



CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION MINUTES of April 28, 2025

MEETING OF THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION (CRC)

Chair Susan Fisch called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 28, 2025. Also present were Commissioners Jim Stoffer, Jeff Tozzer, Alex Fane, Ron Cameron, Patti Morris, Paul Pickett, Ron Richards, Christy Holy, Rod Fleck, Nina Sarmiento, Chris Noble, Bill Benedict, Mark Hodgson and Cathy Walde.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted as presented

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- Minutes April 18, 2025

Tozzer commented on the Town Hall Committee report stating that Stoffer called for the question but it doesn't say who seconded it. Stoffer commented that the main motion was seconded by Holy. He added that after the main motion there was a call for the question but it doesn't require a second. Fleck reviewed Roberts Rules of Order to determine if the call for the question required a second. Richards commented that AI states it requires a second and two-thirds vote. Tozzer requested that he would like added that there wasn't second and a two-thirds vote wasn't taken. He requested that he would like the minutes to reflect that CRC didn't follow Roberts Rules. Tozzer also noted that call to question was also used under the Bylaws Committee section but it wasn't reflected in the minutes.

ACTION TAKEN: Tozzer moved that for the first one midway down page 7 after much discussion, Stoffer called for the question. The Commission decided not to follow Roberts Rules in that case. It was not seconded. No vote was taken. Also, at the bottom of the Bylaws/Rules Committee Stoffer again calls to question. It was not seconded and not voted upon, no second, motion failed

ACTION TAKEN: Adopted as presented

(14 voted in favor of and 1 voted no)

PUBLIC COMMENT – Please limit comments to three minutes

- Marolee Smith, Port Angeles, commented on Open Public Meetings Act OPMA, Executive, Commission and Committee Meetings
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on contract grant and loan management amendment, Economic Development Council, North Olympic Development Council
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on Open Public Meetings Act OPMA, public comment
- Pepai Whipple, Sequim, commented on the Water Committee, water issues, survey
- Bonnie Bless-Boenish, Sequim, commented on town hall meeting, meeting notes, survey (see attached)

CORRESPONDENCES

Gores noted receipt of correspondences from Virginia Shogren, Commissioner Richards, John Worthington, Commissioner Tozzer, Diana Henderson, Tom Ash, Mark Lane, Commissioner Pickett, Commissioner Cameron, Gayle Baker, Marolee Smith, Commissioner Stoffer, Nicole Hartman, Robert Wissolik, Tony Corrado, Dee Boughton, Jan Kreidler, Jai Porter, Patrice Johnston, Ed Bowen, Commissioner Morris, Pepai Whipple, and Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression FIRE (see attached).

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Open Public Meetings Act – Dee Boughton, Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Dee Boughton, Prosecuting Attorney's Office provided a presentation on the Open Public Meetings Act OPMA. He addresses committee meetings, different types of meetings, and public comment. CRC Members asked Boughton questions regarding the OPMA.

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

MINUTES of April 28, 2025

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- Consideration by the Commission of a proposed amendment regarding contract, grant, and loan management- Paul Pickett

Fisch commented that the CRC hasn't decided as a group if there will be rules or time limits for debate specifically if there will be a time limit for making comments and how many go arounds will be allowed. Hodgson recommended 2 minutes for comment and 1 rebuttal. Stoffer recommended a 2 minute comment, alternating pro and con and 1 time around. He added that if there is an amendment the same would apply to the amendment.

Stoffer original motion:

ACTION TAKEN: Stoffer moved to allow 2 minutes for comments, alternating pro and con and allow 1 time around, Morris seconded, xx

(14 voted in favor of and 1 voted no)

Hodgson amended motion:

ACTION TAKEN: Hodgson moved to amend the original motion to add 1 follow-up question, Holy seconded, motion failed

(7 voted in favor of and 8 voted no)

CRC recessed at 6:56 p.m. and reconvened at 7:01

Pickett briefed the CRC Members on the proposed amendment regarding contract, grant and loan management.

