

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, with Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, and Commissioner Lisa Janicki present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wesen called the proceedings to order at 9:03 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Dale Pernula, Director:

Director Dale Pernula said the Board adopted the interim ordinance extending the time period for preliminary approval of short subdivisions by one year (from 36 to 48 months) on March 6, 2017. He said this was done after the State Legislature, recognizing the economic hardship created by the recent recession, took action to extend long subdivisions.

Discussion was held on the timeframe for adopting a final ordinance on the matter.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding an Interim Ordinance Extending the Time Period for Preliminary Short Subdivision Approvals

Chair Wesen opened the public hearing at 9:11 a.m.

Seeing no one present to provide public testimony, Commissioner Janicki made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Commissioner Dahlstedt. The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:13 a.m.

b) 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Proclamation Recognizing April 12, 2017 as Washington State Arbor Day and April 28, 2017 as National Arbor Day

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 10:01 a.m.

Skagit Conservation District's Public Information and Education Coordinator Kristi Carpenter, and Skagit Conservation District Forester Al Craney provided background information on Arbor Day and the numerous benefits of trees.

The presentation provided by Skagit Conservation District regarding Arbor Day can be found here:
<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/04102017/>

Discussion was held on the importance of healthy forests, the importance of renewable timber harvesting, and activities occurring in celebration of Arbor Day in Skagit County.

Commissioner Janicki read the Proclamation regarding Arbor Day.

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

c) 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Facilities Management - Dan Fitting, Director:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 10:30 a.m. and introduced Facilities Director Dan Fitting.

Mr. Fitting informed the Board that they were required by Washington State law to make a decision regarding whether or not to move forward with disposing of the county-owned real property located at 45942 Main Street in Concrete within three days of the public hearing which was held on Monday, April 10, 2017.

1. Decision: Disposal of Skagit County Real Property Located at 45942 Main Street, Concrete, WA

The Commissioners discussed their concerns about not wanting the current tenant of the building displaced (or displaced too soon by a new owner), that the cost to make improvements to the building was high compared to the value of the building, and that repairs to the building would cost less if made by a private party.

Further discussion followed to sell the building below market value in order for repairs to be more feasible, and to negotiate a new lease with the current tenant that would be assignable to a new owner.

Commissioner Janicki asked Mr. Fitting to prepare a new Resolution to come forward on Monday for execution with an additional paragraph added to the effect that a new lease would be executed with the current tenant which would be assignable and allow them to remain in the building for at least 6 months.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve , which was later rescinded (see Miscellaneous under item f) below), to approve that a Resolution come forward on Monday for execution for the disposal of the property in the amount of \$2,500 with an additional paragraph added that a new lease with the current tenant would be executed and assignable to a new owner for a period of six months. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:45 a.m.

d) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Proclamation Recognizing Thursday, May 4, 2017 as a National Day of Prayer

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:02 a.m. and introduced Sharon Eldridge.

Sharon Eldridge and George Eldridge, representing Pray Skagit, thanked the Commissioners for their continued support of the annual National Day of Prayer. A video was played with a message from the prayer task force, information was provided about this history of the event and the role of faith throughout America's history, and photographs taken of the prayer session that occurred on the Skagit County Superior Courthouse steps last year were shown.

The Commissioners thanked Sharon and George Eldridge for coordinating the annual day of prayer and Commissioner Dahlstedt read the proclamation regarding May 2, 2017 as a National Day of Prayer.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:20 a.m.

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

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

1. County and Individual Success Stories

No one provided county and individual success stories.

2. Public Comment Period

Carol Ehlers of Fidalgo Island discussed the value and importance of accurate maps, the ability to refer to them and rely on them for short and long term planning processes and their availability.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Commissioners encouraged residents to enjoy the Tulip Festival which was currently underway.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:45 a.m.

f) 2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Jail Construction Update from Marc Estvold, Project Manager

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 2:01 p.m., excused Commissioner Dahlstedt who was traveling to Cowlitz County, and introduced Project Manager Marc Estvold.

