

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

Date: June 1, 2026

The Skagit County Board of Commissioners met in a special joint meeting with the Port of Skagit and the City of Sedro-Woolley on Monday, June 1, 2026, Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Peter Browning, and Commissioner Joe Burns were present.

## I. CALL TO ORDER:

Skagit County Chair Ron Wesen, Port of Skagit Commissioner Melanie Mankamyer, and Sedro-Woolley Mayor JoEllen Kesti called the proceedings to order at 9:07 a.m.

Commissioners present from the Port of Skagit included Kevin Ware, Melanie Mankamyer, and Mahlon Hull.

Councilmembers present from the City of Sedro-Woolley included Kevin Loy, James Cox, Nora Pederson, Allan Henderson, Paul Cocke, Karl de Jong, and Nick Lavacca.

Others in attendance included Scott Schuyler with the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Port of Skagit Executive Director Sara Young, Port of Skagit Planning & Development Manager Heather Rogerson, Port of Skagit Environmental and Planning Manager Laura Shumacher, Port of Skagit Real Estate Manager Shaun Gibbs, Port of Skagit Communications Director Linda Tyler, Port of Skagit Executive Assistant Ann Grimm, Port of Skagit Facilities Manager Jeff Hammer, Port of Skagit CFO Audra Ramerman, Port of Skagit Consultant Joe Piore, Sedro-Woolley City Administrator Charlie Bush, Sedro-Woolley Public Works Director William Bullock, Sedro-Woolley Finance Director / Clerk Kelly Kohnken, Diane Kamionka with NWIRC Lab-SWIFT, Mark Weeks with NWIRC Lab-SWIFT, Skagit County Administrator Trisha Logue, Skagit County Deputy Administrator Jennifer Johnson, Skagit County Public Health Senior Analyst George Kosovich, Skagit County Parks and Facilities Director Ken Hansen, and Skagit County Clerk of the Board Amber Erps.

## II. AGENDA:

- a) 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Joint Meeting with City of Sedro-Woolley and Port of Skagit RE: SWIFT Center (NWIRC Lab at SWIFT Center, 1803 Northsound Drive, Sedro-Woolley)

Port of Skagit Commissioner Hull welcomed attendees and said that one of the purposes of the joint meeting was to re-visit how and why ownership of the former Northern State Hospital and grounds were transferred from the State of Washington to the Port, City, and County. It had been over ten years since work initially began on the transfer and many of the Commissioners and Councilmembers had not yet been elected or involved.

After introductions, Port of Skagit Planning & Development Manager Heather Rogerson provided an overview of the planned transformation from the closed and restricted Northern State Hospital Campus to the SWIFT (Sedro-Woolley Innovation for Tomorrow) Center that would welcome residents and visitors back to the grounds and renew and invigorate the community while honoring and preserving the past. She had been involved with the project since 2014, and discussed why the Port of Skagit took the lead for the development of the main, core campus.

Since 2014, many meetings and opportunities for public input and involvement led to a vision of a mixed-use campus that created jobs, was locally owned, preserved the historical significance of the site, and was accessible to residents. Ms. Rogerson provided an update on work and events that had occurred on campus since they accepted ownership in 2018/2019 to create economic development in Eastern Skagit County through collaborative planning and private/public partnerships.

Port of Skagit Environmental and Planning Manager Laura Shumacher provided an update on the trails being renewed and built for public access and enjoyment. While most trails were campus-centric, another connected the campus to the nearby Northern State Recreation Area. Ms. Schumacher discussed features of the trails and additional riparian restoration work at two streams on the property.

Port of Skagit Communications Director Linda Tyler shared that the first building that was ready for renovation was the Hub Building and it would be used as an event space. Restoration estimates were at \$8 million. The SWIFT Center Foundation was established in 2025 to assist with fundraising efforts for the stewardship of the Northern State Hospital Historic District.

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

Date: June 1, 2026

---

Port of Skagit Real Estate Manager Shaun Gibbs provided an overview of the potential opportunities on the campus for public/private partnerships and development that could include offices, retail and restaurants, hospitality, residences, research and development, assembly and fabrication, trails, museums, and libraries. Mr. Gibbs discussed the advantages on the campus and shared that the Port was actively marketing the SWIFT Center. Subarea and other plans helped guide potential uses at the campus and he anticipated utilizing long-term leases for restoration and use of the buildings.

