

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, with Chair Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner Lisa Janicki, and Commissioner Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Dahlstedt called the proceedings to order at 9:01 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

- a) 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Closed Record Appeal No. PL18-0077 Submitted by Ian W. Jefferds of Penn Cove Shellfish LLC Regarding the Hearing Examiner's Decision, Dated February 6, 2018

Chair Dahlstedt welcomed everyone to the closed record hearing and outlined the timeline for the presentations.

Appellant Mr. Jefferds of Penn Cove Shellfish, LLC provided a brief history of Penn Cove Shellfish, LLC. and indicated that the goals of Penn Cove Shellfish, LLC's project was in line with the other agricultural goals of Skagit County. He said that the application was not to perform any aquaculture at the site. Penn Cove Shellfish, LLC would be packing and storing the shellfish products which were farmed on aquatic lands of Samish Bay. Mr. Jefferds requested that farmed shellfish be interpreted as an animal product for purposes of complying with current Skagit County Code.

Senior Planner Brandon Black noted after reviewing the Appellant's arguments, the Hearing Examiner's Decision, the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan, and Skagit County Code Title 14, the Administrative Official stood by its interpretation and concluded that aquaculture, seafood and shellfish processing were not permitted use within the Agricultural-Natural Resources Lands. Mr. Black stated that the Appellant had failed to meet its burden of proving the Hearing Examiner's decision was clearly erroneous and that Planning and Development Services requested that the Board of County Commissioners uphold the decision of the Hearing Examiner and deny appeal #PL18-0077.

Tony Breckenridge of Edison provided a history of the property and spoke in favor of Penn Cove Shellfish, LLC's proposal.

Mr. Jefferds provided rebuttal arguments.

Mr. Black provided rebuttal arguments and suggested the Appellant go through the Comprehensive Plan Amendment process.

There was a discussion about whether packaging shellfish was considered similar to agricultural processing.

Senior Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Will Honea asked if there were any objections to Board considering comments from Scott Mangold of Bread Farms.

Mr. Black noted that Mr. Mangold had not participated during the hearing before the Hearing Examiner but he was an interested person because he submitted a letter on the initial notice of application on the Administrative Decision.

Chair Dahlstedt said that under Skagit County Code, the Board of County Commissioners would consider the evidence and were scheduled to render a decision in public session on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Hearing Room.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:32 a.m.

b) 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Presentation from the League of Women Voters of Skagit County and the Skagit Dispute Resolution Center Regarding Civil Discourse Activities

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

Member of the League of Women Voters of Skagit County Wende Sanderson stated that she was also a certified mediator with the Volunteers of America - Dispute Resolution Center (VOA-DRC). Ms. Sanderson provided an overview of VOA-DRC and said that they provided services in Snohomish, Island and Skagit Counties. The mission of the VOA-DRC was to empower individuals to resolve their issues in a peaceful manner.

Ms. Sanderson provided a brief history of the League of Women Voters, which was established in 1920. She said that it was a non-partisan political organization that encouraged the informed and active participation of the community in government and influenced public policy through education and advocacy.

Ms. Sanderson spoke about the partnership between the DRC and the League of Women Voters of Skagit County to provide series of events for the community to address the topic of civil discourse. She outlined the three-pronged approach as follows:

Phase 1 - a general community meeting on May 5, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Skagit Valley College Career and Technical Academy to convene and open the conversation about civil discourse; and

Phase 2 - a series of five (5) skill-building seminars which would take place from June until September of 2018, to introduce and refresh skills for tackling challenging conversations; and

Phase 3 - an opportunity to put the developed civil discourse skills to work in October, in a real-life situation, selecting a topic of local community concern and conducting a public discourse session.

Ms. Sanderson mentioned that they were seeking funding for the third phase.

There was a discussion about having a diverse group from the community attend the series of events. Commissioner Janicki mentioned that she would be willing to serve on the Skagit Dispute Resolution Center's Advisory Committee.

