

# Commissioners' Record of the Proceedings – Skagit County, Washington

Date: January 6, 2026

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, with Chair Ron Wesen, and Commissioner Peter Browning present.

## I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wesen called the proceedings to order at 11:00 a.m.

## II. AGENDA:

### a) \*11:00 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance

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

### b) \*11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Planning and Development Services - Jack Moore, Director:

Planning and Development Services Director Jack Moore introduced the agenda item.

#### 1. Discussion/Possible Action: Extension to an Interim Ordinance Declaring an Emergency and Adopting a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Permit Applications for Certain Uses and Activities on Agricultural (Ag/NRL) Lands

Senior Planner Robby Eckroth presented a PowerPoint on the Interim Ordinance (Ordinance No. O20250001), which declared an emergency and established a moratorium on accepting permit applications for certain uses and activities on Agricultural (Ag-NRL) Lands.

He also provided the following:

- Background information on the Interim Ordinance and previous Ordinance No. O20240003.
- A timeline showing key dates, noting that the current moratorium would expire on January 7, 2026.
- Legal authority, citing RCW 36.70A.390 and RCW 36.70.795, which allowed the Board to adopt moratoria and interim zoning ordinances to preserve the status quo while new plans and regulations were developed.

The Board also discussed the Planning Commission's deliberations on the Interim Ordinance.

Documents about the Moratorium can be found at: <https://www.skagitcounty.net/Agritourism>.

Link to PowerPoint presentation:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/01052026.zip>

A motion was made by Commissioner Browning to approve an extension to an Interim Ordinance Declaring an Emergency and Adopting a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Permit Applications for Certain Uses and Activities on Agricultural (Ag/NRL) Lands. **(Ordinance No. O20260001)** Chair Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

## 2. Miscellaneous

None provided.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:07 a.m.

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

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

#### 1. Public Comment Period

Elka McCartney of Skagit County commented on the community's resilience during and after the recent flood, outlined the County's legislative priorities, addressed concerns about the Moss Landing battery fire of January 16, 2025, and discussed the proposed battery energy storage facility in Mount Vernon.

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Rebecca Peck of Skagit County commented on the dangers associated with battery energy storage facilities, the interviews for a new County Commissioner held on January 5, 2026, and the importance of due process both locally and nationally.

Larita Humble of Skagit County commented on a member of the public being disrespectful toward her remarks, provided background information about her family's history at Lake Cavanaugh, and the request to repair North Shore Drive.

Ed Johnson of Skagit County commented on the flooding in Hamilton.

2. County and Individual Success Stories

None provided.

3. Miscellaneous (announcements, letters, etc.)

The Commissioners discussed Joe Burns' appointment as Skagit County Commissioner for District 3 and shared updates on recent and upcoming meetings.

III. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 11:47 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**

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Ron Wesen, Chair

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Peter Browning, Commissioner

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(Not yet qualified)  
Joe Burns, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Clerk of the Board