Sedro-Woolley Public Works Director Bill Bullock provided an overview of the improvements made by the city at Olmstead Park, trails that had been built for improved access, and a dock that had been installed at the fishing pond. He discussed plans for the cemetery located on the property to honor those interned on-site and involved resetting many of the headstone markers that had been covered by the soils and turf over the last five decades. He also discussed a proposal to relocate little league baseball fields from Riverfront Park to a site near the Veteran's Plaza and disc-golf course, discussing interest to relocate the baseball fields out of the floodplain for improved access and fiscal responsibility. Siting options were reviewed as concerns had been raised about the initial location and proximity near recently discovered Bittern habitat.

Scott Schuyler from the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe was pleased that plans for the property were moving forward and appreciated being included.

Skagit County Public Health Senior Analyst George Kosovich provided an update on the Skagit STAR (Stabilization, Treatment and Recovery) Center to meet the behavioral health and substance abuse needs in the community. Currently, people who needed behavioral health or substance use care were brought to emergency rooms or the jail where the help they needed was not always available or robust enough to provide stabilization. The STAR Center would meet this need in the community. He said that Telecare and Pioneer Human Services would be operating the center which would be opening soon.

Discussion was held about Washington State law, the number of beds at the STAR Center, that the STAR Center replaced a treatment facility that had been located on the SWIFT campus, and cost savings to treat patients at the STAR Center instead of in jails or in the emergency room.

Skagit County Parks and Facilities Director Ken Hansen acknowledged that the Master Plan guiding the decisions of the county, city, and port may need to be updated and he discussed the work completed on trails and the work with the city for their little league ballfields.

Discussion was held about the condition, and plans, for the barns on the campus and park/trail connectivity.

Diane Kamionka thanked the port, city, and county for their support of the NWIRC Lab.

Port of Skagit Executive Director Sara Young led a conversation about what opportunities and priorities the city and county would want to focus on as work continued to revitalize the SWIFT Center. Robust, mixed-use development was discussed that also supported economic development. The campus would support tourism, housing, research development, hospitality, manufacturing, and workforce development (support of Job Corps was discussed). It was also discussed to remain flexible and see what the market supported for the campus. Including a representative from Job Corps at future meetings was discussed.

The city, port, and county agreed it would be beneficial to hold regular, joint meetings (twice a year), and the importance of communication and partnership was discussed.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:07 a.m. and excused Skagit County from joining the tour of the Hub Building so that they could return to Mount Vernon for another meeting at 11:30 a.m.

b) [\\*11:30 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance](#)

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 11:39 a.m., led the gallery in the salute to the flag, and excused Commissioner Browning.

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

Date: June 1, 2026

c) [\\*11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Discussion/Possible Action: Interim Ordinance Declaring an Emergency and Adopting a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Permit Applications for Data Centers in Skagit County](#)

Chair Wesen introduced Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Will Honea who provided an overview of a proposed interim Ordinance to adopt a moratorium on the acceptance of permit applications for data centers in Skagit County.

Mr. Honea discussed why land in Skagit County was attractive to developers (the value was depressed due to the protections and restrictions valued by residents and imposed by leaders to preserve farmland for agricultural purposes) and why the moratorium was being proposed: new uses and technologies required that Skagit County update the code to remain prepared to evaluate new types of permits according to the laws and desires of the residents and elected officials.

Mr. Honea discussed some of the drawbacks associated with data centers including that they required access to a lot of electricity and water and the availability of water in Skagit County was already limited. Residential properties in parts of the county were restricted from installing wells and agricultural lands in parts of the county were restricted or limited in irrigating crops.

For these reasons and for the provision of additional protections for farming, fishing, and forestry, the code needed to be updated and to provide guidance, regulations, and guardrails for what would and would not be permitted in Skagit County.

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Honea for the information and agreed a moratorium would be beneficial so that Skagit County could clarify and update the code.

A public hearing was scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. to hear from the public.

Mikala Staples Hughes from Western Washington Agricultural Association and Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland Executive Director Lora Claus spoke in support of adopting the interim Ordinance to ensure Skagit County's resources would continue to be protected.

A motion was made by Commissioner Burns to approve the Interim Ordinance declaring an emergency and adopting a moratorium on the acceptance of permit applications for data centers in Skagit County. (**Ordinance No. O20260005**) Chair Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. Commissioner Peter Browning's absence was excused.

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 11:58 a.m.

d) 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Washington State Association of Counties Virtual Assembly hosted by WSAC

e) [\\*1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Consent Agenda, Vouchers, Warrants and Miscellaneous Items:](#)

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 1:30 p.m. and excused Commissioner Browning.

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

The Commissioners commented on Consent Agenda items 7, 8, and 14.

No one from the public provided comments on the Consent Agenda.

