
The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 13, 2026, with Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Peter Browning, and Commissioner Joe Burns present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Wesen called the proceedings to order at 8:45 a.m.

II. AGENDA:

- a) 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Briefing - Planning and Development Services, Parks and Facilities, and Public Health

The purpose of the briefing was for Planning and Development Services, Parks and Facilities, and Public Health to provide an update.

Attendees:

Chair Ron Wesen
Commissioner Peter Browning
Commissioner Joe Burns
County Administrator Trisha Logue
Planning and Development Services Director Jack Moore
Parks and Facilities Director Ken Hansen
Public Health Director Monica Negrila
Human Resources/Risk Management Director Bonnie Beddall
Senior Human Representative Jason Lewis
Human Resources Representative Rachel Stohl
Communicable Disease Manager Alex Gee
Member of the public Patrick Donnelly

Commissioner Wesen recessed the proceedings at 9:40 a.m.

Link to briefings:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/04132026.zip>

- b) 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Briefing - Public Works

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 10:00 a.m.

The purpose of the briefing was for Public Works to provide an update.

Attendees:

Chair Ron Wesen
Commissioner Peter Browning
Commissioner Joe Burns
County Administrator Trisha Logue
Public Works Director Mike See
Public Works Assistant Director Marie Lambert
Human Resources/Risk Management Director Bonnie Beddall
Human Resources Representative Rachele Stohl
Senior Human Resources Representative Jason Lewis
Natural Resources Division Manager Jenn Johnson
Ferry Operations Division Manager Rachel Rowe
Members of the public Patrick Donnelly and Larita Humble

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:30 a.m.

Link to briefing:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/04132026.zip>

c) 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Briefing - Central Services

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 10:30 a.m.

The purpose of the briefing was for Central Services to provide an update.

Attendees:

Chair Ron Wesen
Commissioner Peter Browning
Commissioner Joe Burns
County Administrator Trisha Logue
Deputy County Administrator Jennifer Johnson
Central Services Director Russell Walker
Central Services Assistant Director Brian Young
Human Resources/Risk Management Director Bonnie Beddall
Senior Human Resources Representative Jason Lewis
Communications Manager Jenn Rogers
Central Services Project Manager Jess Boffey
Member of the public Patrick Donnelly

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 10:54 a.m.

Link to briefing:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/04132026.zip>

d) 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Executive Session (Potential Litigation - RCW 42.30.110(1)(i))

1. Call Public Meeting to Order

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:31 a.m. and announced that they would be entering into an executive session until 12:00 p.m.

Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Peter Browning, and Commissioner Joe Burns were present. The following attorneys were present at the executive session and provided legal advice to the Board of County Commissioners: Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Erik Pedersen, Senior Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Will Honea, and Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jason D'Avignon. Other attendees: County Administrator Trisha Logue, Deputy County Administrator Jennifer Johnson, and Columbia Policy Advisors Consultant Eric Johnson.

2. Executive Session

The executive session began at 11:31 a.m. and ended at 12:01 p.m.

3. Reconvene Public Meeting for the sole purpose of Adjournment

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 12:01 p.m., announced that no action had taken place, and adjourned the executive session.

e) [*1:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance](#)

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 1:00 p.m. and led the attendees in the salute to the flag.

f) [*1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Consent Agenda, Vouchers, Warrants and Miscellaneous Items](#)

1. [Public Comment \(Specifically related to the agenda item\)](#)

No public comment was provided.

2. [CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:](#)

The Commissioners discussed Consent Agenda items 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16.

Chair Wesen noted that Consent Agenda Item 12 was removed because the Parks and Facilities Department no longer felt it was necessary.

3. [CONSENT AGENDA FOR MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026 \(items 1 through 17\):](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Browning to approve the Consent Agenda items 1 through 11, and items 13 through 17, including all items requiring ratification, vouchers and warrants, for Monday, April 13, 2026. Commissioner Burns seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

a) COMMISSIONERS:

1. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, March 24, 2026. **(Approved)**
2. Record of the Proceedings for Monday, April 6, 2026. **(Approved)**
3. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, April 7, 2026. **(Approved)**
4. Record of the Proceedings for Thursday, April 9, 2026. **(Approved)**
5. Record of the Proceedings for Friday, April 10, 2026. **(Approved)**
6. Resolution approving the appointment of Jet Washington as the Local Hospital Representative member of the Skagit County Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Care Council Advisory Board. Jet Washington shall fill the remainder of Margie Campbell's three-year term ending February 28, 2028. **(Resolution No. R20260076)**

b) BUDGET AND FINANCE:

7. Amendment No. 2 to Interlocal Cooperative Agreement No. C20250434 with Port of Skagit to distribute \$500,000 of Economic Development/Public Facilities Projects grant funds previously awarded by Agreement No. C20240363 to support TheLab@SWIFT. This Amendment extends the term of Agreement from March 31, 2026, to September 30, 2026. This extension will allow the Recipient sufficient time to complete the TheLab@SWIFT Project. No additional compensation is associated with this Amendment. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement and prior Amendment shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20260067)**
8. Amendment No. 1 to Interlocal Cooperative Agreement No. C20250430 with WSU NWREC to award \$750,000 in Economic Development/Public Facilities Projects grant funds to support the Plant Growth Facility Phase 2A and 2B. This Amendment extends the Agreement term from June 30, 2026, to August 15, 2026. The extension will allow the Recipient sufficient time to complete Plant Growth Facility Phase 2A and 2B due to delays in permitting. There is no additional compensation associated with this Amendment. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20260068)**

c) FACILITIES MANAGEMENT:

9. Vendor Services Agreement with Absolute Plumbing Inc. to provide drain cleaning and plumbing services, as requested, at the following locations: Skagit County Juvenile Detention, located at 605 South 3rd Street in Mount Vernon; Skagit County Community Justice Center, located at 201 Suzanne Lane in Mount Vernon; and other Skagit County-owned facilities, as requested. Compensation shall not exceed \$40,000 including applicable taxes. The Agreement shall commence on April 23, 2026, and continue for two (2) years with the option to extend one (1) additional year. **(Contract No. C20260132)**
10. Vendor Services Agreement with Daikin Comfort Technologies Distribution Inc. dba Air Reps, LLC to provide all labor, materials, parts, permitting, equipment, and supervision for a prevailing-wage project involving warranty repair and additional non-warranty repair of the designated HVAC compressor and

components at the Skagit County Administration Building located at 700 South 2nd Street in Mount Vernon. Compensation shall not exceed \$35,000, including applicable taxes. The Agreement shall commence on the date of execution and continue until December 31, 2026. **(Contract No. C20260133)**

11. Vendor Services Agreement with Sunshine Painters LLC to supply all labor, materials, equipment, and supervision for a prevailing-wage project to paint all interior building surfaces which includes the first and second floors at the Skagit County Public Defender's Office building located at 121 Broadway Street in Mount Vernon. Compensation shall not exceed \$15,246 including all applicable taxes. The Agreement shall commence on the date of execution and continue until December 31, 2026. **(Contract No. C20260134)**
- d) PARKS, RECREATION AND FAIR:
 12. ~~Amendment No. 1 to Vendor Services Agreement No. C20250184 with VECA Electric and Technologies LLC to provide electrical services, including anticipated annual maintenance at Skagit County Park Facilities and Fairgrounds. This Amendment extends the Agreement term from April 15, 2026, to April 14, 2027. Compensation remains the same and shall not exceed \$20,000 including applicable taxes. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement shall remain in effect. (This item was removed from the Consent Agenda; it is no longer needed.)~~
- e) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES:
 13. Personal Services Agreement with Herrera Environmental Consultants Inc. to provide Development Plan Review and Site Inspection services on stormwater permitting. All reviews and services will comply with Skagit County Code and Washington State Department of Ecology Stormwater Manual for Western Washington. Compensation is based on a Task Order rate schedule and shall not exceed \$50,000. The Agreement shall commence on the date of execution and continue until March 31, 2027. **(Contract No. C20260135)**
- f) PROSECUTING ATTORNEY:
 14. Resolution to provide legal defense to former Skagit County Commissioner Lisa Janicki and Skagit County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Frederick Haist in a lawsuit filed by Victor Benson under Case Number 26-cv?00102-KKE. **(Resolution No. R20260077)**
 15. Resolution to provide legal representation to Skagit County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Frederick Haist and to remove the defense for Skagit County Auditor Sandra Perkins in a lawsuit filed by Deanna R. Devries-McDougle under Case Number 26-cv-00103-SKV. **(Resolution No. R20260078)**
- g) PUBLIC WORKS:
 16. Personal Services Agreement with Brown and Caldwell, Inc. to provide as-needed support with the County's compliance with and management of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit (Permit), and other drainage-related planning and design activities. Compensation is based on a fee schedule and shall not exceed \$200,000. The Agreement is ratified to commence on January 1, 2026, and continue until December 31, 2028. **(Contract No. C20260136)**
- h) SHERIFF:
 17. Grant Agreement (Federal Identification number CFDA #20.600) with the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs for a Traffic Safety Grant funded by the Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC). The award is for the purchase of equipment which includes three (3) printers to support participation in statewide and national traffic safety programs. Compensation to Skagit County shall not exceed \$1,350. The Agreement is ratified to commence on February 12, 2026, and continue until May 1, 2026. **(Contract No. C20260137)**
4. VOUCHERS AND WARRANTS:
 - a. Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by R.C.W. 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by R.C.W. 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has

been made available to the Board. As of this date, the Board by majority vote, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the above-mentioned list and further described as follows:

- a) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to Delta Dental Corporation from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$18,465.81 (Transmittal No. C-80-26); and
- b) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to HMA from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$119,256.75 (Transmittal No. C-81-26); and
- c) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to Health Equity from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$6,617.28 (Transmittal No. C-82-26); and
- d) Warrants numbered 616365 through 616698 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$2,933,177.63 (Transmittal No. C-83-26); and
- e) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to CVS Caremark from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$226,448.44 (Transmittal No. C-84-26); and
- f) Payroll warrants numbered 545090 through 545090 in the total dollar amount of \$2,143,575.56 (Transmittal No. P-13-26); and
- g) Junior District Payroll warrants numbered 837606 through 837708 in the total dollar amount of \$193,103.84 (Transmittal No. P-14-26).