Mr. Estvold informed the Board that there were no significant change orders or consultant amendments to bring forward, he showed photographs of multiple areas inside the jail, said that the building was getting close to substantial completion, and that it would be operational in the summer.

III. MISCELLANEOUS (CONTINUATION FROM ITEM C) ABOVE:

Director of Facilities Management Dan Fitting was present to inform the Board that the motion made earlier in the day, at the 10:30 a.m. session for the decision on the disposal of Skagit County real property located at 45942 Main Street in Concrete, would need to be rescinded and the original Resolution prepared for execution would need to be executed as advised by Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Melinda Miller.

Melinda Miller was present to advise against including the additional paragraph within the Resolution that a new lease with the current tenant would be executed and assignable to the new owner for a period of 6 months. She said that if the terms of the lease could not be agreed to, then an additional hearing would need to be held by the Commissioners and the Treasurer would need to re-advertise and post the sale of the property (which would be expensive and prolong the sale of the property).

Ms. Miller said that the Commissioners had been clear with their desires for the sale of the property and she was confident that County Administrator Tim Holloran and Director of Facilities Dan Fitting would work to meet their expectations.

County Administrator Tim Holloran informed the Board that he spoke to Commissioner Dahlstedt by telephone and that he agreed to the motion being rescinded and amended. Also, it was pointed out that the timeline for the sale of the property could still be set, and, the County

Administrator had the authorization to cancel the sale.

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki rescind the motion made earlier in the morning at 10:30 a.m. regarding the disposal of real property and to approve the Resolution as presented by legal counsel to dispose of real property in the amount of \$2,500. Chair Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously. Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt's absence was excused

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 2:30 p.m.

g) 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Parks and Recreation - Brian Adams, Director:

1. National Softball Tournament

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 3:31 p.m. and introduced Director Brian Adams who provided an overview of some of the recent improvements made at the Skagit Playfields in Mount Vernon.

Mr. Adams then introduced District 15 USA Commissioner Jim Martin to provide information about the upcoming region 9 tournament.

Mr. Martin informed the Commissioners that the last national softball tournament that occurred in Skagit County was in 2009, and, that for the last two years, Skagit County had hosted the state tournament.

Mr. Martin provided an overview of the upcoming tournament occurring over the Labor Day weekend in September. He said that 30-40 teams were expected to participate with 25 or more teams coming from out-of-state, \$288,000 of direct spending in Skagit County was projected, and three hotels had agreed to hold a total of 120 rooms for the event.

Mark White, softball tournament organizer, thanked Parks and Recreation Director Brian Adams for the excellent condition and maintenance of the Skagit Playfields and said that staff was attentive, friendly, and helpful. He briefed the Commissioners on some of the costs associated with running a tournament and said that while the high \$500 per team entry fee made it sound like they would be making a lot of money on the tournament, the costs to run the tournament were high as well.

Mr. White said that he wanted to host a successful tournament. In order to do so, he asked that Skagit County waive the standard per-game fee charged per-field so that those dollars could be used for other costs, staff the playfields with regular full-time employees instead of part-time summer help, and make sure all of the lights worked on the fields. He said that Skagit County's help would go towards providing a fun experience that would bring people back to the region.

USA member Bill Silves informed the Commissioners that a national slow pitch tournament was the hardest to put on and that they usually lose money. He asked Skagit County to provide the use of the fields at no charge.

Discussion was held regarding entry fees and the budget for the tournament. Commissioner Janicki said that they would probably be able to apply for Skagit County Lodging Tax. Other than that fund, she was not aware of additional funding to assist with their requests and she said that the Commissioners would need to discuss options with Budget and Finance Director Trisha Logue, and, Parks and Recreation Director Brian Adams.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 4:05 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ron Wesen, Chair

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt , Commissioner

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board