

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2017**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, August 22, 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 8:31 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Director:

County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter was present to introduce the agenda items and provided an update about the Lower Finney Creek Bridge Project. He said that the contractor had worked overtime in order to complete the project and they were able to open the bridge to traffic last night at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Water Resources Technician Tracy Alker noted that Lake Management District No. 4 (LMD 4) for Clear and Beaver Lakes was originally created in 2007 for a period of ten (10) years after the majority of waterfront property owners voted to charge themselves a special assessment to finance the management of aquatic weeds. She noted that after the District's ten-year term expired, earlier this year, ballots were mailed to property owners asking the question of whether or not to reestablish LMD 4. The majority of property owners voted in favor of reestablishing the District.

Ms. Alker provided information about the maintenance activities that the special assessments would provide.

Commissioner Janicki abstained from voting due to her husband being a board member of LMD 4.

1. Public Hearing to Consider Testimony Regarding the Proposed Special Assessment Roll, Rates and Charges for the Skagit County Lake Management District #4 (LDM4) for Clear and Beaver Lakes

Chair Wesen opened the public hearing at 8:40 a.m.

Parks and Recreation Director Brian Adams thanked Public Works for all the work that had been done to reestablish LMD 4.

Seeing no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Dahlstedt made a motion to close the public hearing at 8:42 a.m., which was seconded by Commissioner Janicki. The vote passed unanimously.

2. Possible Action - Resolution Confirming the Proposed Special Assessment Roll, Rates, and Charges for Skagit County Lake Management District #4(LDM4) for Clear and Beaver Lakes

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve the Resolution confirming the special assessment roll, rates and charges for the Skagit County Lake Management District #4 (LDM 4) for Clear and Beaver Lakes (**Resolution No. R20170174**) Chair Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

3. Update - Burlington Northern Overpass (BNSF) Project

Dave Mohler with KBA, Inc., the construction management consultant, provided an update on the BNSF project.

Accomplishments to date:

March 2017 - notice to proceed with the project was received;

April 2017 - worked with the contractor to get an approved demolition plan for the trestle;

May 2017 - bridge was closed and the demolition started; and

June and July 2017 - in-ground foundation work was mostly completed, and shafts were drilled.

Future scheduled events:

September - October 2017 - 4 column caps expected to be completed; and

Fall 2017 - approaches would be built.

Mr. Mohler said that October through December 31, 2017, was the 4th quarter moratorium. During this period, BNSF would not allow any track closures. He said that they were pursuing a 4th quarter moratorium waiver from BNSF to allow the contractor to continue work so that they would be ready to set girders in January 2018. He said the completion date for the project was mid to late September 2018.

There was a discussion about work that could be done if BNSF did not grant the 4th quarter waiver.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 8:58 a.m.

b) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Public Health - Kathy Ferris, Housing Resource Coordinator and Kayla Schott-Bresler, Public Health Analyst Housing, Homeless Services, and Community Development:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 9:30 a.m.

Public Health Analyst Kayla Schott-Bresler provided a PowerPoint presentation and an overview of the Skagit County Tri-County Consortium. She noted that the Consortium was comprised of Island, Whatcom, and Skagit Counties with 16 municipalities. The Consortium was formed in 2015 to obtain HOME funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funding would help to provide homeless services and affordable housing assistance. Ms. Schott-Bresler noted that Skagit County was the lead agency for the 19 jurisdictions and explained that Skagit County was responsible for all of the competitive funding applications and HUD's consolidated planning requirements.

Ms. Schott-Bresler explained that the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) was one of HUD's consolidated planning requirements. She reported that the 2016 Plan Year was the first year that HOME Program was up and running and provided an overview of accomplishments which included completing the first request for proposal process; committing \$1,062,859 in funding for rental assistance and affordable housing ownership and assisting 17 households with rental assistance.

There was a brief discussion about 2016 challenges and future opportunities still available to assist households and a recent market study which would allow the Consortium to raise the voucher payment standard for the rental assistance program.

Link to PowerPoint Presentation:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/08212017/>

1. Public Hearing to Consider Testimony Regarding the HOME Investments Partnerships Program

Chair Wesen opened the public hearing at 9:46 a.m., seeing no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioners Dahlstedt made a motion to close the public hearing,

Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

2. Possible Action - Motion to Approve Staff Submission of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the staff submission of the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:47 a.m.