Pickett original motion:

ACTION TAKEN: Pickett moved that the Clallam County Charter Review Commission, in consideration of the above findings of fact, transmit the following amendment to the County Auditor for inclusion on the 2025 general election ballot in a form that substantially conforms to the following: New section to be added to Article IX: 9:80 Contract, Grant and Loan Management

Richards called a point of order. He stated that it sounds like this is final action before a required hearing. He noted that the Commission should decide if they want to submit the proposal to a public hearing. Fisch commented that the Commission is at step 2 which says: *Hold a meeting to consider an amendment: The proposed Charter Amendment will be considered by the Commission for their vote. If the Commission approves a final draft of the proposed amendment, the Commission shall schedule a final vote at a subsequent meeting scheduled by the Commission.* She indicated that step 3 is to give notice to the public.

Pickett amended his motion:

ACTION TAKEN: Pickett moved that he would like the Commission to approve a final draft of the proposed amendment to continue on as according to the Bylaws step 3, no second, motion failed

- Notice to the Commission of a proposed amendment regarding open public meetings – Paul Pickett
- Fisch commented that Commissioner Pickett is at step 1 which says: *Give Notice to Commission: A member or Committee shall provide a draft of the proposed Charter amendment to the Commission at a meeting. The proposed amendment shall be placed on the agenda at a subsequent meeting scheduled by the Commission.* She noted that Pickett has provided the draft and notice. Pickett requested that the proposed amendment regarding open public meetings be placed on the May 12 meeting agenda.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Water Committee

Pickett reported that Bowen Kendrick - Clallam County PUD, Bruce Emery – Department of Community Development, and Jennifer Garcelon - Health and Human Service attended the April 18 Water Committee meeting. He is trying to coordinate a meeting with the Tribes. CRC Members held discussion.

- Outreach Town Hall Committee

Stoffer reported there was an Outreach Town Hall Committee meeting held on April 23 in the Emergency Operation Center. He discussed the survey questions based on the priorities submitted. There will be a town

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
MINUTES of April 28, 2025
Page 3

hall meetings in Sekiu on April 29 and Forks on May 6. They will not be taking any action at those meetings. Morris provided an update on the survey. CRC Members held discussion on the survey. Tozzer stated his concerns with how the survey questions were decided on. Holy provided an update on how the survey questions were decided on. Morris noted that there can be additional survey's. CRC Members held discussion. The first survey will run until the end of May.

- Coroner Committee
Cameron has no report.

REPORTS

- Chair Report – Commissioner Fisch
Fisch reported that the rules need to be updated to add the regular exact meeting dates.
ACTION TAKEN: Fisch moved to add to the rules that the 2025 Charter Review Committee regular meetings on the 2nd and 4th Monday at 5:30 p.m., Hodgson seconded, motion passed
(15 voted in favor)

Fisch commented that the Town Hall Committee requested to use \$45.56 for coffee and \$22.86 for copies. There was no objection to the costs.

Gores reminded CRC Commissioners that there is an active records request. CRC Members need to send responsive records to Gores. If they do not have records, please send an email indicating they do not have responsive records.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Please limit comments to three minutes

- Denise LaPio, Sequim, commented on the survey questions, water steward position, rank choice voting
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on the survey, North Olympic Development Council
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on voting, survey questions
- Pepai Whipple, Sequim, commented on survey questions
- Dale Jarvis, Sequim, commented on Charter Review Commission
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on paying attention, water steward position, survey questions, term limits on the CRC
- Norma Turner, Port Angeles, commented on the survey notice, term limits on the CRC, executive committee
- C.G.H, commented on survey questions
- Martha Rudersdorf, Sequim, commented on the survey questions, elected position
- Jamie Porter, commented on the water steward position

GOOD OF THE ORDER/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Strategy for amendments
- Roberts Rules of Order
- Survey
- Ethics