2. CONSENT AGENDA FOR MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026 (items 1 through 14):

A motion was made by Commissioner Burns to approve Consent Agenda Items 1 through 14, including all items requiring ratification, vouchers and warrants for Monday, June 1, 2026. Chair Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. Commissioner Peter Browning's absence was excused.

a) COMMISSIONERS:

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

Date: June 1, 2026

1. Record of the Proceedings for Tuesday, May 26, 2026. **(Approved)**
- b) BUDGET AND FINANCE:
  2. Resolution to set the statutory dates pursuant to RCW 36.40 for the FY 2027 Skagit County budget schedule. **(Resolution No. R20260106)**
- c) INFORMATION SERVICES:
  3. Resolution to appoint a new Primary Contact for all county-owned or administered Intuit QuickBooks accounts. **(Resolution No. R20260107)**
- d) PUBLIC HEALTH:
  4. Personal Services Agreement with Catholic Community Services of Western Washington to provide outpatient substance use disorder treatment related services to Skagit County residents who meet the eligibility requirements. Compensation is based on a rate schedule and shall not exceed \$50,022. The Agreement is ratified to commence on January 1, 2026, and shall continue until December 31, 2026. **(Contract No. C20260190)**
- e) PUBLIC WORKS:
  5. Resolution awarding the bid for the 2026 Waste Storage Facility – Burmaster Construction Project #WA1206-140-11 to CT Excavating in the amount of \$33,351.06. **(Resolution No. R20260108)**
  6. Resolution appointing the 2026 Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) membership. **(Resolution No. R20260109)**
  7. Resolution calling for bids for the 2026 Hydraulic Maintenance and Repair Service. The bid opening is scheduled to take place on Monday, July 6, 2026, at 1:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible in the Skagit County Commissioners Hearing Room located at 1800 Continental Place in Mount Vernon. Attendance will be in-person, by phone: 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 871 8000 1980, or remote at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87180001980?pwd=eEVGUGkxZ3NkQkhYSnhBMEo2RTQrdzo9> **(Resolution No. R20260110)**
  8. Grant Sub-Award Agreement with Salish Sea School for Forage Fish Monitoring services for the Skagit County Marine Resources Committee (MRC). Compensation shall not exceed \$24,600 and is funded by the Washington State Department of Ecology Grant, Contract No. C20260014, under Tasks 2 and 3. The Agreement is ratified to commence on January 1, 2026 and shall continue until December 31, 2027. **(Contract No. C20260191)**
  9. Access Permit and Waiver with Sirios Timber Partners, L.P. to allow Skagit County access to Parcel No. P43132 to complete geotechnical work related to the Mill Creek Project. No compensation is associated with this Access Permit. Access will be granted on June 1, 2026 and expire on September 30, 2026 for completion of work. **(Contract No. C20260192)**
  10. Vendor Services Agreement with Industrial Mowing and Spraying, Inc. to provide mowing and brush cutting services within county-owned right-of-ways. Compensation is based on a rate schedule and shall not exceed \$30,000. The Agreement shall commence on the date of execution and continue for two years. **(Contract No. C20260193)**
  11. Vendor Services Agreement with Excavation West, Inc. for vegetation management at eight different sites in Skagit County. Compensation shall not exceed \$111,080.47. The Agreement shall commence on the date of execution and continue for one year. **(Contract No. C20260194)**
  12. Amendment No. 1 to Personal Services Agreement No. C20250282 with AquaTechnex, LLC for the provision of management strategies to eradicate or control noxious aquatic weeds in Big Lake, Lake Management

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

Date: June 1, 2026

District #1 (LMD 1), perform vegetation surveys and mapping, provide reports and public notices, and secure an NPDES Permit from the Department of Ecology. This Amendment increases compensation by \$55,844.35 for additional work and funding for algae treatment. Total compensation shall not exceed \$181,844.35. The term remains the same and shall continue until May 31, 2027. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20260097)**

