

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2017**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 17, 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 8:30 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) \*7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. Flood Awareness Week Kick-Off

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

County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter introduced Project Manager Jennifer Swanson to provide an update on the Burlington Northern Overpass Project.

1. Update: Burlington Northern Overpass Project

Ms. Swanson showed photographs of the construction site and she informed the Commissioners about work that was currently being performed. She also provided an update that BNSF had waived the moratorium on construction within the railroad right-of-way with the exception of work that spanned over the track.

The Commissioners confirmed the estimated date of completion: September 1, 2018, and they asked how the surrounding residents and businesses were feeling about the detour. Ms. Swanson said that the residents were doing well adjusting to the change and that the businesses to the north of Cook Road had reported a decline in revenue from when the detour was implemented.

2. Update: Ferry Vessel

Ferry Division Manager Rachel Rowe provided an overview of Glosten's progress on each study and report being prepared for Skagit County. These documents were gathering data and information to determine what size vessel Skagit County should consider building in order to efficiently replace the current MV Guemes Ferry.

Discussion was held on considerations to factor into the decision. Ms. Rowe said that preliminary data showed that a 32 vehicle-load vessel would increase capacity and maintain the current sailing schedule.

Ms. Rowe reported that many additional considerations were being considered including automated mooring systems to save battery power, ridership history, projected growth on Guemes Island, and the preference to keep the new vessel at 100 tons or less in order to avoid additional licensing and costly regulations which seemed unnecessary since the vessel did not travel far from shore to shore.

Ms. Rowe said that after discussing the possibility of forming a Ferry District with County Road Administration Board (CRAB) Executive Director John Koster and Deputy Director of Engineering Walt Olsen last week, Public Works put together rough estimations of funding scenarios with and without the formation of a Ferry District. If grant funding was provided at maximum amounts to Skagit County the difference in funding was \$4 million dollars (\$10 million was maximum grant funding with a Ferry District and \$6 million was maximum grant funding without a Ferry District).

Commissioner Janicki discussed operational costs and the idea of a surcharge to capture seasonal passengers. She believed funding should come from both residents and visitors.

Ms. Rowe said that Glosten would have cost estimates ready for review in November 2017. Commissioner Dahlstedt discussed the need to form the Ferry District and he believed that additional funding could be applied, and awarded for such an innovative project.

Chair Wesen and Ms. Rowe discussed application deadlines for grants from CRAB. Additional discussion was held on projected growth on Guemes Island and the importance of building a vessel to match use and growth and continuing to plan for future costs and vessel replacement and continued advances in electric technologies and the positive social impacts of switching from diesel power to electric power.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:24 a.m.

c) 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Public Works – Dan Berentson, Director:

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

1. Work Session: Flood Awareness Week

Public Works Director Dan Berentson introduced new Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Director Doug ten Hoopen. Also introduced was Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Kristen Corcoran. Mr. Berentson thanked Ms. Corcoran and Skagit County Communications Coordinator Bronlea Mishler for publishing the recent newspaper insert *Flood Awareness Week*, which was also posted online, and he thanked Public Works Administrative Assistant Meghan MacMullen for coordinating the events occurring during flood awareness week.

An important part of flood awareness week was working with other partners in the community and discussing current and future plans for flood protection. Mr. Berentson invited flood-fight partner Darryl Hamburg of Dike District 17 to share information about flood awareness week.

Mr. Hamburg discussed the importance of county-wide meetings with other local entities to discuss construction projects and future plans for improved flood protection. He said it was important to have these discussions since projects and plans affected other Districts along the river. It was also helpful to have district wide meetings to determine what resources were available before the flood season started so that planning was efficient and most effective. Mr. Hamburg appreciated the weather information disseminated by Skagit County Water Quality Analyst Rick Haley. There are five dike districts, each with a governing body of Commissioners and staff.

Two other important partners during a flood-fight were the Army Corps of Engineers and Puget Sound Energy. Mr. Hamburg discussed the relationship with the Army Corps of Engineers who helped coordinate and pay for the cost of flood-fights with the dike districts and county. He said that they also help with the damage following a flood and payed 80% of the cost for repairs. Puget Sound Energy worked hard to generate power and provide storage for flood protection.

Commissioner Dahlstedt shared that he remembered a flood occurring in the 1990's greatly reduced the salmon population because the flood waters carried so many fish out of the river. Longtime employee at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Eric Winters used to say his job was to keep the fish in the river and the people dry.

Chair Wesen encouraged newcomers to Skagit County to determine if they resided in an area that flooded, and if so, to be prepared to move in the event of a flood.

Mr. Berentson briefed the Commissioners on the speakers scheduled to present at the upcoming Meet & Greet on October 18, 2017 and said that usually 100 folks attended, and, he talked about a few other upcoming trainings and events (including the high school sandbagging competition).

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:52 a.m.

d) 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Update from the Skagit Library Directors

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

Director of Mount Vernon Public Library Issac Huffman, Public Services Manager of the Anacortes Public Library Diana Farnsworth, and Senior Library Associate at Burlington Public Library Janice Burwash provided information to the Commissioners regarding three core library services: materials, programming, and information services. Also present was Youth Services Librarian Anacortes Public Library Leslie Wilson and Director of Upper Skagit Library Brooke Pederson.

The Commissioners appreciated the information and supported their efforts.