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting concluded at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Loni Gores, MMC

Clerk of the Charter Review Commission

Approved: 5/12/25

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION 2025 – Roll Call Voting – April 28, 2025

Y – Yes, N- No, A-Absent

	Amended motion - to add 1 follow up question Hodgson
Susan Fisch	Y
Bill Benedict	Y
Jim Stoffer	N
Jeff Tozzer	N
Alex Fane	Y
Ron Cameron	N
Pattie Morris	N
Chris Noble	Y
Paul Pickett	Y
Ron Richards	N
Rod Fleck	N
Mark Hodgson	Y
Christy Holy	N
Cathy Walde	N
Nina Sarmiento	Y
Yes	7
No	8
Pass or Fail	Failed

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

Public Comment on Agenda Items – 1st Session

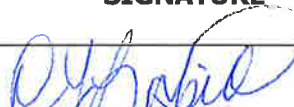
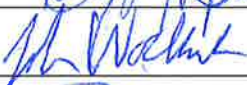
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that any testimony that I give is true and accurate. Please print name and address clearly.

No	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	Mazdee Smith		Port Angeles
2	JOHN WORTHINGTON		SEQUIM
3	Ed Bowen		West End
4	Pepai Whipple	Pepai Whipple	Sequim
5	Bonnie Bless-Boenish		Sequim
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CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET

General Public Comment – 2nd Session

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that any testimony that I give is true and accurate. Please print name and address clearly.

Nº	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS
1	Denise Lapio		Sequim, WA
2	JOHN BORTHINGTON		SEQUIM WA
3	EJ Bonin		West end
4	PEPAI WHIPPLE		Sequim
5	Dale Jarvis		Sequim
6	ERIC FEHRMANN		Sequim
7	Norma T		PA
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CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Public Comment 4-28-25

Public Comment
Bonnie Bless-Boenish
4/20/25 CRC meeting

April 28, 2025

My name is Bonnie Bless-Boenish. I live in District 1, Sequim. I am speaking about the work of the outreach town hall subcommittee. I attended two town hall events (Sequim and Fairview Grange). I zoomed in on two outreach town hall committee work session meetings on April 10 and April 23.

When I attended the two outreach town hall committee meetings, I was impressed with the discussion and decision-making process I observed. I found the notes from the April 10th meeting on pages 216-218 of the packet to be an accurate description of what transpired. I saw how public input was used and applied. The group referred to information from the Charter Review Commissioners' priority ranking list and carefully considered the notes they had individually taken as the public gave comments at town halls. They referred to rankings and comments as they worked through the large list of proposed amendments that needed to be narrowed down for a survey. I appreciate all the work and time taken outside of the committee meetings to revise the wording of the questions and I look forward to being able to take the survey when it's available. The outreach town hall committee meetings were collaborative, respectful and efficient. I hope today's committee report results in a passed motion to get the survey out as soon as possible.

I know Commissioners are busy and under time constraints to get amendments ready for the 2025 ballot deadlines, but I ask that you explore options for how best to educate constituents on why some of the ideas cannot move forward based on existing law or because they are out of the purview of the charter and also to explain that some ideas may be referred to County Commissioners instead of being placed on the ballot.

Thank you for all your work.

B. B. B.

Public comment
Ed Bowen
4/28/25 CRC meeting

Comments,
suggestions
& Petition Request
Ed Bowen



Clallam County Courthouse

AGENDA

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

223 East 4th Street, Room 160
Port Angeles, Washington

April 28, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

Notes for the Audience

- Assistive listening devices are available. Please notify Clerk before the meeting if you would like a SoundMate personal listening system.
- Please utilize the public comment sign-up sheets located at the front door.

****ATTENTION****

Charter Review Commission meetings will also be available virtually at:

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom audio only, call 253-215-8782 and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345 and use *9 to raise your hand.

