AN ORDINANCE BY THE STEVENS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPEALING STEVENS COUNTY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE ORDINANCE 01-1980, ADOPTING BUILDING CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS AS REQUIRED IN THE STATE BUILDING CODE UNDER CHAPTER 19.27 OF THE REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON, ADOPTING INSTALLATION STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS AS PERMITTED UNDER CHAPTER 43.22 OF THE REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON, AND DEFINING SUCH ALLOWABLE AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS ARE TO BE INCORPORATED THEREIN.

SECTION I - BUILDINGS

1.1 AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE: As required by the Washington State Building Code under Chapter 19.27 of the Revised Code of Washington, as amended through and including all changes of the 1984 Session of the Washington State Legislature (including HB596), it is the purpose of Section I of this ordinance to adopt building construction standards and regulations and to set forth such amended procedures as they may be required for the administration thereof. The term "building construction" shall include erection, construction, enlargement, alteration, repair, moving, removal, demolition and conversion of all regulated buildings and structures.

1.2 UNIFORM CODES AND STANDARDS: As specified under Chapter 27.040 of the Revised Code of Washington, there shall be in effect in the unincorporated areas of Stevens County a county building code which shall consist of the following codes hereby adopted by reference.

1.2.1 Uniform Building Code, 1982 edition, including Chapter 7, Part I Covered Mall Buildings; Chapter 57, Regulations governing fallout shelters; Chapter 70, Excavation and Grading in part, with the following sections exempt:

- Section 7003 - Permits required, 7006 (a) Grading Permits Required, 7006 (b) Applications, 7007 (a) Plan Review Fees, 7007 (b) Grading Permit Fees, Table 7-A; Grading Plan Review Fees, Table 7-B, Grading Permit Fees.

1.2.2 Uniform Mechanical Code, 1982 edition, including Chapter 22, Fuel Gas Piping, Appendix B, published by the International Conference of Building Officials and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials;

1.2.3 The Uniform Fire Code with appendices thereto and related standards, 1982 edition, published by the International Conference of Building Officials and the Western Chiefs Association; provided, That, not withstanding any wording in this code, participants in religious ceremonies shall not be precluded from carrying hand-held candles;
1.2.4 The Uniform Plumbing Code, 1982 edition, published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials: provided, notwithstanding any wording in this code, nothing shall apply to the installation of any gas piping, water heaters or vents for water heaters;

1.2.5 Washington Administration Code 51-10 setting for the Washington State Regulations for Barrier-Free Facilities including all amendments through August 17, 1984;


1.3 CONFLICT: In case of conflict among codes or standards enumerated in subsections 1.2.1 through 1.2.7 of this section, the first named code shall govern over those following.

1.4 AMENDMENTS TO CODES AND STANDARDS: In accordance with R.C.W. 19.27.040, the aforementioned codes and standards listed in Section 1.2 are amended and revised as follows:

1.4.1 POWERS AND DUTIES OF BUILDING OFFICIAL: Chapter 2, Section 202 subsection (3) is hereby amended to read as follows:

1.4.2 PERMITS REQUIRED: Section 301, Chapter 3, of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended as follows:

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, construct, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, improve, convert or demolish any building or structure regulated by this code, except as specified in Subsection (b) of this section, or cause the same to be done without first obtaining a separate permit for each building or structure from the Building Official.

(b) Exempted Work: A building permit will not be required for the following:

1. Minimum Valuation - No permit or fee is required for any construction less than $2,000 in valuation.

No permit or fee is required for any non-structural R-3 (residential) construction less than $5,000 in valuation.

2. Private Garages, Outbuildings - A permit and fee shall not be required for any construction, repairs or movement of any private detached garage, agricultural building, storage facility or other incidental work for the non-occupancy-rated structure or external property line.

Agricultural Building Definition: AGRICULTURAL BUILDING is a structure designed and constructed to house farm implements, hay, grain, poultry, live-
stock or other horticultural products. This structure shall not be a place of human habitation or a place of employment where agricultural products are processed, treated or packaged; nor shall it be a place used by the public.