13. Amendment No. 2 to Personal Services Agreement No. C20240436 with KPFF, Inc. to continue advancing the Mill Creek Restoration Project. This Amendment includes rates that were not contained in Amendment No. A20260059. Compensation remains the same and shall not exceed \$1,109,393.83. The term remains the same and shall continue until December 31, 2026. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement and prior Amendment shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20260098)**
14. Amendment No. 2 to Construction Contract Agreement No. C20250237 with Strider Construction Co. Inc. for the 2025 March's Point (Whitmarsh) Landfill Remediation Project #WM33-14-2. This Amendment adds two bid items and increases compensation by \$189,190. Total compensation shall not exceed \$11,451,189.77. The term remains the same and will continue until completed. All other terms and conditions of the original Agreement and prior Amendment shall remain in effect. **(Amendment No. A20260099)**
3. **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 HealthEquity from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$6,028.66 (Transmittal No. C-113-26); and
    - b) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to HMA from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$206,795.00 (Transmittal No. C-114-26); and
    - c) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to Delta Dental Corporation from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$15,717.77 (Transmittal No. C-115-26); and
    - d) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to HealthEquity from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$21,030.73 (Transmittal No. C-116-26); and
    - e) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to HMA from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$141,394.34 (Transmittal No. C-117-26); and
    - f) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to HMA from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$191,274.89 (Transmittal No. C-118-26); and
    - g) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to Delta Dental Corporation from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$18,450.09 (Transmittal No. C-119-26); and
    - h) ACH Transfer Request Form and Certification to HealthEquity from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$4,011.44 (Transmittal No. C-120-26); and
    - i) Warrants numbered 618669 through 618925 from Clearing Fund 696 in the total dollar amount of \$2,698,519.72 (Transmittal No. C-121-26).
4. [MISCELLANEOUS AGENDA \(items 1 through 3\):](#)

Agricultural Lands Coordinator Sarah Stoner provided additional information about Miscellaneous Agenda items 1 through 3 and discussion was held about the Farmland Legacy Program.

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

Date: June 1, 2026

A motion was made by Commissioner Burns to approve Miscellaneous Agenda items 1 through 3. Chair Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously. Commissioner Peter Browning's absence was excused.

a) PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Farmland Legacy Program Grant Deed of Conservation Easement with Randall L. Good and Aileen W. Good to protect 68.68 acres of agricultural land on Parcel Numbers P41106, P41159, P41162, and P41163 for compensation in the amount of \$135,000. This Easement eliminates one (1) residential development right. The Conservation values include protection of agricultural productivity and the protection of prime and important agricultural soils. The Agreement commences on mutual execution and continues in perpetuity. **(Contract No. C20260195)**
2. Farmland Legacy Program Grant Deed of Conservation Easement with John Randall Mower and Kim D. Mower to protect 44.32 acres of agricultural land on Parcel Numbers P41143, and P41146 for compensation in the amount of \$105,000. This Easement eliminates one (1) residential development right. The Conservation values include protection of agricultural productivity and the protection of prime and important agricultural soils. The Agreement commences on mutual execution and continues in perpetuity. **(Contract No. C20260196)**
3. Farmland Legacy Program Grant Deed of Conservation Easement with Catherine H. Cahill to protect 40.68 acres of agricultural land on Parcel Number P116190 for compensation in the amount of \$95,000. This Easement eliminates one (1) residential development right. The Conservation values include protection of agricultural productivity and the protection of prime and important agricultural soils. The Agreement commences on mutual execution and continues in perpetuity. **(Contract No. C20260197)**

Chair Wesen recessed the proceedings at 1:45 p.m.

f) 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Executive Session (Real Estate Acquisition - RCW 42.30.110(1)(b))

1. Call Public Meeting to Order

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 2:30 p.m. and announced that they would be going into an executive session until approximately 3:30 p.m. regarding real estate acquisition.

Chair Ron Wesen, Commissioner Peter Browning, Commissioner Joe Burns, County Administrator Trisha Logue, Deputy County Administrator Jennifer Johnson, Public Works Director Michael See, and Public Works Assistant Director Marie Lambert were present. The following attorneys were present to provide legal advice to the Commissioners: Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Will Honea and Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Erik Pedersen.

2. Executive Session

The executive session started at 2:31 p.m. and ended at 3:21 p.m.

3. Reconvene Public Meeting for the sole purpose of Adjournment

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 3:21 p.m., announced that no action had taken place, and adjourned the proceedings.

g) 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Work Session with Parks and Facilities

Chair Wesen reconvened the proceedings at 3:31 p.m.

A work session was held with Parks and Facilities to discuss capital projects and bond planning.

Attendees:

Chair Ron Wesen

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

Date: June 1, 2026

---

Commissioner Peter Browning  
Commissioner Joe Burns  
County Administrator Trisha Logue  
Deputy County Administrator Jennifer Johnson  
Parks and Facilities Director Ken Hansen  
Communications Manager Jenn Rogers

### III. ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Wesen adjourned the proceedings at 4:15 p.m.

\*Note, to obtain an audio or video recording of this meeting; please contact the Skagit County Commissioners' office.

### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Wesen, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Browning, Commissioner

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Burns, Commissioner