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom video conference, visit www.zoom.com and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345

This meeting can be viewed on a live stream at this link: <https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/669/Live-Archived-Meetings-Online>

Public comment can be directed to the Clerk at 360-417-2256 or Loni.Gores@clallamcountywa.gov

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Meeting Minutes April 14, 2025

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Please limit comments to three minutes

CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Open Public Meetings Act – Dee Boughton, Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Consideration by the Commission of a proposed amendment regarding contract, grant, and loan management- Paul Pickett
- Notice to the Commission of a proposed amendment regarding open public meetings – Paul Pickett

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Water Committee
- Town Hall Outreach Committee
- Coroner Committee

REPORTS

- Chair Report – Commissioner Fisch

Summary of Comments on 04-28-25 Charter Review Public Comment Open Public Meetings Ammendment.pdf

This page contains no comments

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Business Items:

Notice to the Commission of a proposed amendment regarding open public meetings – Paul Pickett

This page contains no comments

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION RESOLUTIONS No. ____

DRAFT – April 28, 2025

THE CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION finds as follows:

1. The current Charter can be improved by clearly linking its language to the Open Public Meeting Act; and
2. There have been requests from the public to clarify the requirements for public access to meeting of the Board of County Commissioners; and
3. Additional language in the Charter citing Chapter RCW 42.30 would improve transparency and accountability in County government;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Clallam County Charter Review Commission, in consideration of the above findings of fact, transmit the following amendment to the County Auditor for inclusion on the 2025 general election ballot in a form that substantially conforms to the following:

Article II, Section 2.40 shall be amended as follows:

Section 2.40: Rules and Organization of the Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners shall by ordinance adopt its own rules and organization. The Commissioners shall elect one of their members as chair who shall preside at all meetings of the Commissioners. The terms "Meetings" and "Action" as used in the Charter, are defined as specified in RCW 20.020. The Commissioners shall meet regularly, at least once a week and shall adopt, by ordinance, rules and procedures designating the time and place for the conduct of their meetings and the manner of introduction, consideration, adoption and publication of the ordinances. Meetings of the Commissioners shall be open to the public and a public record shall be kept of each meeting and the votes taken therein. Any meeting of the Commissioners shall be held in a location where the all of the requirements of Chapter RCW 42.30 RCW can be met. Records shall be kept in the form prescribed and shall be accessible as provided by ordinance and law. The Commissioners may appoint staff as they deem necessary to assist them in the performance of their duties.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of ____ 2025.

Susan Fisch, Chair
Clallam County Charter Review Commission

Number: 1 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:31:27 AM
Should this not be RCW 42.30.020?

T Number: 2 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Highlight Date: 4/28/2025 7:30:04 AM

Number: 3 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:42:36 AM

All approved rules and procedures will be maintained and readily available to the public, in writing. Any procedure that is not in writing but implemented as a manner to conduct the business of the county shall be appealable with response from the county.

Number: 4 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:39:47 AM

There too many ambiguities in when and where the BOCC meets, both on and off county grounds. The charter needs to specify those requirements that the RCW doesn't list. To include:

1. Any and all meetings are required to host public comments during the meeting prior to taking such action, entering in to discussion that may imply an agreement with anyone and anybody, with emphasis on government to government meetings.
2. Where virtual or inperson attendance by the public is not feasible to the public, with emphasis on out of county jurisdiction, at a minimum an audio recording will be accomplished during the meeting and maintained as a public record. If such recording is not accomplished, no activity during such meeting will be construed to satisfy the definition of "Action" under RCW 42.30.020; "...receipt of public testimony, deliberations, discussions, considerations, reviews, evaluations, and final actions."

Number: 5 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:46:42 AM

Any agreement with organizations or entities that are not bound by the jurisdiction of the State will be subject to a public hearing prior to adoption by the county. Any such agreement shall incorporate a specification of identifying within the best interest of the citizens of the county.