3. Owner/Builder Exemption - Owner/Builder Definition: For the purpose of this section shall mean an individual person and members of that person's immediate family, but shall not include corporations and their agents, partnerships and their agents, non-profit corporations and their agents, and all persons who intend to construct a private residence for sale, lease or rental to other persons. This section shall not prohibit any Owner/Builder from contracting any part of the construction of the individual's home, in conformance to R.C.W. Chapter 18.27, relating to general contractors and specialty contractors.

Residence - Group R. Division 3, as defined by 1982 edition of the U.B.C. relating only to detached single family dwellings, occupied by an owner-builder, and shall specifically not include structures which are used for providing services and goods for sale to members of the public, lodging to persons, for compensation, or structures which are used in the manufacture of goods intended for sale to the public.

A building permit, inspection fee, and inspections shall not be required for an owner/builder residence. The owner/builder has the option of requesting building code plan reviews and inspections conforming to Section 2 Uniform Codes and Standards Stevens County Ordinance 01-1980 and pay fees in accordance to the established fee schedule (Resolution 132-1984), or requesting an owner/builder:

(a) An owner/builder structure shall be separated by a minimum of 100 feet from any occupancy-rated structure or external property line.

(b) An owner/builder record of notice shall be filed with the Building Department and the County who shall make the notice a part of the permanent deed of record of the property. A recording process fee of $20.00 is required. The owner/builder shall sign a statement acknowledging that the individual understands and meets all requirements of this section. Attach #1.

(c) No more than one permit shall be issued to that person in any five-year period.

(d) Exemption from the permit requirements of this code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of this code or any other laws or ordinances. Such other department review and compliance will include, but not be limited to the following:
1. Department of Public Works - approved road approach permits in accordance with the requirements as adopted by the Department of Public Works or a certification that a road-approach permit(s) is not required.

2. Northeast Tri-County Health District - approved plan and permit for sewage disposal facilities in accordance with the requirements as adopted by the Health District or other agency or agencies with jurisdiction.

3. Department of Planning - approval of compliance with the policies and guidelines of the State Environmental Policy Act and the Shorelines Management Act; approval of compliance with any existing or proposed zoning as approved by or petitioned to the Board of County Commissioners; approval of compliance with General Development Ordinance.

4. Exempted Work - Other exempted work will be specified and pursuant to Section 301(b) of the 1982 Uniform Building Code.

1.4.3 Issuance (of Permits): Chapter 3, Section 303, Subsection (a) of the Uniform Building code is hereby amended to read:

The application, plans and specifications, and other data, filed by an applicant for permit shall be reviewed by the building official. Such plans will be reviewed by other departments of this jurisdiction or other agencies to verify compliance with any applicable laws under their jurisdiction. Such other department review and compliance will, at a minimum, be as follows:

1. Department of Public Works - approved road approach permits in accordance with the requirements as adopted by the Department of Public Works or a certification that a road-approach permit(s) is not required.

2. Northeast Tri-County Health District - approved plan and permit for sewage disposal facilities in accordance with the requirements as adopted by the Health District.

3. Department of Planning - approval of compliance with the policies and guidelines of the State Environmental Act and the Shorelines Management Act; approval of compliance with any existing or proposed zoning as approved by or petitioned to the Board of County Commissioners; approval of compliance with General Development Ordinance.

If the building official finds that the work described in an application for a permit and the plans, specifications and other data filed therewith conform to the requirements of this code and other pertinent laws and ordinances, and that the fees specified in Section 304 have been paid, he shall issue a permit therefore to the applicant.
When the Building Official issues the permit where plans are required, he shall endorse in writing or stamp the plans and specifications "APPROVED". Such approved plans and specifications shall not be changed, modified or altered without authorizations from the building official, and all work shall be done in accordance with approved plans.