Link to Information Civil Discourse Training:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/04022018/>

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings 10:27 a.m.

c) 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Consideration of the Hearing Examiner's Recommendation for Approval for the Following Open Space Applications:

Chair Dahlstedt the proceedings at 10:30 a.m.

Current Use/Segregations Specialist Kiffin Saben provided information about the application to include 2.3 acres in the Current Use Open Space classification by Kimberly Back, Kent Moore, Gilbert Moore, and Judith Moore. She indicated that there was a possible tax shift of approximately \$2,200 per year.

Ms. Saben provided information about the application to include of 17.3 acres into Current Use Open Space Land by Michael Shapiro and Susan Sundin CU/OS #27-2017. She indicated that there was a possible tax shift of approximately \$2,000 per year.

Ms. Sabin provided information about the application to transfer of 16.47 acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Land by William Christensen CU/OS #28-2017. She indicated that there was very little tax shift associated with the transfer.

Ms. Sabin provided information about the application to transfer of 39.6 acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Land by William Budd and Barbara Denovan CU/OS #29-2017. She indicated that there would be very little tax shift associated with the transfer. Ms. Saben introduced the Denovan family speaker Jim Denovan to speak about the application.

Jim Denovan provided a brief history and a PowerPoint presentation about the proposal to transfer 39.6 acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Land and the importance of preserving the land.

[Link to Jim Denovan's Presentation:](ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/04022018/)

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1. Resolution Concerning the Inclusion of 2.3 Acres into Current Use Open Space Land by Kimberly Back, Kent Moore, Gilbert Moore and Judith Moore CU/OS #26-2017 **(Resolution No. R20180077)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve a Resolution concerning an application to include 2.3 acres in the Current Use Open Space classification by Kimberly Back, Kent Moore, Gilbert Moore, and Judith Moore CU/OS #26-2017. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

2. Resolution Concerning the Inclusion of 17.3 Acres into Current Use Open Space Land by Michael Shapiro and Susan Sundin CU/OS #27-2017 **(Resolution No. R20180078)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Resolution concerning the Inclusion of 17.3 Acres into Current Use Open Space Land by Michael Shapiro and Susan Sundin CU/OS #27-2017. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

3. Resolution Concerning a Transfer of 16.47 Acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Land by William Christensen CU/OS #28-2017 **(Resolution No. R20180079)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Resolution concerning a Transfer of 16.47 Acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Land by William Christensen CU/OS #28-2017 Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

4. Resolution Concerning a Transfer of 39.6 Acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Land by William Budd and Barbara Denovan CU/OS #29-2017 **(Resolution No. R20180080)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Resolution concerning a Transfer of 39.6 Acres from Current Use Farm and Agriculture to Current Use Open Space Land by William Budd and Barbara Denovan CU/OS #29-2017 Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 10:51 a.m.

- d) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Proclamation Recognizing May 3, 2018, as National Day of Prayer

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

Co-Directors of Pray Skagit George Eldgridge and Sharon Eldridge invited everyone to the Thursday, May 3, 2018, National Day of Prayer event which will take place on the steps of the Skagit County Courthouse at 12:00 p.m. Mr. Eldgride provided a brief history of the tradition of the National Day of Prayer.

Sharon Eldgride thanked the Commissioners for their support and spoke about the importance of prayer.

Commissioner Ron Wesen read the Proclamation recognizing May 3, 2018, as National Day of Prayer and urged all Skagit County residents to join in the National Day of Prayer.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings 11:17 a.m.

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

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:30 a.m.

1. County and Individual Success Stories

There was no one present to provide County and Individual Success Stories.

2. Public Comment Period

There was no one present to provide public comment.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

Commissioner Wesen mentioned that April 1, 2018, was the beginning of the Tulip Festival and reminded everyone about the construction of the roundabouts at Sharpes Corner.

Commissioner Dahlstedt reminded everyone to be careful while taking pictures and driving around the tulip fields.

Commissioner Janicki thanked the Mount Vernon City Council for amending the Ordinance that allowed the emergency shelter to

operate for 120 days instead of 90 days.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 11:33 a.m.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chair

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board