RCW 42.30.020 Definitions. As used in this chapter unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) "Public agency" means:

(a) Any state board, commission, committee, department, educational institution, or other state agency which is created by or pursuant to statute, other than courts and the legislature. This does not include a comprehensive cancer center participating in a collaborative arrangement as defined in RCW 28B.10.930 that is operated in conformance with RCW 28B.10.930;

(b) Any county, city, school district, special purpose district, or other municipal corporation or political subdivision of the state of Washington;

(c) Any subagency of a public agency which is created by or pursuant to statute, ordinance, or other legislative act, including but not limited to planning commissions, library or park boards, commissions, and agencies;

(d) Any policy group whose membership includes representatives of publicly owned utilities formed by or pursuant to the laws of this state when meeting together as or on behalf of participants who have contracted for the output of generating plants being planned or built by an operating agency.

(2) "Governing body" means the multimember board, commission, committee, council, or other policy or rule-making body of a public agency, or any committee thereof when the committee acts on behalf of the governing body, conducts hearings, or takes testimony or public comment.

(3) "Action" means the transaction of the official business of a public agency by a governing body including but not limited to receipt of public testimony, deliberations, discussions, considerations, reviews, evaluations, and final actions. "Final action" means a collective positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a governing body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance.

(4) "Meeting" means meetings at which action is taken. [2022 c 71 s 11; 1985 c 366 s 1; 1983 c 155 s 1; 1982 1st ex.s. c 43 s 10; 1971 ex.s. c 250 s 2.]

Findings—Intent—2022 c 71: See note following RCW 28B.10.930.

Severability—Savings—1982 1st ex.s. c 43: See notes following RCW 43.52.374.



**PUBLIC NOTICE – SPECIAL MEETING
CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.080, the Board of Commissioners will be attending a joint meeting with the Port of Port Angeles at 11 a.m., Monday, April 28, 2025 at 338 West 1st Street, Port Angeles.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss:

- I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- II. EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 10 minutes)**
- III. WORK SESSION TOPICS**
 - A. Clallam County Comprehensive Plan
 - Department of Community Development Director Update – Bruce Emery
 - Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvement addendum to the Comp Plan
 - Industrial Development Corporation/Industrial Development District
 - B. NODC Presentation and Annual Report – Karen Affeld
 - C. EDC Call to Action
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 20 minutes)**
- V. ADJOURN**



**SPECIAL JOINT PORT COMMISSION WORK SESSION
WITH CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Monday, April 28, 2025 at 11:00 AM

338 West 1st Street

Via Zoom and In-Person

The Special Commission Meeting will be available to the public in person and remotely. For instructions on how to connect to the meeting remotely, please visit <https://portofpa.com/about-us/agenda-center/>

- I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- II. EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 10 minutes)**
- III. WORK SESSION TOPICS**
 - A. Clallam County Comprehensive Plan
 - Department of Community Development Director Update – Bruce Emery
 - Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvement addendum to the Comp Plan
 - Industrial Development Corporation/Industrial Development District
 - B. NODC Presentation and Annual Report – Karen Affeld
 - C. EDC Call to Action
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 20 minutes)**
- V. ADJOURN**



**PUBLIC NOTICE – SPECIAL MEETING
CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.080, the Board of Commissioners will be attending a joint meeting with the Quileute Tribal Council at 1 p.m., Friday, May 2, 2025 at 90 Main Street, LaPush, WA. There will be **no virtual** option available for the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss:

1. Opening Introductions
2. **Discussion** on impacts to the Quileute Tribe on federal decision making
3. Land into Trust (Interagency Agreement)
 - a. Update on Kitla building
4. Highway 110 road issues
 - a. Road condition/being less than one year old.
5. Discovery Trail
 - a. General updates/status
6. Recompete Grant
 - a. QTC involvement and plans
 - b. BOCC updates
7. Update on Tribal projects
 - a. Habitat restoration
 - b. Transportation
 - c. Housing
8. EOC/911 Project
 - a. BOCC status update
9. Updates on other economic development opportunities
 - a. Clallam county update
 - b. Quileute Tribe update
10. Closing remarks



Quileute Tribal Council

• QUILEUTE INDIAN TRIBE •

P.O. Box 279 • La Push, WA • 98350-0279
Phone: (360) 374-6163 • Fax: (360) 374-6311



May 2nd, 2025 at 1 p.m.

