulting Inc. had a long history as marine engineers and systems integrators and that they had extensive experience in construction and refit programs.

A discussion ensued about supporting local experts and the fact that Ockerman Automation Consulting was based in Anacortes; the history and wide range of expertise of Siemens Industry, Inc.; the fact that there were no all-electric ferries operating in the United States and the uniqueness of the project; the return on investment of an all-electric ferry; weight of the battery; the potential to reduce fuel costs; environmentally friendly aspects of clean power; and battery technology.

Ms. Rowe explained that for about the last year, the Public Works Ferry Division had been in the information gathering phase and the next step in the process would be to formerly document the project following the Public Works Engineering Division project process which included, but was not limited to, identifying the project; the project team and all of the stakeholders. Ms. Rowe indicated that the project planning phase would involve multiple people including the ferry crew, residents of Guemes Island, the community at large and other stakeholders in the area. She noted that once the project details had been identified, the Department would begin applying for funding and spoke about the potential of a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant. She noted that a TIGER Grant in rural areas would fund 100% of the project and that the next funding period would occur in the spring of 2017.

Link to PowerPoint Presentation, Video and Presentation Materials:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/06132016/>

The Commissioners expressed their appreciation to Mr. Briant and Ockerman for the detailed presentation and for their time.

Chair Janicki recognized that the following parties were present in the audience: representative from Puget Sound Energy; representative from the federal delegation; many residents of Guemes Island.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 10:58 a.m.

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

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

1. County and Individual Success Stories

There were no County and Individual Success Stories provided.

2. Public Comment Period

Carol Ehlers of West Fidalgo Island commented on a project she had been working on about shoreline access; the need to identify and designate scenic roads and parks in the Comprehensive Plan; the need for more time for the public to read and comment on the

Comprehensive Plan; the need to clearly define urban services and rural services in the Resource Section of the Comprehensive Plan; and the lack of public safety at Sharpe Park.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Kiwanis Salmon BBQ on Friday, June 17 at Skagit River Park Playfields and at Maiben Park on Saturday, June 18.

Dedication of Tesarik Little League Field on Saturday, June 18 at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Janicki announced that this morning, Skagit County had participated in a bond issuance to refinance existing debt from 2006 and allow for critical facility upgrades to the heating, ventilating, and air conditioning at the downtown administrative campus. She announced that due to the successful refinance of the bonds, the County was able to reduce its interest costs by over \$600,000 for the remaining life of the debt which would be another 10 years.

[Link to Press Release - Refinancing 2006 Bonds:](http://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/06132016/)

[ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/06132016/](http://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/06132016/)

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Janicki adjourned the proceedings at 11:50 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Lisa Janicki, Chair

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board