

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 18, 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 8:32 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Director:

Director Berentson made a surprise announcement and presented County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter with a Skagit County Pin for his 10 years of employment with Skagit County.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding Vacating a Portion of County Right-of-Way Known as B.D. Minkler Road, County Road #93030

Engineering Technician Shane Whitney provided an overview of the petition submitted for the proposed vacation of a portion of county right-of-way, the report from the County Engineer, and the valuation of the proposed right-of-way. He said that Public Works was recommending that the Board of County Commissioners approve the vacation request subject to the terms of the final vacation.

Discussion was held regarding additional considerations, information, and what formula was used to determine the value of the right-of-way. Chair Dahlstedt opened the public hearing at 8:47 a.m.

Seeing no one present to provide public testimony, Commissioner Wesen made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Commissioner Janicki. The vote passed unanimously.

Further discussion was held regarding the valuation of the right-of-way. The Commissioners requested additional time to review the cost assessment and they agreed to postpone a decision on the matter until after further review.

2. Presentation/Possible Action: 14-Year Ferry Capital Improvement Plan

Ferry Operations Division Manager Rachel Rowe provided an overview of the 14-Year Ferry Capital Improvement Plan. She said that the requirement for the plan for county-owned ferries was outlined in the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 36.54.015. She said that the 14-Year 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 ferry system.

Ms. Rowe outlined the elements of the plan, which included the current and replacement values of the ferry system, projected expenditures, capital improvement projects, and projected revenue.

Ms. Rowe indicated that the Plan served as a general guide for long-term planning, and strict adherence to the plan was not required.

Discussion was held regarding the use of county road funds to help pay for ferry operations, the reliability of the ferry, and ferry maintenance costs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the 14-Year Ferry Capital Improvement Plan (**Resolution No. R20180256**) Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

To view the 14-Year Ferry Capital Improvement Plan (2019-2032), click this link:  
<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/12172018/>

3. Presentation from the Roads Department

County Engineer Paul Randall-Grutter shared that staff from Public Works would be providing an overview of accomplishments and projects completed in 2018.

Engineering Division Manager Keith Elefson provided an overview of the Cascade River Road slide repair and Samish Island Road slide repair.

Transportation Programs Section Manager Forrest Jones provided an overview of the Blanchard Quiet Zone and railroad crossings.

Construction Section Manager David Walde provided an overview of the Lafayette Road improvements, and the 2018 Hot Mix Asphalt Overlay.

Project Manager Jennifer Swanson provided an overview of the Burlington Northern Overpass project and Illabot Creek restoration project that included construction of the Ryan Crossing bridge and the Hollow Cedar bridge.

Engineering Technician Dianne Crane provided an overview of the Edison Slough Culvert project.

Habitat Restoration Specialist Emily Derenne provided an overview of two Natural Resource Stewardship projects, one bank stabilization project on the Samish River and a fencing project to exclude cattle from accessing a stream.

River Improvement / Watershed Planner Kara Symonds provided an overview of the Lyman FEMA buyouts of 3 homes that were falling into the Skagit River and work by the Corps to improve the stabilization of the river bank.

Maintenance Supervisor for Road District No. 1 Tony Crosby provided an overview of the Colony Mountain Drive failed culvert and installation of a new overflow pipe, and the Edith Point dry well installation.

Maintenance Supervisor for Road District No. 2 Dale Klinger provided an overview of the Knapp Road slide repair and work performed for the City of Sedro-Woolley at the Janicki Field parking lot.

Maintenance Supervisor for Road District No. 3 Chris Rowell provided an overview of the Prevedal Slide Road closure and Carpenter/Pipeline Road detour, and the assistance provided to Parks and Recreation to chip seal the Veterans Memorial Park parking lot in Sedro-Woolley.

Operations Division Manager Andy Shaw provided an overview of maintenance accomplishments including road striping for San Juan and Whatcom Counties and vactor work for San Juan County and the Port of Skagit.

Follow up discussion occurred regarding some of the projects and the Commissioners thanked Public Works for providing project updates.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 9:46 a.m.

b) 11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Budget and Finance - Trisha Logue, Director:

Chair Dahlstedt reconvened the proceedings at 11:00 a.m. and introduced Budget and Finance Director Trisha Logue.

1. Public Hearing/Possible Action: To Consider Testimony Regarding Amending the 2018 Skagit County Budget

Ms. Logue provided an overview of the proposed budget amendments and said that the majority were adjustments to update end-of-the-year salaries and contract settlements.

Questions, answers and discussion followed.

Chair Dahlstedt opened the public hearing at 11:14 a.m. Seeing no one present to provide public testimony, Commissioner Janicki made a motion to close the public hearing which was seconded by Commissioner Wesen. The vote passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Resolution Amending the 2018 Skagit County Budget. **(Resolution No. R20180257)** Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Dahlstedt recessed the proceedings at 11:16 a.m.

c) 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

No one provided county and individual success stories.

2. Public Comment Period

Chair Dahlstedt instructed the Clerk of the Board to set the timer for 3 minutes per speaker. Part way through the first speaker, he quietly directed the clerk to add 2 more minutes of time so that each speaker had 5 minutes total.

Glen Veal of Guemes Island provided comments and concerns about the process and design of a new, and larger, electric ferry.

Keith Palmer who was currently homeless provided comments about the lack of cold weather shelters in Skagit County and the limitations to receive service after 5:00 p.m.

Skye Richendrfer of the Celtic Arts Foundation thanked the Commissioners for their approval of lodging tax funds for the annual Highland Games in Mount Vernon, provided an overview of the upcoming festival, and provided an informational book from the Celtic Arts Foundation.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

Discussion was held on cold weather shelters.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Dahlstedt adjourned the proceedings at 11:49 a.m.

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

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Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chair

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Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

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Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board