The building official may issue a permit for the construction of part of a building or structure before the entire plans and specifications for the whole building or structure have been submitted or approved, provided, adequate information and detailed statements have been filed complying with all pertinent requirements of this code. The holder of such permit shall proceed at his own risk without assurance that the permit for the entire building or structure will be granted.

1.4.4 Fees: Chapter 3, Section 304 of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended to read:

(a). Permit Fees. The fee for each permit shall be paid to the building official as set forth in the fee and valuation schedule as adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. Such fee and valuation schedule may be changed from time to time by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners. The determination of value or valuation under any of the provisions of this code shall be made by the building official. The value to be used in computing the building permit and building plan review fees shall be the total value of all construction work for which the permit is issued as well as all finish work, painting, roofing, electrical, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, elevators, fire-extinguishing systems and any other permanent equipment, provided, however, the valuation shall not be less than that shown in the adopted fee and valuation schedule.

(b). Expiration of Plan Review. Applications for which no permit is issued within 180 days following the date of application shall expire by limitation, and plans and other data submitted for review may thereafter be returned to the applicant or destroyed by the building official. The building official may extend the time for action by the applicant for a period not exceeding 180 days upon request by the applicant showing that circumstances beyond the control of the applicant have prevented action from being taken. No application shall be extended more than once. In order to renew action on an application after expiration, the applicant shall resubmit plans and pay a new permit and plan review fee.

(c) Investigation Fees: Work Without a Permit
1. Whenever any work for which a permit is required by this code has been commenced without first obtaining said permit, notification of violation via certified mail shall be sent to the owner of record and a special investigation shall be made before a permit may be issued for such work. Notification may also be made in accordance to issuance of a Stop Work Order, Sec. 202(d.), 1982 edition of U.B.C.
2. An investigation fee shall be collected whether or not a permit is then or subsequently issued. The investigation fee shall be as established in the adopted fee and valuation schedule, provided, however, the fee may be reduced to the previous severity step by the building official if proper application for permit is made within ten (10) working days of receipt of notification of violation. The payment of such investigation fee shall not exempt any person from compliance with all other provisions of this ordinance nor from any penalty prescribed by law.

(d). Other Fees. In addition to the fees listed in subsections (a), (c), and (d) preceding, other fees may be charged as follows:

1. All inspections performed outside normal working hours at the request of the permit holder or his authorized agent shall be charged at the rate as shown in the adopted fee and valuation schedule and shall include travel time.

2. Reinspection fees assessed under the provisions of Section 305, subsection (g) of this code shall be charged at the rate as shown in the adopted fee and valuation schedule and shall include travel time.

3. For all buildings and un-approved, factory-built structures, components, commercial coaches or mobile homes moved into or within Stevens County and for changes in occupancy rating, a code compliance inspection will be made prior to issuing any permit under this code and will be assessed at the rate shown for investigation fee in the approved fee and valuation schedule whether or not a permit is issued.

1.4.5 Inspection Record Card: Chapter 3, Section 305, subsection (c) of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended to read:

(a) Inspection Record Card. Work requiring a permit shall not be commenced until the permit holder or his agent shall have posted an inspection record card in a conspicuous place on the premises and in such position as to allow the building official conveniently to make the required entries thereon regarding inspection of the work provided, however, the building official may retain such inspection record card until construction has been completed to such a state as to provide suitable posting. This card shall be maintained in such position by the permit holder until final approval has been granted by the building official. The inspection record card shall be provided by the building official with the granting of the building permit and shall remain the property of the building official. Upon completion of the final inspection as stated in subsection (e) 5 of this section, such inspection record card shall be surrendered to the building official and such surrender shall condition the issuance of a Certification of Occupancy as described in
Section 307 of this Code. A copy of building permit stamped "Approved for Use" and signed by the building official shall serve as the Certificate of Occupancy for Group M and Group R, Division 3.

1.4.6 Reinspections: Chapter 3, Section 305, subsection (9) of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended to read:

A reinspection fee may be assessed for each inspection or reinspection when such portion of work for which inspection is called that is not complete or when corrections called for are not made. Such reinspection fee shall be charged at the rate shown in the adopted fee and valuation schedule.

