

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025**

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, with Chair Lisa Janicki, Commissioner Ron Wesen, and Commissioner Peter Browning present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Janicki called the proceedings to order at 8:31 a.m. and excused Commissioner Browning.

II. AGENDA:

a) \*8:30 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Janicki led the attendees in the salute to the flag.

b) \*8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Public Works – Grace Kane, Director:

Chair Janicki introduced Public Works Assistant Director Mike See and Natural Resources Division Manager Jenn Johnson.

1. Annual Noxious Weed Update

Ms. Johnson shared a PowerPoint presentation and gave an overview of the 2024 Noxious Weed Control report and update on next steps for 2025. She provided background information regarding the Noxious Weed Control Board which was the designated body to help identify and treat noxious weeds in Skagit County and said that vacancies remained on the Board and encouraged interested parties to apply. Ms. Johnson discussed outreach efforts and introduced the new Noxious Weed Coordinator Evan Emrick.

Mr. Emrick provided an update regarding Knotweed treatment methods, reviewed heat maps that highlighted the success and progress of treatment at Grandy Creek over the last 5 seasons and said that the progress at Grandy Creek had allowed for teams to move to other locations including Skagit River Woods.

Mr. Emrick discussed updates regarding *Spartina Anglica* which was a perennial grass native to estuarine and salt marsh habitats in Europe and the US Atlantic Coast. He said that *Spartina Anglica* was extremely invasive on the US Pacific Coast as it outcompetes native vegetation in a variety of habitat types, including sandy beaches, cobble beaches, mudflats, and salt marshes.

Mr. Emrick shared his appreciation for the seasonal noxious weed aids, and partners on cooperative projects including Skagit Fisheries, Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), Skagit Land Trust, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Washington Conservation Corps, and Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe.

Ms. Johnson provided updates regarding the Lake Management Districts which worked to control aquatic noxious weeds.

Further discussion was held regarding the 2025 Noxious Weed List updates, treatment methods, and grant funding.

For additional information visit: [www.skagitcounty.net/NoxiousWeeds](http://www.skagitcounty.net/NoxiousWeeds)

Link to PowerPoint presentation:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/02102025.zip>

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 9:09 a.m.

- c) 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Skagit County Law and Justice Council Meeting (Skagit County Public Health, 301 Valley Mall Way, Mount Vernon or Remote via Microsoft Teams)
- d) \*10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Board of Health Meeting

The Board of Health met at 10:00 a.m. Record of the Proceedings for this meeting can be found at: [www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/BoardOfHealth](http://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/BoardOfHealth)

- e) \*11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Board of County Commissioners:

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 11:31 a.m. and excused Commissioner Wesen.

- 1. Public Comment Period

Rebecca Peck of Bow shared comments regarding appreciation for the Mount Vernon Police Department, Skagit County Sheriff's Office and community support.

Larita Humble of Lake Cavanaugh shared comments regarding North Shore Drive.

- 2. County and Individual Success Stories

The Commissioners discussed a Skagit Valley College fundraising event that they attended, new programs coming to Skagit Valley College and the Ag Summit.

- 3. Miscellaneous (announcements, letters, etc.)

The Commissioners discussed letters signed the previous week and vacancies on the Planning Commission.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 11:48 a.m.

- f) \*1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Planning and Development Services – Jack Moore, Director:

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 1:02 p.m.

- 1. Discussion: Review 2025 Docket Petition Proposing to Modify the Anacortes UGA Boundary

Chair Janicki introduced Planning and Development Services Director Jack Moore and Senior Planner Robby Eckroth.

MMr. Eckroth reviewed the planning docket review process and shared that only one petition had been received from the City of Anacortes to expand the Anacortes Urban Growth Area (UGA) to incorporate nine parcels (owned by the City of Anacortes) totaling 107.24 acres. He said that the City intended to designate the properties as Parks on the Anacortes Future Land Use map, and if annexed the parcels would be assigned the Parks zoning designation on the Anacortes Zoning map.

Mr. Eckroth reviewed docketing criteria, next steps, and shared that staff recommended the petition for inclusion on the 2025 docket.

