The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 25, 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 9:30 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA

   a) 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Presentation: Community Action of Skagit County 2016 Report and Volunteer Appreciation Week

Chair Wesen introduced Elizabeth Jennings from Community Action of Skagit County who discussed National Volunteer Month and the role of Community Action. She said that they helped match 4,000 community volunteers to over 160 nonprofits in the county. She encouraged involvement and said that there was a list of volunteer opportunities on their website.

Executive Director of United Way Debra Lancaster and the Commissioners discussed volunteering and the positive impacts. Commissioner Janicki read the proclamation regarding Skagit Volunteer Month. Executive Director Bill Henkel of Community Action Agency of Skagit County provided the 2016 Report to the Commissioners. It included an overview of the number of people who received assistance and through which programs, the types of connections they were able to provide to people, their work on engaging with people to create better systems of support, plans for a larger office, and events coming up to participate in to support Community Action. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Henkel for his leadership.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:30 a.m.

   b) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Proclamation Recognizing the Week of April 30 through May 6, 2017, as Soil and Water Stewardship Week

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:00 a.m. and introduced Skagit Conservation District Public Information Coordinator Kristi Carpenter. Ms. Carpenter introduced their new Manager Bill Blake and informed the Commissioners that new board members were also joining Skagit Conservation District.

Ms. Carpenter provided background information on Soil and Water Stewardship Week and said that the theme was “Healthy Soils are Full of Life!”

Youth Education Coordinator Cindy Pierce informed the Commissioners that their poster competition had good participation. She thanked Crystal Briggs, Carl Fuller, Phil Roberts, and Max Ross who judged the posters.

Ms. Pierce invited the poster contest winners to the podium to talk about their posters and to give them their prizes. Winners this year were: overall winner Dalton Kurtz, runner-up winner Addison Felty, 3rd grade winner Allison Geibig, 4th grade winner Addison Felty, 5th grade winner Dalton Kurtz, 6th grade winner Hannah Dutton, and high school sophomore winner Ruth Coronel.
The Commissioners congratulated the winners and Commissioner Dahlstedt read the proclamation regarding April 30 through May 6 as Soil and Water Stewardship Week.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceeding at 11:18 a.m.

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

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

1. County and Individual Success Stories

2. Public Comment Period

   Carol Ehlers of Fidalgo Island commented on the April 24, 2017 meeting which she attended regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Grizzly Bear Reintroduction in the North Cascades and she thanked the Commissioners for organizing the important meeting and representing the concerns of local residents.

   She wanted to point out that the National Park Service forgot to account for the Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation Areas and she discussed the importance of recreation in the North Cascades Ecosystem and Highway 20 which linked eastern Washington to western Washington geographically and economically. She provided a map showing the recreation areas from the United States Department of the Interior/National Park Service general management plan.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

   The Commissioners made miscellaneous announcements to please drive carefully during the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Ron Wesen, Chair

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

_________________________________________
Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board