This subsection is not to be interpreted as requiring reinspection fees the first time a job is rejected for failure to comply with the requirements of this code, but as controlling the practice of calling for inspections before the job is ready for such inspection or reinspection.

Reinspection fees may be assessed when the permit card is not properly posted on the work site, the approved plans are not readily available to the inspector, for failure to provide access on the date for which inspection is requested, or for deviations from plans requiring the approval of the building official.

1.4.7 Table No. 3-A Building Permit Fees: Table No. 3-A of the Uniform Building Code is deleted.

1.4.8 Definitions and Abbreviations: Chapter 4, Section 420 "story, first" of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended to read:

Story, First, is the lowest story in a building which qualifies as a story, as defined herein, except that a floor level in a building having only one floor level shall be classified as a first story.

1.4.9 Change in Use: Chapter 5, Section 5, Section 502 of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended to read:

No change shall be made in the character of occupancies or use of any building which would place the building in a different division of the same group or occupancy or in a different group of occupancies, unless such building is made to comply with the requirements of this code for such division or group of occupancies. A code compliance inspection may be required. The fee for such inspection shall be in accordance with the adopted fee and valuation schedule and shall be assessed whether or not a permit is issued.

EXCEPTION: The character of the occupancy of existing buildings may be changed subject to the approval of the building official, and the building may be occupied for purposes in other groups without
conforming to all the requirements of this code for those groups, provided the new or proposed use is less hazardous, based on life and fire risk, than the existing use.

No change in the character of occupancy of a building shall be made without a Certificate of Occupancy, as required in Section 307 of this code. The building official may issue a Certificate of Occupancy pursuant to the intent of the above exception without certifying that the building complies with all provisions of this code.

1.4.10 Location on Property: Chapter 5, Section 504, Subsection (a) of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended to read:

General. Buildings shall adjoin or have access to a public space, yard or street on not less than one side. Required yards shall be permanently maintained. All buildings shall be located on the property as to conform with the following setback criteria:

1. **Side Property Lines:** A minimum of five (5) feet with an additional two (2) feet for each additional story over one, or an additional two (2) feet for each 400 square feet or portion thereof over 800 square feet for that portion of the roof shedding to the property line.

2. **Rear Property Lines:** A minimum of ten (10) feet from abutting adjacent properties, provided however, if such abutting property is an alley, service road or utility easement the setback may be a minimum of three (3) feet from the right-of-way or easement line.

3. **Roads and Streets:** A minimum of thirty-five (35) feet from any road or street centerline but not less than ten (10) feet from the right-of-way or easement line.

4. **Shorelines/Wetlands:** Shoreline and wetland setbacks shall be individually determined for each surface water body, stream or wetlands area in accordance with the following criteria:

   a. Construction to lie outside a designated wetlands or flood plain classification.

   b. To lie outside the anticipated erosion zone determined through relative shore elevation, soil type and anticipated wave or stream action.

   c. To be no closer to the shoreline than the prevailing setback of the existing structures within a single, contiguous development complex.

   d. To conform to a minimum of ten (10) feet from the ordinary high water mark in any instance where conditions a, b, or c proceeding do not
apply or cannot be established. All determinations of shoreline and wetland setbacks shall be made by the County Planning Director or his authorized deputy.

5. **Sight Distance**: No building or appurtenant construction shall be located as to obstruct vehicle stopping sight distances as determined by the County Road Engineer.

6. **Conflict**: Where two or more of the above criteria conflict, the most restrictive shall apply.

7. **Eaves**: Eave projection greater than two (2) feet shall be included in the determination of setbacks.

1.4.11 **Snow Loads**: Chapter 23, Section 2305, subsection (d) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Snow loads, full or unbalanced, shall be considered in place of loads set forth in Table No. 23-C, where such loads are in excess of Table 23-C and will result in larger members or connections. Potential accumulations of snow at valleys, parapets, roof structures and offsets in roofs of uneven configuration shall be considered in accordance with Commentary "14" (Snow Loads) of the National Building Code of Canada 1975.