In person only at 90 Main Street, LaPush, WA

Quileute Tribal Council & Clallam County Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Introductions
2. Discussion on impacts to the Quileute Tribe on federal decision making
3. Land into Trust (Interagency Agreement)
 - a. Update on Kitla building
4. Highway 110 road issues
 - a. Road condition/being less than one year old.
5. Discovery Trail
 - a. General updates/status
6. Recompete Grant
 - a. QTC involvement and plans
 - b. BOCC updates
7. Update on Tribal projects
 - a. Habitat restoration
 - b. Transportation
 - c. Housing
8. EOC/911 Project
 - a. BOCC status update
9. Updates on other economic development opportunities
 - a. Clallam county update
 - b. Quileute Tribe update
10. Closing remarks

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCES RECEIVED



COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

The Charter Review Commission Outreach Town Hall Committee has scheduled an Outreach Town Hall Committee meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 from 2-4 p.m. in the Clallam County Emergency Operations Center EOC at 223 East 4th Street, Basement Room 070, Port Angeles.

Purpose of the meeting is to review input received during Community Town Hall events and outreach and draft questions for a Community Survey of Positions and Priorities.

Zoom:

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom audio only, call 253-215-8782 and use meeting ID: 864 4479 7822 and passcode: 738837 and use *9 to raise your hand.

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom video conference, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86444797822?pwd=aqKteTx38eke2s1mR36I4Eb62kuHXw.1> and use meeting ID: 864 4479 7822 and passcode: 738837

Citizens with comments or questions regarding the Charter Review Commission may contact the Clerk of the Charter Review Commission at loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov or 360-417-2256.

Dated this 17th day of April, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Loni Gores".

Loni Gores, MMC

Clerk to the Charter Review Commission



MEETING NOTICE

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

COMMUNITY TOWN HALL EVENT

The Charter Review Commission has scheduled a Community Town Hall Event to be held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 from 6-8 p.m. at the Clallam Bay/Sekiur Lions Club, 90 Bogachiel Street, Clallam Bay.

This event is being held to allow the Charter Review Commission to engage with the citizens of Clallam County regarding the Clallam County Charter.

Additional details regarding the Charter Review Commission can be found at this link.
<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/210/Charter-Review-Commission-CRC>

Citizens with comments or questions regarding the Charter Review Commission may contact the Clerk of the Charter Review Commission at loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov or 360-417-2256.

Dated this 17th day of April, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Loni Gores". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Loni Gores, MMC
Clerk to the Charter Review Commission



MEETING NOTICE

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION COMMUNITY TOWN HALL EVENT

The Charter Review Commission has scheduled a Community Town Hall Event to be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 from 6-8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 280 Spartan Avenue, Forks. Parking is located in the lot off of Highway 101 (Forks Main Street).

This event is being held to allow the Charter Review Commission to engage with the citizens of Clallam County regarding the Clallam County Charter.

Additional details regarding the Charter Review Commission can be found at this link.
<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/210/Charter-Review-Commission-CRC>

Citizens with comments or questions regarding the Charter Review Commission may contact the Clerk of the Charter Review Commission at loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov or 360-417-2256.

Dated this 17th day of April, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Loni Gores".

Loni Gores, MMC
Clerk to the Charter Review Commission



COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

The Charter Review Commission Water Committee has scheduled a Water Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 9 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Board Room at 223 East 4th Street, Room 160, Port Angeles.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the water issues raised by CRC Commissioners and Citizens and consider the possibility of a Charter amendment regarding County water management.

