

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 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 11:00 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

a) 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Presentation of Upcoming Projects by Skagit PUD Manager George Sidhu

Skagit PUD General Manager George Sidhu provided information about the structure of the PUD and noted that they were governed by three elected board members whose geographic districts were the same as the Skagit County Board of Commissioners. He provided a brief history of the formation of the PUD which was formed in 1936 and explained that the water originated from the protected Cultus Mountain watershed area east of Clear Lake where it was then piped to Judy Reservoir. Mr. Sidhu indicated that PUD served approximately 65,000 people in Skagit County.

Mr. Sidhu said that PUD had developed its first strategic plan last year and provided information about their mission, vision and values. He stated that the new strategic plan would be used to help them focus their efforts in making budgeting and operating decisions. He provided information about the investments that they were making to upgrade their infrastructure and provided a map depicting the nine (9) water systems that PUD owned and operated throughout Skagit County. He went on to provide information about discussions that PUD were having with the City of Anacortes to potentially transfer the ownership and operation of the Fidalgo System to the City.

Mr. Sidhu provided information about PUD's plan to invest \$160 million over the next ten years on pipeline replacement with a focus on major capital investments.

Recently Completed Projects:

Gilligan Creek Intake to maximize the use of water rights;
Division Street Tank and Booster Station;
McLean Road Pipeline to ensure reliability of the water supply;
Best Road Pipeline to ensure reliability of the water supply.

Future and Proposed Projects:

Update the Water Treatment Plant to protect water quality;
Judy Reservoir to Mount Vernon Phase 2 to install a water transmission line;
Little Mountain Road Pipeline to provide water to properties along Little Mountain Road - design phase;
Bulk Water Fill Station opening in Sedro-Woolley.

Mr. Sidhu said that the Little Mountain Road waterline extension project would provide water for domestic use to people in the Skagit River Basin and would allow for future development for landowners who currently do not have legal access to water. The current funding award from the State would fund the design phase of the project. He indicated that PUD would apply for the construction funding next year.

Mr. Sidhu spoke about PUD's plans to strengthen communications and engagement with its customers; seek opportunities to engage youth in water-related education; ensure policy-setting

and decision-making processes were transparent and easily accessible and work to strengthen relationships with community partners.

A brief discussion ensued about the State providing funding for the Little Mountain Road pipeline extension, working with agricultural customers to provide temporary water rights transfers and agricultural water rates.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Sidhu for the presentation.

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

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

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:37 a.m.

1. County and Individual Success Stories

No County and Individual Success Stories were provided.

2. Public Comment Period

Scott Herr of 24955 Elk Drive in Mount Vernon, James Hawkins of 13580 Beaver Lake Road in Skagit County, Marion Flaig of 15057 Beaver Lake Road in Mount Vernon and Ron Mattox of 13481 State Route 9 in Mount Vernon commented on the high water table, flood levels, water over the roadway and drainage issues on Fonk Road, Beaver and Clear Lakes.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

A brief discussion ensued about the community meeting being held to discuss drainage issues on Beaver and Clear Lakes. The meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, February 27, at 6:30 p.m. at Community Covenant Church in Mount Vernon.

c) *5:00 p.m. Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC) 2020 Economic Forecast Night (Swinomish Casino & Lodge, 12885 Casino Drive, Anacortes)

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 11:55 a.m.

*Note, to obtain an audio or video recording of this meeting; please contact the Skagit County Commissioners' office.

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

Ron Wesen, Chair

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, Commissioner

Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board