Ground and roof snow loads shall be in accordance with those recommendations in "Snow Load Analysis for Washington" as published by the Structural Engineers Association of Washington, December 1975, revised December 1981. 

**EXCEPTION**: If a responsible person or agency can furnish sufficient reliable data for a specific area that is different from that required above, then the building official may adopt a higher or lower snow load for that specific area. The data must be adjusted for a 50-year recurrence, and the data must include measured water equivalent of snow.

1.4.12 **Earthquake Regulations**: Chapter 23, Section 2312, subsection (j) 2 B is hereby amended to read as follows:

Reinforced Masonry or Concrete: All elements within structures located in Seismic Zones No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 which are of masonry or concrete shall be reinforced as to qualify as reinforced masonry or concrete under the provisions of Chapters 24 and 26. Principal reinforcement in masonry shall be spaced 2 feet minimum on center in buildings using a moment-resisting space frame.

When the dimensions of Table No. 29-A are used in lieu of an engineered design, the footings and
foundation wall system shall include minimum reinforcement as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Floors Supported</th>
<th>Minimum Footing Reinforcement</th>
<th>Minimum Wall Reinforcement</th>
<th>Maximum Foundation Wall Height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2 - #3 (3/8&quot;&quot;)</td>
<td>#3'1</td>
<td>42 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3 = #3 (3/8&quot;&quot;)</td>
<td>#3'1</td>
<td>96 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12'-0&quot; o.c. horizontal; 4'-0&quot; o.c. vertical.</td>
<td>#3'1</td>
<td>96 inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.4.13 Footings: Footnote 1 to Table No. 29-A as referenced in Section 2907 of the Uniform Building Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

| Where unusual conditions or frost conditions are found, footings and foundations shall be as required in Section 2907(a). Minimum final earth cover for all footings subject to exterior temperatures shall be thirty (30) inches. |

SECTION 2 - FACTORY BUILT STRUCTURES AND COMPONENTS

2.1 In accordance with Chapter 43.22 of the Revised Code of Washington including all amendments made through and including the 1983 2nd Extraordinary Session, Chapter 296-150A of the Washington Administrative Code up to and including rules through December 31, 1982, and as authorized by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, the Stevens County Building Department is the local enforcement agency and shall approve the installation of all factory-built structures and components.

2.2 For the purposes of this section, the definitions contained within W.A.C. 296-150A-016 shall apply; except that (1) a "Component" shall not, in and of itself, be used as a building as defined in the Uniform Building Code, 1982 edition, and (2) "Factory-built Structures" shall not include mobile homes (see Section 3 for Mobile Homes and Commercial Coaches).

2.3 All approved factory-built structures and components must bear the insignia of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries as required under the provisions of W.A.C. 296-150A-021 through -075.

2.4 Approved components will be permitted in all regulated buildings and structures as follows:

2.4.1 The permittee, if requested by the building official, shall furnish one (1) copy of the manufacturer's approved design plans and specifications.

2.4.2 The Building Department may obtain any other installation information from whatever source is deemed necessary prior to approving any installation.
2.4.3 No installation of a damaged component will be approved by the Building Department until it is inspected in accordance with W.A.C. 296-150A-095(4).

2.5 Approved factory-built structures will be approved for installation in accordance with W.A.C. 296-150-095 and the relevant portions of Section 1 of this ordinance. A permit fee will be required and a permit fee will be charged in accordance with the adopted fee and valuation schedule. All site preparation, foundation and other requirements or related work as may be accomplished to complete and approved installation shall be done in accordance with the codes listed in Section 1.2.1 through 1.2.3, Section 1.3 and all amendments as listed in Section 1.4.

2.6 Unapproved factory-built structures may be approved for installation under the provisions of Section 1.4.1 of this ordinance.