Zoom:

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom audio only, call 253-215-8782 and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345 and use *9 to raise your hand.

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom video conference, visit <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83692664344> and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345

Citizens with comments or questions regarding the Charter Review Commission may contact the Clerk of the Charter Review Commission at loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov or 360-417-2256.

Dated this 18th day of April, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Loni Gores".

Loni Gores, MMC

Clerk to the Charter Review Commission



MEETING NOTICE

CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

The Charter Review Commission Chair Susan Fisch will be attending the Kiwanis Club Meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2025 12 p.m. at Joshua's Restaurant and Lounge, 113 S Del Guzzi Drive, Port Angeles.

Commissioner Fisch will be doing a short presentation about the Charter and then taking questions/comments. The Kiwanis Club has requested the Charter Review Commission Chair to speak at their meeting.

Additional details regarding the Charter Review Commission can be found at this link.
<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/210/Charter-Review-Commission-CRC>

Citizens with comments or questions regarding the Charter Review Commission may contact the Clerk of the Charter Review Commission at loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov or 360-417-2256.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2025



Loni Gores, MMC
Clerk to the Charter Review Commission

Gores, Loni

From: Virginia Shogren <vshogren@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Message for distribution to the Charter Review Commission
Attachments: Letter to Charter Review Commission FAE 3-28-25.pdf

Dear Charter Review Commission,

It is my understanding that the attached proposed amendments to the Charter have been preemptively rejected by the Commission with no presentation to the public either at a Town Hall meeting or otherwise. If I am incorrect, please let me know.

Please advise as to the criteria that was used to choose the seven prioritized questions/issues that the CRC intends to promote, and please provide the record of the CRC's discussion and vote on the proposed amendments attached.

Thank you!

Virginia Shogren
961 W Oak Court
Sequim, WA 98382
360-461-5551

Charter Review Commission
c/o Loni Gores
Clerk of the Board
223 E 4th St
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015
Via email to: Loni.Gores@clallamcountywa.gov

March 28, 2025

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER

Dear Ms. Gores,

On March 26, 2025, I attended the Town Hall meeting of the Charter Review Commission. We were invited to make written submissions of proposed amendments to the Commission.

Many of the questions and issues raised during public comment related to, in my view, discontent with the conduct of current elected officials (*e.g.*, ethics concerns, transparency concerns, lack of responsiveness to public input, favoritism shown to special interests, financial and leadership ties to Non-Governmental Organizations, conflicts of interest).

I believe that all roads of discontent lead back to the need for true representation. In my opinion, the political power of Clallam County must be returned to the *people* of Clallam County consistent with our State Constitution. Such a shift would help to put an end to candidates, elections, and elected officials controlled by the 'Government-Elites-Political Party Complex' that currently seemingly controls our County like a tightly wound Gordian knot.

With much appreciation for the hard work being done by the Charter Review Commission, I respectfully submit the following proposed amendments to Section 7.10 of our Charter consistent with our State Constitution, the provisions of which are mandatory (Article I, Section 29):

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER ARTICLE VII,
SECTION 7.10, ELECTION PROCEDURES:**

Except as provided in this Charter all elected officials shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the mandatory provisions of Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Washington, entitled 'Elections and Elective Rights', ~~the laws of the State.~~ All elections shall be held at the precinct level. Each prospective voter shall be vetted as a Qualified Elector under Article VI Section 1 of the State Constitution prior to the receipt of a ballot for any election. All ballots cast shall be hand counted, said process publicly viewable and subject to public verification.

Respectfully submitted,



Virginia Shogren
961 W. Oak Court
Sequim, WA 98382
360-461-5551
vshogren@gmail.com

Encl. Article VI WA State Const.