- c) 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Update on New Community Action of Skagit County's Services Center - Executive Director Bill Henkel and Development Consultant Joan Penney

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

Executive Director Bill Henkel provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding Community Action's services and provided an overview 2016 Impact Report. He mentioned the Project Homeless event taking place on Friday, August 25, 2017, at Skagit Valley College from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Henkel said that Community Action had seen a 27% increase in residents requiring their services and the amount of space and the configuration of the current facility was no longer sufficient to provide adequate service due to the need to provide confidential intake of clients. Mr. Henkel said that after a two-year search for an appropriate facility, they had submitted a letter of interest to the owner of a building located at 160 Cascade Place in Burlington. He shared a drawing depicting their vision of the new facility which was approximately 26,988 square feet.

Mr. Henkel shared information about some of the services that the new facility would be able to provide. The services include veterans services; housing and resources; senior and disabled service, energy and home heating, children's nutrition and maternity programs; kids instructional zone; employment skills, adult education, financial coaching; legal aid, behavioral health ombudsperson; and Community Action administration.

Development Consultant Joan Penney said that additional information about the New Services Center could be found at Community Action of Skagit County's website located at <https://www.communityactionsskagit.org/menus/comprehensive-campaign.html>.

Link to PowerPoint Presentation:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/08212017/>

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:29 a.m.

- d) 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Dale Pernula, Director:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 10:31 a.m.

1. Discussion - Concerning Proposed Amendments to Skagit County Code (SCC) Chapter 14.16.410 Industrial Forest - Natural Resource Lands (IF-NRL) to Outright Permit the Construction of Non-Motorized Trails

Mr. Pernula noted that currently all trail heads were required to obtain an Administrative Special Use Permit for their development in Industrial Forest Zones. He indicated that the proposed amendment would allow non-motorized trails to become a permitted use instead of the requirement to obtain a Special Use Permit.

Mr. Pernula shared information about the background of the proposed code amendments which was initiated by the Department of Natural Resources' proposal for a mountain bike trail in Darrington and Skagit County. He said that the Planning

Commission had held public hearing on the issue on August 1, 2017, deliberated and adopted a Recorded Motion on August 17, 2017, and recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the proposal.

The Commissioners deliberated on the proposed amendments.

2. Possible Action - Ordinance Adopting Amendments to Skagit County Code (SCC) Chapter 14.16.410 Industrial Forest - Natural Resource Lands (IF-NRL) to Outright Permit the Construction of Non-Motorized Trails

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve Ordinance adopting amendments to Skagit County Code (SCC) Chapter 14.16.410 Industrial Forest - Natural Resource Lands (IF-NRL) to Outright Permit the Construction of Non-Motorized Trails (**Ordinance No. O20170007**) Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

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

- e) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Presentation - Winner of the 2017 Digital Counties Survey Award

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:00 a.m.

Information Services Coordinator Mike Almvig said that this was seventh year that Skagit County had placed in the top ten position of counties in the nation for the Digital Counties Survey Award.

He said that on July 20, 2017, the Center for Digital Government (CDG) and the National Association of Counties (NACo) announced the winners of the Annual Digital Counties Survey. The survey was conducted by CDG in partnership with NACo.

Mr. Almvig introduced Information Services staff that were present in the audience.

The Commissioners thanked the Information Services Department for their hard work.

County Administrator Tim Holloran spoke about the recent reorganization of the Information Services Department and thanked everyone for their flexibility with the transition.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:13 a.m.

- f) 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

There were no County and Individual Success Stories provided.

2. Public Comment Period

Carol Ehlers of West Fidalgo Island provided information about South Fidalgo Island's geologic phenomenon which she described as a pluton, a body of igneous rock. Ms. Ehlers provided a map depicting Fidalgo Island's topography, shared concerns about the proposed roundabout on State Route 20 at Sharpes Corner and the recent accidents on Rosario Road.

[Link to materials submitted by Carol Ehlers:](ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/08212017/)

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/08212017/>

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Commissioners commented on recent forest fires; announced the Project Homeless event on Friday, August 25 at Skagit Valley College; and active shooter drill at Sedro-Woolley High School, Tuesday, August 22.

Commissioner Janicki spoke about the loss of her son Patrick and thanked her fellow Commissioners and the community for their support of her and her family.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 11:42 a.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ron Wesen, Chair

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt , Commissioner

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board