Discussion was held regarding park access and next steps.

Mr. Eckroth shared that a public comment period opened on Thursday, February 6, 2025 and would close on Friday, February 21, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

Comments could be submitted by mail, email, or by attending the public hearing scheduled to take place on February 25, 2025 at 3:30 p.m.

Mailing address:

Skagit County Planning and Development Services  
1800 Continental Place  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Email:  
[pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us)

Link to PowerPoint presentation:  
<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/02102025.zip>

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items.

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 2:00 p.m.

- g) \*2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Closed Record Appeal Hearing No. PL24-0198 Submitted by Bill Wooding Regarding Denial by Hearing Examiner of Special Use Permit No. PL16-0556 for the Expansion of an Existing Gravel Mine (Lake Erie Pit)

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 2:00 p.m. and read introductory remarks.

Counsel for the Appellant Robert A. Carmichael provided an opening brief. Mr. Carmichael shared concerns about the hearing examiner's weighing of evidence regarding the direction of water flow and said that the Appellant Mr. Bill Wooding had conducted proper studies.

Planning and Development Services Senior Planner Kevin Cricchio shared a PowerPoint presentation and provided an opening brief. He said that the Appellant bears the burden of demonstrating that the decision the hearing examiner made was clearly erroneous. He also shared that although staff had previously recommended approval to the hearing examiner last year, they did not feel the applicant had met that burden.

Evergreen Islands Representative Kyle Loring provided an opening brief and reviewed the administrative processes and Skagit County Code. He shared that he believed the decision of the hearing examiner to deny a special use permit was correct and should stand.

Sunset Lane Association Representative Frank Parker provided a PowerPoint presentation and opening brief. He reviewed points made by the Hearing Examiner, and discussed chemical analysis. Mr. Parker shared that he believed the decision of the hearing examiner to deny a special use permit was correct and should stand.

Parties of Record Brinkley Meyers, Heidi Fish, Stewart Toshach, David Hulton, Konrad Kurp and Laurie Sherman provided remarks in support of the hearing examiner's decision to deny Special Use Permit No. PL16-0556.

Mr. Cricchio said that Planning and Development Services staff had no further comments.

Counsel for the Appellant Mr. Carmichael provided rebuttal.

Chair Janicki shared conclusory remarks and announced that a decision was scheduled to be rendered on February 24, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. **(Please note the decision date has been rescheduled to February 24, 2025 at 2:15 p.m.)**

Chair Janicki recessed the proceedings at 3:16 p.m.

- h) \*3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Planning and Development Services – Jack Moore, Director:

Chair Janicki reconvened the proceedings at 3:30 p.m. and introduced Senior Planner Robby Eckroth.

1. Discussion: Comprehensive Plan Update

Mr. Eckroth introduced Kimley-Horn Consultants Clay White and Heidi Rous who provided a PowerPoint presentation and an overview of the agenda which included project background, a project schedule for 2025 meetings and hearings, overview of the

process to development comprehensive plan changes, engagement to date, comments on preliminary policy drafts, summary of Vulnerability Assessment for Climate Element, policy overview, and housing element policy overview.

Mr. White shared that the Growth Management Act (GMA) had been adopted in 1990 and required the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan and implementation of development regulations that required an update every 10 years in addition to annual review. He said that the GMA contained 15 goals implemented through the elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. White and Ms. Rous provided an overview of engagement, public comment periods, climate focused engagement, vulnerability assessment requirements and findings, resilience goals and policies, GHG goals and policies, and housing goals and policies.

Next steps included additional meetings, briefings and public hearings with the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners and anticipated completion by June 2025.

Discussion was held regarding housing goals, rural governmental services, plan implementation, regional efforts, and transportation.

The Commissioners shared their appreciation for the outreach efforts by Kimley-Horn consultants and staff.

Visit the project website at: <https://www.skagitcounty.net/2025CPA>

Link to PowerPoint presentation:  
<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/02102025.zip>

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items.

III. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Janicki adjourned the proceedings at 4:29 p.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**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Janicki, Chair

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Peter Browning, Commissioner

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Ron Wesen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board