

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, with Chair Lisa Janicki, Commissioner Peter Browning, and Commissioner Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Janicki called the telephonic proceedings to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

III. AGENDA:

- a) *9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Hal Hart, Director: (Watch the meeting live on Skagit21 Television, streamed online at www.skagitcounty.net/Skagit21 or listen to the meeting by calling: 1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 984 629 885 or join by computer: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/984629885>).

1. Discussion/Possible Action: Memorandum of Understanding with Washington State Department of Ecology Regarding Implementation of the Skagit River Basin Mitigation Plan

Planning and Development Services Director Hal Hart provided background information and noted that Planning and Development Services' water team had worked with the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) over several years to come up with a new water bank concept. The new water bank concept was designed to provide a legal right to water for nearly 100 homes along Nookachamps Creek.

Mr. Hart said that DOE approached the County in 2020 with a potential concept for a Skagit Main Stem Program. DOE worked with Seattle City Light to create a source of mitigated water to assist approximately 400 families that were without water. He provided information about DOE's responsibilities as outlined in the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and noted that it would allow the County to work with DOE to implement the program.

Senior Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Will Honea outlined the steps that applicants would follow to get a building permit.

Planning and Development Services Assistant Director Michael Cerbone outlined the County's responsibilities, which included working with DOE on the issuance of proof of mitigated water supply documents associated with the issuance of new building permits. He said that the intent of the MOU was to allow staff to work with DOE to implement the program.

A brief discussion ensued about how water rights could be used, proof of mitigated water supply, remote water meters, and how the County would issue building permits.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Washington State Department of Ecology Regarding Implementation of the Skagit River Basin Mitigation Plan **(Contract No. C20210011)** Commissioner Browning seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 9:58 a.m.

Link to material documents:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/01042021/>

- b) *10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Hal Hart, Director: (Watch the meeting live on Skagit21 Television, streamed online at www.skagitcounty.net/Skagit21 or listen to the meeting by calling: 1 (224) 501-3412 Access Code: 295 022 229 or join by computer: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/295022229>).

1. Discussion: Shoreline Master Plan Overview

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 10:05 a.m.

Planning and Development Services Director Hal Hart said that the purpose of the meeting was to provide a status update of Skagit County's progress on the Shoreline Master Program (SMP). He said that the state required all SMPs be reviewed every eight (8) years.

Senior Planner Betsy Stevenson provided a timeline of the Shoreline Master Program update and noted that it began with a visioning workshop in 2011. She said that the Department would be conducting several study sessions and reaching out to the public this year and that on completion of the work, a final Shoreline Master Plan document would be sent to the Department of Ecology for their review and action.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 10:31 a.m.

Link to material documents:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/01042021/>

- c) *10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. WSU Skagit County Extension Quarterly Update (Watch the meeting live on Skagit21 Television, streamed online at www.skagitcounty.net/Skagit21 or listen to the meeting by calling: 1 (646) 749-3122 Access Code: 319 954 981 or join by computer: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/319954981>).

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 10:36 a.m.

WSU Director Don McMoran shared a video honoring WSU Master Food Preserver Vivian Smallwood who passed away recently. He also provided an update of the Agricultural Suicide Prevention Pilot Program. He announced that WSU had received funding from the US Department of Agriculture to launch the Washington State AgrAbility Program.

WSU Washington State AgrAbility Coordinator Kristen Hinton-VanValkenburg said that the Washington State AgrAbility Program provided practical solutions for farmers and farm workers who experienced difficulty working due to physical or mental health barriers.

Grants Coordinator Kate Seymour provided information about Western Regional Agricultural Stress Assistance Program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Food Access Specialist Diane Smith provided information about the bi-lingual Strengthening Family Program.

Northwest Small and Latino Farm Support Coordinator Kate Smith provided an update on the bi-lingual education program.

Area Forestry Extension Educator Kevin Zobrist provided information about the Skagit Forestry Program.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 11:26 a.m.

Link to meeting materials:

<ftp://ftp.skagitcounty.net/countycommissioners/documents/agendapackets/01042021/>

- d) *11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Board of County Commissioners (Watch the meeting live on Skagit21 Television, streamed online at www.skagitcounty.net/Skagit21, or listen to the meeting by calling: 1 (571) 317-3122 Access Code: 768 879 253 or join by computer: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/768879253>):

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 11:31 a.m.

1. County and Individual Success Stories

None provided.

2. Public Comment Period

No one was present to provide public comment.

3. Miscellaneous Announcements

Commissioner Wesen congratulated Commissioner Browning on completing his second day in office and reminded everyone to stay safe and remain calm during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Browning said he was looking forward to working with his fellow Commissioners.

Chair Janicki mentioned that she was looking forward to having a work session on the County's Strategic Plan.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 11:37 a.m.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 11:38 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

