

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, October 15, 2020, with Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Kenneth A. Dahlstedt, and Commissioner Lisa Janicki present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wesen called the remotely held proceedings to order at 10:30 a.m.

I. AGENDA:

- a) *10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Closed Record Appeal No. PL 20-0344 Submitted by Lowell Ashbach Jr. Regarding the Hearing Examiner's Decisions PL 19-0605 and PL 20-0306 in the Matter of the Appeal of a Critical Areas Variance by Melvin and Deanna Elvebak (Listen to the meeting by calling: 1 (408) 650-3123 Access Code: 961 011 021 or join by computer: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/961011021>)

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

Mr. David Ashbach provided comments and spoke in favor of the appeal.

Appellant Mr. Lowell "Bud" Ashbach provided a brief history of the Critical Areas Variance submitted by Melvin and Deanna Elvebak. He said that limited water was an issue and provided information about how the water district was developed. Mr. Lowell Ashbach explained that he had concerns about the proposed addition and additional water supply usage of the limited water district by the Elvebak's.

Senior Planner Leah Forbes noted details of the variance submitted. She said that staff determined that the application met the variance requirements of Skagit County Code 14.24.140 and 14.10 and was recommended for approval by the Hearing Examiner and that the proposed variance complies with the relevant criteria for the approval of a Critical Areas Variance. She said that water review was not relevant to the Critical Area Variance and that a water review occurs later in the building permit application process. Planning and Development Services respectfully requested that the Board of County Commissioners uphold the decision of the Hearing Examiner and deny the appeal.

Melvin Elvebak presented a brief history of the requested Critical Areas Variance and rebuttal arguments.

Stephen Orsini provided information in favor of the appeal.

Timothy Riordan presented information in support of the Critical Areas Variance submitted by Melvin and Deanna Elvebak.

Leah Forbes informed the Commissioners that Planning and Development Services had no rebuttal arguments.

Lowell "Bud" Ashbach provided rebuttal arguments.

Chair Wesen 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, October 27, at 11:00 a.m.

- b) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Commissioners may attend West Region Meeting hosted by National Association of Counties (NACo)

III. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 11:19 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