

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, with Chair Lisa Janicki, Commissioner Ron Wesen, and Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Janicki called the proceedings to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Presentation by Skagit Community Foundation CEO Mary McGoffin

Skagit Community Foundation CEO Mary McGoffin provided a PowerPoint presentation and information about non-profits such as Skagit Gleaners, Skagit Habitat for Humanity and Bargains Galore. These collected donations and strived to ensure that the items that they collected were either sold or recycled. She noted that the non-profits struggled with items that were donated or dropped off that they were not able to sell or recycle which resulted in the items being taken to Skagit County Transfer and Recycling Station (Transfer Station). She provided information about how much money the non-profits had paid in dumping fees over the past 12 months which ranged from \$1,200 to \$5,500.

Chief Operations Officer of Bargains Galore Thrift Store Peter Cisneros; Executive Director of Skagit Habitat for Humanity Teresa Pugh; Board Member with Skagit Habitat for Humanity Dave Groves and Executive Director of Skagit Gleaners Megan Anderson reported that their facilities received a significant amount of items that were dropped off overnight and they spent a significant amount of funds to take the items to the dump. They indicated that the items that were dumped at their locations overnight were usually broken furniture items, small appliances, old electronics and items that they would not be able to sell at their stores. They said that they would like to find creative solutions towards alleviating some of the dumping fees.

There was a discussion about the Transfer Station being an enterprise fund and that in order to make any changes, such as waiving tipping fees, the Commissioners would have to work with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Solid Waste System Governance Board and that there was an additional challenge with gifting public services.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 10:28 a.m.

Link to PowerPoint Presentation:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/01142019/>

b) 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Public Works - Dan Berentson, Director:

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

Public Works Director Dan Berentson was present to introduce the agenda items.

Solid Waste Division Manager Margo Gillaspay reported the County had contracted with Bell & Associates, Inc. to provide a Rate Study Report for the Public Works Solid Waste Division. She noted that the report had been reviewed and approved by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Solid Waste Governance Board. Ms. Gillaspay stated that the rate increase that was approved by the Solid Waste Governance Board had proposed increase from \$89 per ton to \$97 per ton in June of 2019 and increasing each year by 2.13%, ending 2023 at a rate of \$105 per ton. She explained that the increase would go towards a replacement fund for a compactor. Ms. Gillaspay discussed the proposal to increase the minimum charge for customers of the Skagit County Transfer and Recycling Station and Sauk Transfer Station to encourage fewer trips to the Transfer Station.

1. Public Hearing to Consider Testimony Regarding Updating Solid Waste Disposal Rates

Chair Janicki opened the public hearing 10:39 a.m.

John Braurer spoke in opposition to raising the rates on low weight haulers. He suggested that an increase on rates for customers who brought their loads to the Transfer Station during peak hours could be imposed or that the County increase efficiency to accommodate traffic flow through the Transfer Station.

Seeing no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Dahlstedt made a motion to close the public hearing at 10:46 a.m. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

[Link to Comments Submitted by John Brauer:](ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/01142019/)

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2. Update - Guemes Island Ferry

Mr. Berentson discussed funding to replace the Guemes Island Ferry. He noted that the County would benefit from acquiring the services of a lobbyist to assist in acquiring additional funding for the Guemes Island Ferry. He introduced lobbyist Jeanne Cushman with Ahne, PLLC of Olympia, Washington.

Ms. Cushman provided information about her experience as a contract lobbyist which included working on transportation matters.

The Commissioners discussed the importance of having an advocate in Olympia for the Guemes Island Ferry and clarified that Ms. Cushman would be advocating for the County regarding Washington State funds.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 10:53 a.m.

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

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

1. County and Individual Success Stories

No County and Individual Success Stories were provided.

2. Public Comment Period

Erik Beauvais of 13062 Avon Allen Road in Mount Vernon commented on the 5G wireless cellular technology infrastructure changes that were occurring nationwide and addressed environmental and health concerns.

[Link to Comments Submitted by Erik Beauvais:](#)

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/01142019/>

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

The Commissioners commented on the appointment process to appoint a representative for the 40th District due to the resignation of Senator Kevin Ranker.

- d) *1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Tour of Christ the King Church (CTK) Property (CTK, 2111 Riverside Drive, Mount Vernon)
- e) *2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Executive Session (Real Estate Acquisition - RCW 42.30.110(1)(b))

The executive session scheduled for Tuesday, January 15, 2019, was cancelled.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Janicki adjourned the proceedings at 11:42 a.m.

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

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Chair

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board