5. [MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA ITEMS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:](#)

Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Will Honea provided additional information about Miscellaneous Agenda item 1.

6. [MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA \(item 1\):](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Browning to approve Miscellaneous Agenda item 1. Commissioner Burns seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

a) COMMISSIONERS:

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Skagit County, Skagit County Drainage and Irrigation District Consortium, LLC, and Skagit County Dike and Drainage Flood Control Partnership establishing a collaborative framework to coordinate and prioritize major infrastructure and habitat related projects within Skagit County in support of Endangered Species Act salmon recovery, long term infrastructure resiliency, and integrated decision making in the Skagit River floodplain. There is no compensation associated with this MOU. The MOU shall commence on the date of its execution by all members and shall continue for five (5) years and shall automatically renew for subsequent five-year terms. **(Contract No. C20260138)**

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 1:12 p.m.

g) [*1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Planning and Development Services - Jack Moore, Director:](#)

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 1:31 p.m.

Planning and Development Services Director Jack Moore provided background information and a PowerPoint presentation about the Agritourism Code Amendments. He said that public comment period opened on Thursday, March 26, 2026, and closed on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding key changes, including new definitions, three levels of agritourism based on attendance and frequency, and general limitations and performance standards. The proposed code would prohibit restaurants and regular celebratory gatherings in AgNRL zones. Non-conforming agritourism uses established before the moratorium could continue under a Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA) Program. The Board was

scheduled to deliberate on the matter on April 28, 2026, at 2:15 p.m. Chair Wesen expressed concerns about the Festival of Family Farms event being restricted by the new limits, and Mr. Eckroth suggested a potential solution by working on modifying Chapter 9.08 of the county code to better regulate temporary events like the Festival of Family Farms.

Mr. Eckroth noted the three options for commenting: mail, email, or testifying at the public hearing on April 13, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

- Mail to: "Skagit County Agritourism Code Amendments", 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273
- Email to pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us

Additional information can be found on the website

at: <https://www.skagitcounty.net/departments/planningandpermit/agtourismmain.htm>

Link to PowerPoint presentation:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/04132026.zip>

1. [Public Hearing to Consider Testimony Regarding Skagit County Agritourism Code Amendments](#)

Jessica Benson from A&K Alder Farm expressed concerns about unclear definitions, particularly regarding "regularly occurring celebratory gatherings" and the impact on small farms' economic viability. She also commented on the arbitrary nature of some proposed limitations such as the \$500 per acre income threshold and 50-person cap.

Skagit Tourism Bureau Chief Executive Officer Kristen Keltz and Skagit Valley Lodging Association/Skagit Tourism Bureau Board member Matthew Rosenthal expressed support for a path that would both protect agricultural lands and keep farms economically viable through innovation. They also expressed concerns about eliminating the limited event venues, and permitting barriers with the Ag 1, 2, and 3 costs.

Owner of Willowbrook Manor Terry Gifford of Skagit County spoke about the economic benefits of small farms, and the expense of the VCA's.

Celeste Frisbee of Skagit County commented on the one-time events such as the Festival of Family Farms.

Representative of Friends of Skagit County Ellen Bynum of Skagit County provided feedback on the draft code, suggesting changes to definitions, particularly removing "venues" from the terminology, clarifying the definition of commercial activities, incorporating the VCA's, and ensuring that the proposed changes were consistent and protected the county from court challenges.

Member of the Skagit County Agricultural Advisory Board Terry Sapp of Skagit County commented on the process of the Agritourism Code Amendments, the six principles created by the Agricultural Advisory Board of what agritourism should be in the agricultural zone, and also spoke in support of the Agritourism Code Amendments.

Representing Western Washington Agricultural Association Owen Peth of Skagit County commented in support of the proposed Agritourism Code Amendments and emphasized the importance of protecting Skagit's finite farmland.

Representative of Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland Laura Claus of Skagit County commented on the proposed Agritourism Code Amendments and urged the adoption of a clear agritourism definition to provide a starting point for future discussions.

Seeing no further public testimony forthcoming, Commissioner Burns made a motion to close the public hearing at 2:24 p.m. Commissioner Browning seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

2. Miscellaneous

There were no miscellaneous items.

h) 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Executive Session (None Scheduled as of the Date of this Notice)

None scheduled.

III. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 2:25 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**

Ron Wesen, Chair

Peter Browning, Commissioner

Joe Burns, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board