

SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 20th, 2016
Burlington City Council Chambers
Burlington, WA

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Steve Sexton, City of Burlington, Chair; Commissioner Lisa Janicki, Skagit County, Vice-Chair; Mayor Jill Boudreau, City of Mount Vernon; Commissioner Jim Cook, Skagit Public Utility District; Mayor Joan Cromley, Town of Hamilton; Mayor Laurie Gere, City of Anacortes; Mayor Ramon Hayes, Town of La Conner; Commissioner John Pope, Port of Anacortes; Sheriff Will Reichardt, Skagit County; Commissioner Ron Wesen, Skagit County.

STAFF PRESENT

Kevin Murphy, Executive Director; Mark Hamilton, Transportation Planner; Gabe Philips, Transportation Planner.

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC PRESENT

There were nine individuals in attendance.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Mayor Sexton called the meeting to order at 2:42 PM.

Roll Call: Roll was taken with a quorum present.

2. Public Comment: Gary Haglund expressed doubts about the Skagit Climate Science Consortium's poll results regarding Skagit County residents' perceptions of climate change. Mr. Haglund said that he was skeptical that 59% of Skagitians get their climate change news from National Public Radio. He said the rest of the country is much more skeptical of climate change.
3. Chair's Report: There was no report given.
4. Executive Director's Report: Kevin Murphy asked members of the Board of Directors to send him their legislative agendas so he can ensure consistency across the region.
5. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of the December 16th, 2015 Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) Board of Directors meeting minutes.
 - b. Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Certification: 2015 accounts payable voucher batch #112536, 112653, 112824 and 112860 in an amount totaling \$23,785.24; 2016 accounts payable voucher batch #112825 and 112858 in an amount totaling \$14,601.39; and payroll certification for December 2015 in the amount of \$44,564.91.

Commissioner Janicki moved to approve the January 20th, 2016 consent agenda. Mayor Boudreau seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Action Items:
 - a. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair: Kevin Murphy reminded the Board of Directors that the SCOG bylaws state that the current Vice-Chair becomes the Chair of the Board of Directors the following

year upon the expiration of the former Chair's one-year term. Today's action would be to elect a new Vice-Chair for 2016 who would become Chair in 2017.

Mayor Gere moved to nominate Mayor Hayes as the Board of Directors Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Mayor Boudreau. The motion carried unanimously. Per the SCOG bylaws, the former Vice-Chair Commissioner Lisa Janicki became the new Chair of the Board of Directors.

7. Discussion Items:

- a. Knowledge and Attitudes in Skagit County regarding Global Warming: Carol MacIlroy from the Skagit Climate Science Consortium gave a presentation on the findings of global warming polling in Skagit County. In a scientifically valid survey of 1,000 randomly selected Skagit County residents, 79% responded that they think global warming is happening. Around 60% of the respondents indicated that global warming is caused mostly by human activities.

Mayor Hayes said that polls are all about how the survey questions are asked. He gets his news from a variety of sources, yet the survey asked for only one. Mayor Boudreau said getting more information is always helpful. She said it is best for jurisdictions to address what is actually happening regarding increases in storm water and draught management plans regardless of the politics of global warming.

Mayor Sexton called on Gary Haglund to make a comment. Mr. Haglund said that most skeptical scientists agree that global warming is happening but he wonders if it is man-made global warming or is the world simply coming out of an ice age and experiencing normal, cyclical climate change.

- b. SCOG Calendar for 2016: Mr. Murphy circulated a calendar detailing the major work items to be undertaken by SCOG and the expected completion dates. Though not on the calendar, he noted that SCOG plans to hold another regional forum in September.
- c. Council Round Table and Open Topic Discussion: Commissioner Wesen thanked the City of Anacortes and Skagit Public Utility District for participating in a recent irrigation meeting. Limitations on water rights are important for farmers and residents to understand. He also congratulated Commissioner Pope on his election as a Port of Anacortes Commissioner and Commission President.

8. Next Meeting: The next SCOG Board of Directors meeting will be Wednesday, February 17th, 2016 at the Sedro-Woolley City Council Chambers, at 2:00 p.m. following the Transportation Policy Board meeting.

9. Adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 3:28 PM.

Information Items: The Board of Directors was provided with a financial update, Revolving Loan Fund meeting information and record of payments.


Kevin Murphy, Executive Director
Skagit Council of Governments

Dated: 2-24-2016

Approved,


Commissioner Lisa Janicki, Skagit County
Board of Directors Chair
Skagit Council of Governments

Dated: 2/17/2016