SECTION 3 - MOBILE HOMES AND COMMERCIAL COACHES

3.1 In accordance with Chapter 43.22 of the Revised Code of Washington including all amendments made through and including the 1983 2nd Extraordinary Session, Chapter 296-150B of the Washington Administrative Code up to and including all rules through December 31, 1983, and as authorized by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, the Stevens County Building Department is the local enforcement agency and shall approve the installation of all mobile homes and commercial coaches.

3.2 For the purposes of this section, the definitions contained within W.A.C. 296-150B-015 shall apply except that "mobile homes" shall include all commercial coaches regardless of dimension.

3.3 All approved mobile homes must bear the insignia of the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries as required under the provisions of W.A.C. 296-150B-020 through -095.

3.4 Approved mobile homes will be installed in accordance with the provisions of W.A.C. 296-150B-200 through -210, W.A.C 296-150B-225 through -255 and the relevant portions of Section 1 of this ordinance except that:

3.4.1 Mobile home foundations more extensive than that described in W.A.C. 296-150B-230 through -240 shall fall under the provisions of Section 1 of this ordinance.

3.4.2 Mobile home anchoring systems as described in W.A.C. 296-150B-250 shall be required in all locations for which the wind exposure factor is Exposure C as determined in Section 2311 of the Uniform Building Code.

3.5 A permit will be required for all mobile home installations and a permit fee will be charged in accordance with the adopted fee and valuation schedule. All extensive foundation work as stated in Section 3.4.1 of this ordinance and all other related work or requirements beyond the scope of Section 3.4 of this ordinance shall be done in accordance with the codes listed in Section 1.4.

3.6 Unapproved mobile homes may be approved for installation under the provisions of Section 1.4.1 of this ordinance.
SECTION 4 - APPLICATION

4.1 The building official shall have authority to adopt rules, regulations and operating procedures to clarify and interpret the provisions of the adopted codes and regulations of Sections 1 through 3 preceding and for the administration and enforcement of this ordinance and adopted fee and valuation schedules. He may also approve variations when such variations are not inimical to the life, health, safety or welfare of the public, do not reduce or impair the required fire-resistive or working stresses, are necessary because of particular or peculiar circumstances, and do not violate the intent or purpose of the applicable codes or regulations.

SECTION 5 - DESIGN CRITERIA

5.1 As permitted by section 2907(a) of the Uniform Building Code, the minimum frost depth below finish grade for all footings exposed to ambient outside temperatures shall be thirty (30) inches except for Group M occupancy such depth shall be eighteen (18) inches.

SECTION 6 - SEVERABILITY

6.1 If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

SECTION 7 - VIOLATIONS

7.1 The violations of any of the provisions of this ordinance an/or failure to obey a lawful, written order of the building official shall be a misdemeanor and shall be punishable, upon conviction, by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars ($500.00), or by imprisonment for not more than ninety (90) days, or by both such fines and imprisonment.

Each day's continued failure to obey a lawful, written order of the building official shall constitute a separate violation under this section.

SECTION 8 - REPEALER

8.1 All existing resolutions, regulations, or ordinances of Stevens County relative to building construction codes and their administration are hereby repealed as of the effective date of this ordinance.

Dated this 27th day of November, 1984.
*ADDENDUM - Stevens County Building Code Ordinance 02-1984

Stevens County Building Code Ordinance 02-1984 references compliance with 1982 Uniform Codes and the 1980 Washington State Energy Code, which were the codes enacted within Washington State at the time the ordinance was adopted. The Stevens County Building Code Ordinance has not been updated since 1984. More recently, the Washington State Legislature, together with the help of the Washington State Building Code Council (SBCC), has adopted the State Building Code (RCW 19.27). The State Building Code is comprised of model code editions with Washington State Amendments, as set by the SBCC, and is the minimum construction requirement for the State of Washington. The model codes currently in effect shall prevail for construction in all counties and cities of Washington State, as required by the State of Washington, pursuant to RCW 19.27.031.