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

e) 11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Certificate of Commendation for Jane Sneeringer – Assessor's Office

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:00 a.m., recognized Treasurer Katie Jungquist, and introduced Assessor Dave Thomas.

Assessor Dave Thomas, Chief Deputy Assessor Annette DeVoe, husband and former Skagit County employee Bill Dowe, Residential Appraiser Tim Light, and Residential Appraiser Jake Leander shared memories of their time working with Jane at the Assessor's Office and thanked her for her professional leadership and mentorship.

Jane Sneeringer introduced family in the audience and shared that she enjoyed her tenure at the Skagit County Assessor's Office.

Commissioner Janicki read the Certificate of Commendation and Appreciation for Jane's years of service to the residents and employees of Skagit County: 1990 to 2017. Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:29 a.m.

f) 11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Board of County Commissioners:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:40 a.m.

1. County and Individual Success Stories

No one provided county and individual success stories.

2. Public Comment Period

Steve Reimer, resident from the proposed Blanchard Quiet Zone, shared that the neighborhood had been waiting patiently for the next steps towards the creation of the Quiet Zone, had renewed their fundraising efforts, and wanted to pay their fee and execute an Agreement after the hearing on October 23, 2017. He thanked the Commissioners for their support.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Commissioners acknowledged the passing of friend and former Dike District 22 Commissioner Nolan Lee, active community member Bill Stiles, and former Mount Vernon Councilmember John Cheney.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:46 a.m.

g) 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Community Justice Center – Marc Estvold, Project Manager:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 2:00 p.m. and introduced Project Manager Marc Estvold. Mr. Estvold provided information about each of the four Contract Amendments and said that approximately two more were expected from Lydig.

1. Presentation/Possible Action: Amendment No. 1 to Personal Services Agreement No.

C20150370 with Howard Consulting, LLC to provide contractor services as Construction Administrator/Owner's Site Representative on the Skagit County Jail Project and to assist the Facilities Management Department with Capital Project Management Services. This Amendment extends the term of the Agreement by one year, continuing through December 31, 2018. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20170118)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve Amendment No. 1 to Personal Services Agreement No. C20150370 with Howard Consulting, LLC. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. Presentation/Possible Action: Amendment No. 2 to Personal Services Agreement No. C20130476 with Marc L. Estvold, Inc., AIA, LEED, AP to provide planning, development, and management services for the Skagit County Regional Jail Facility including permitting support and assistance with the design and construction phases of the Facility. The purpose of this Amendment is to extend the term of the Agreement by one year, continuing through December 30, 2018. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement and subsequent Amendment remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20170119)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve Amendment No. 2 to Personal Services Agreement No. C20130476 with Marc L. Estvold, Inc., AIA, LEED, AP. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

3. Presentation/Possible Action: Amendment No. 6 to Personal Services Agreement No. C20140251 with Maul Foster Alongi, Inc. to provide additional environmental services related to the environmental investigation and cleanup action plan of the Truck City Site located at 3216 Old Highway 99 South, Mount Vernon. This Amendment updates the fees allocated for each item in Exhibit "A" Scope of Work and extends the term an additional year, ending December 31, 2018. Compensation remains the same and shall not exceed \$703,487. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement and subsequent Amendments shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20170120)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve Amendment No. 6 to Personal Services Agreement No. C20140251 with Maul Foster Alongi, Inc. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

4. Presentation/Possible Action: Amendment No. 7 to AIA Document B103 – 2007 Standard Form of Agreement, Contract No. C20140269, with DLR Group for the design and construction management of the new Skagit County Jail facility. The purpose of this Amendment is to increase compensation by \$23,492 for updates in Article 4.1 to add additional on-site landscaping investigation and compilation of an inspection report for submission to the City of Mount Vernon, and include 14 additional days of Construction Administration. Total compensation shall not exceed \$3,739,300. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement and subsequent Amendments shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20170121)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve Amendment No. 7 to AIA Document B103 – 2007 Standard Form of Agreement, Contract No. C20140269, with DLR Group. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

5. Project Close-Out

Mr. Estvold reported that the project had come in approximately \$900,000 under budget and that Skagit County would be receiving \$100,000 from the Washington State Department of Ecology for reimbursement of past clean-up work. He said that they had received their fourth quarter of consecutive clean water samples in August and met monitoring requirements established by the Department of Ecology.

Mr. Estvold showed updated photographs of the Community Justice Center now that inmates had been located to the new facility and he showed the timeline of the project which started in June of 2012 with the formation of the Coordinating Council.

Sheriff Will Reichardt said that inmates had been moved on October 7, 2017 and he provided an example how the updated facility, outfitted with numerous security cameras, were improving safety and inmate management. Then, Sheriff Reichardt presented challenge coins to the Commissioners for the successful completion of the project.

County Administrator Tim Holloran acknowledged the letter written to the editor from Burlington Mayor Steve Sexton which suggested that the old jail be turned into a homeless shelter. He shared some challenges with that suggestion, said that a fact sheet would be put together and tours provided of the old jail space. He also encouraged continued dialog to address homelessness with plans that were cost effective.

The Commissioners thanked Marc Estvold for his leadership as Project Manager.

IV. AJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 2:34 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

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Ron Wesen, Chair

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt , Commissioner

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Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board