

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2017**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 19, 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) 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Director:

Public Works Director Dan Berentson highlighted the Departments accomplishments in 2017 and introduced the agenda items.

There was a discussion about applications made to the Federal Emergency Management Administration regarding the buy-out process in Lyman and the importance of not issuing building permits in the mitigation area.

1. Update: Burlington Northern Overpass Project

Project Manager Jennifer Swanson provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Burlington Northern Overpass Project. She said they expected to have the girders in place by mid-January of 2018, the project was about 50% complete, remained on schedule, no change orders submitted to date and the project completion was on schedule for August of 2018.

Link to PowerPoint Presentation:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/12182017/>

2. Discussion: Guemes Island Ferry Fourteen-Year Capital Improvement Plan

Ferry Operations Division Manager Rowe provided a brief update about the Ferry Replacement Plan project and said that Glisten would be assembling the application packet for county ferry capital improvement funds and would be submitting it electronically to the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) during the week of December 25, 2017.

Ms. Rowe said that the requirement for a Fourteen-year Capital Improvement Plan for County-owned ferries was outlined in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 36.54.015. She said that the Fourteen-Year Ferry Capital Improvement Plan was a general guide for the effective, efficient and continued operation of the Skagit County ferry system to assist the County Engineer and Ferry Division management in planning for capital projects that pertain to replacement, maintenance and improvements for the Skagit County Ferry system.

Ms. Rowe indicated that the Plan served as a general guide for long-term planning, and strict adherence to the plan was not required. She said that as events unfold, plans might change as needs of the ferry system and the available financing become clearer. The Board of County Commissioners, with advice from the County Engineer, would ultimately decide capital improvements based on priority and available funds.

Ms. Rowe outlined the elements of the Plan, which included the ferry system current and replacement values; projected expenditures; capital improvement projects from 2018 through 2031 and projected revenue.

There was a discussion about the possibility of a capital fare surcharge.

3. Possible Action: Resolution Approving the Guemes Island Ferry Fourteen-Year Capital Improvement Plan **(Resolution No. R20170263)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Resolution to approve the Fourteen-Year Capital Improvement Plan 2018-2031. Commissioner Dahlstedt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:04 a.m.

- b) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Stacie Pratschner, Senior Planner:

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 9:31 a.m.

1. Discussion: Establishing the 2018 Docket for Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Map and Development Regulations

Assistant Director Ryan Walters said that it had recently been brought to the Department's attention there were a number of privately owned properties designated as Open Space of Regional/Statewide Importance (OSRSI) land use that should be zoned Industrial Forest or another land use designation that are more common for private ownership. Mr. Walters proposed that the Commissioners not take action on the Resolution in order to allow additional time for public comment on the additional forest map amendments.

Senior Planner Stacie Pratschner said that the Department recommended that the Commissioners include two of the four citizen-initiated amendments and all eighteen of the County-initiated amendments in the 2018 docket.

The Commissioners agreed that they would delay action on the adoption of the 2018 Docket of Comprehensive Plan Amendments and allow time for the public to comment on the modified the land use and zoning designation of 37 parcels totaling approximately 2,759 acres. The parcels are in the Public Open Space of Regional/Statewide Importance (OSRI), within the boundaries of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest and should be designated as Industrial Forest - Natural Resource Lands (IF-NRL) designation or another appropriate designation, such as Natural Resource Industrial (NRI).

2. Possible Action: Resolution Establishing the 2018 Docket for Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Map and Development Regulations

No action taken.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings 9:54 a.m.

c) 10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Budget and Finance - Trisha Logue, Director:

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

Budget and Finance Director Trisha Logue outlined the change in spending authority based on unforeseen expenditures to accommodate new and/or increased revenues and to reflect dollar amounts moved between existing line items.

1. Public Hearing to Consider Testimony Regarding the Fourth Quarter Amendment to the Skagit County Budget

Chair Wesen opened the public hearing at 10:12 a.m., seeing no public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Dahlstedt moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

2. Possible Action: Resolution to Amend the 2017 Skagit County Budget (**Resolution No. R20170264**)

A motion was made by Commissioner Dahlstedt to approve the Resolution to Amend the 2017 Skagit County Budget. Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:14 a.m. and announced that there would be an executive session at 10:15 a.m. which was expected to take approximately one hour.

d) *10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Regular Meeting - Executive Session (Litigation - RCW 42.30.110(1)(I))

Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, and Commissioner Lisa Janicki attended an executive session on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, from 10:22 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. The purpose of the executive session was Litigation - RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). (Matters relating to County enforcement actions, actual litigation, or potential litigation.) The following attorneys were present at the executive session and provided legal advice to the Board of County Commissioners: Prosecutor Rich Weyrich and Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Melinda Miller. Other attendees: County Administrator Tim Holloran, Public Health Director Jennifer Johnson, and Housing Resource Coordinator Kathy Ferris.

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

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:35 a.m.

1. County and Individual Success Stories

There were no County and Individual Success Stories provided.

2. Public Comment Period

Carolyn Gastellum of Anacortes, Mary Ruth Holder of Mount Vernon, Brenda Cunningham of Mount Vernon, Anne Winkes of Conway, Tim Manns of Mount Vernon, Ed Gastellum of Anacortes and Jenny Wolff of Bow spoke in opposition to renewing lobbyist Robert K. Weidner's contract and expressed appreciation to the Commissioners for their willingness to have one-on-one meetings with the public.

Ed Stauffer of rural Skagit County spoke about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service proposal to reintroduce grizzly bears to the North Cascades.

Carol Ehlers of West Fidalgo Island commented on the ability to deduct the costs of natural disasters, Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, climate change and Skagit County's need for a lobbyist in Washington, D.C.

Link to Public Comment Submitted by Ed Gastellum and Carol Ehlers:
<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/12182017/>

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

There were no Miscellaneous Announcements.

f) *1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting - Executive Session (Review Qualifications of Job Applicant RCW 42.30.110(1)(g))

Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, and Commissioner Lisa Janicki attended an executive session on Tuesday, December 22, 2017, from 1:05 p.m. to 4:46 p.m. The purpose of the executive session was Job Applicant - RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). (Review qualifications of job applicant.) Attendees: County Administrator Tim Holloran, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Jessica Neill Hoyson and Contractor Teresa Webster.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 4:46 p.m.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Ron Wesen, Chair

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board