

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 28, 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 9:02 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Presentation by Mount Vernon School District Superintendent Carl Bruner and Board Chair Rob Coffey - 100% Graduation Goal

Mount Vernon School District Superintendent Carl Bruner was present to share the initiative that began 15 months ago for their 100% graduation goal which was important to their district, their students, and the community.

Mount Vernon School Board Chair Dr. Rob Coffey shared some of the details and benefits of the initiative and provided examples of progress made by other schools towards a 100% graduation rate. He said that community commitment and support meant success.

President of Skagit Valley College Dr. Tom Keegan was present in support of Mount Vernon School District's goal for 100% graduation. He discussed the partnership the school had with the college and the importance of continuing to build community support for the 100% graduation goal.

Mr. Bruner said that common strategies implemented to support a 100% graduation goal were community support for the message, mentoring students, and career connected learning. He asked the Commissioners if they would be willing to have their photos taken holding the 100% Proud Partnership bumper stickers.

Discussion followed regarding partnerships, running start, the technical center, third grade literacy, early education, technology, United Way's focus on early learning, goals of the Population Health Trust, and support and mentorships through service clubs such as Rotary, Lions, and the Soroptimist. Dr. Keegan described the student achievement strategy implemented by Skagit Valley College.

County Administrator Tim Holloran described work being performed by Skagit County that indirectly supported the 100% graduation goal, like expansion of affordable housing, and he also discussed the importance of access to breakfast and the value of mentors.

Discussion was held on the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program, the value of internships, and the success kids were able to achieve when there was someone in their lives who cared about them and their future.

To learn more about the school district's goal or to inquire about becoming a mentor, call 360-428-6181. Chair Wesen requested a follow-up meeting with the Mount Vernon School District after 1 year had passed for an update on their progress towards the 100% graduation goal.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:42 a.m.

b) 10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Certificate of Commendation - Dale Pernula, Planning and Development Services

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

Public Works Director Dan Berentson, Senior Planner/Team Supervisor Betsy Stevenson,

County Administrator Tim Holloran, Planning Commissioner Tim Raschko, Senior Planner Stacie Pratschner, Assistant Planning Director Ryan Walters, Mr. Oscar Graham, former Skagit County employee Kirk Johnson, and former Planning Commissioner Carol Ehlers thanked Dale Pernula for his leadership, mentorship, predictability, and wished him a happy retirement.

Director Pernula reflected on his time at Skagit County and he shared his appreciation for the Planning Commission members and he thanked his staff for their customer service and hard work.

The Commissioners expressed their appreciation for Mr. Pernula and his ability to balance often opposing ideas.

Commissioner Janicki read the Certificate of Commendation in recognition of dedicated public service provided by Dale Pernula from May 9, 2012 to November 30, 2017. Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:23 a.m.

c) 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Public Works – Dan Berentson, Director:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 10:32 a.m.

1. Public Hearing to Consider Testimony Regarding the 2017 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

Director Dan Berentson and Solid Waste Division Manager Margo Gillaspay were present to provide background information on the updates made to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and the approval process in place with the Washington State Department of Ecology. Most of the updates included additional measures to implement in order to increase recycling of traditional items and include new recycling systems for things like food waste, clothing and construction items.

Discussion was held regarding innovations being made with solid waste, the costs associated with running the Clear Lake disposal site, flow control measures and tipping fees.

Chair Wesen opened the public hearing at 10:44 a.m. Phyllis McKeehen of Mount Vernon was present to provide comments on paying attention to the details within the plan, making sure that the desired outcome was also the easy choice for the customer to make, and to provide incentives towards making the choice for the desired outcome. Carol Ehlers of Fidalgo Island suggested a brochure be published listing where certain types of items could be turned in for recycling instead of throwing them into the garbage stream (for example batteries, televisions, appliances, etc.) and she discussed hazardous waste.

Seeing no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Dahlstedt made a motion to close the public hearing at 10:58 a.m. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Skagit County Public Works employee Callie Martin and Solid Waste Advisory Committee members Britt Pfaff-Dunton from Skagit County Public Health and Andy Hanson from the City of Mount Vernon's Solid Waste Department were recognized in the audience. Discussion was held on funding, tipping fees, that general taxes were not used for operating the transfer stations, how incentives might work, and the attendance by Mr. Berentson and Ms. Gillaspay at some productive, state-wide sessions and meetings.

Also discussed was the Thanksgiving Day flood and the impact to the transfer station. Garbage bins were delivered to Hamilton to accept flood damaged materials and vouchers were being prepared to allow one free truck and trailer of flood damaged items to be disposed of at no charge. The Commissioners requested that the voucher program be expanded beyond the Town of Hamilton for other flood damaged areas. Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:09 a.m.

d) 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 or individual success stories.

2. Public Comment Period

Jerry Eisner of Mount Vernon, Beverly Faxon of Burlington, Bob Doll of Anacortes, Ginny Wolff of Bow, Linda Baker of Mount Vernon, Phillip Holder of Mount Vernon, and Anne Winkes of Conway shared concerns about Robert Weidner, a lobbyist performing work for Skagit County. They believed that he was too conservative and that, in addition to lobbying for funds that supported the budgets of Skagit County and local school districts, he also lobbied for anti-environmental measures, overturning the endangered species act, and turning over federal lands to county control. They asked that the annual Agreement executed for Mr. Weidner's services not be renewed.

Carol Ehlers of Fidalgo Island was present to discuss concerns about drainage on a cliff.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:47 a.m. and announced that individuals who had not had an opportunity to comment could turn in written comments for their review.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

e) 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Introduction - NaphCare Team

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:58 a.m. and introduced Human Resources Director Jessica Neill Hoyson.

Ms. Neill Hoyson announced that Skagit County was moving forward with contracting with NaphCare to provide medical services at the new Skagit County Community Justice Center and she introduced senior staff from NaphCare: Jack Donahue and Shannon Matthews.

Mr. Donahue provided background information to the Commissioners about himself, Shannon Matthews, and NaphCare which had been formed by two pharmacists approximately 30 years ago to deliver medications to inmates in jail. Additional services had been included over the years and they had grown to provide comprehensive care to organizations in over 30 states.

Discussion was held regarding the working relationship and partnership NaphCare formed between jail staff and jail medical providers, the training that medical nurses would have, the level of care that the Commissioners wished to provide in the Community Justice Center, work to transition inmates from jail, and identifying individuals who needed additional detox or mental health services.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Donahue and Ms. Matthews for coming to Skagit County and looked forward to the start of their contract on February 1, 2018.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 12:20 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ron Wesen, Chair

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board