**ARTICLE VI
ELECTIONS AND ELECTIVE RIGHTS**

SECTION 1 QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS.

All persons of the age of eighteen years or over who are citizens of the United States and who have lived in the state, county, and precinct thirty days immediately preceding the election at which they offer to vote, except those disqualified by Article VI, section 3 of this Constitution, shall be entitled to vote at all elections. [AMENDMENT 63, 1974 Senate Joint Resolution No. 143, p 807. Approved November 5, 1974.]

Amendment 5 (1910) — Art. 6 Section 1 QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS — *All persons of the age of twenty-one years or over, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections: They shall be citizens of the United States; they shall have lived in the state one year, and in the county ninety days, and in the city, town, ward or precinct thirty days immediately preceding the election at which they offer to vote; they shall be able to read and speak the English language: Provided, That Indians not taxed shall never be allowed the elective franchise: And further provided, That this amendment shall not affect the rights of franchise of any person who is now a qualified elector of this state. The legislative authority shall enact laws defining the manner of ascertaining the qualifications of voters as to their ability to read and speak the English language, and providing for punishment of persons voting or registering in violation of the provision of this section. There shall be no denial of the elective franchise at any election on account of sex.* [AMENDMENT 5, 1909 p 26 Section 1. Approved November, 1910.]

Amendment 2 (1896) — Art. 6 Section 1 QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS — *All male persons of the age of twenty-one years or over, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections: They shall be citizens of the United States; they shall have lived in the state one year, and in the county ninety days, and in the city, town, ward or precinct thirty days immediately preceding the election at which they offer to vote; they shall be able to read and speak the English language: Provided, That Indians not taxed shall never be allowed the elective franchise: And further provided, That this amendment shall not effect [affect] the right of franchise of any person who is now a qualified elector of this state. The legislature shall enact laws defining the manner of ascertaining the qualifications of voters as to their ability to read and speak the English language, and providing for punishment of persons voting or registering in violation of the provisions of this section.* [AMENDMENT 2, 1895 p 60 Section 1. Approved November, 1896.]

Original text — Art. 6 Section 1 QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS — *All male persons of the age of twenty-one years or over, possessing the following qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections: They shall be citizens of the United States; They shall have lived in the state one year, and in the county ninety days, and in the city, town, ward or precinct thirty days immediately preceding the election at which they offer to vote; Provided, that Indians not taxed shall never be allowed the elective franchise; Provided, further, that all male persons who at the time of the adoption of this Constitution are qualified electors of the Territory, shall be electors.*

SECTION 1A VOTER QUALIFICATIONS FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. [Repealed by AMENDMENT 105, 2011 Senate Joint Resolution No. 8205, p 4281. Approved November 8, 2011.]

Original text — Art. 6 Section 1A VOTER QUALIFICATIONS FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS — *In consideration of those citizens of the United States who become residents of the state of Washington during the year of a presidential election with the intention of making this state their permanent residence, this section is for the purpose of authorizing such persons who can meet all qualifications for voting as set forth in section 1 of this article, except for residence, to vote for presidential electors or for the office of President and Vice-President of the United States, as the case may be, but no other: Provided, That such persons have resided in the state at least sixty days immediately preceding the presidential election concerned.*

The legislature shall establish the time, manner and place for such persons to cast such presidential ballots.

SECTION 2 SCHOOL ELECTIONS — FRANCHISE, HOW EXTENDED. [This section stricken by AMENDMENT 5, see Art. 6 Section 1.]

Original text — Art. 6 Section 2 SCHOOL ELECTIONS — FRANCHISE, HOW EXTENDED — *The legislature may provide that there shall be no denial of the elective franchise at any school election on account of sex.*

SECTION 3 WHO DISQUALIFIED. All persons convicted of infamous crime unless restored to their civil rights and all persons while they are judicially declared mentally incompetent are excluded from the elective franchise. [AMENDMENT 83, 1988 House Joint Resolution No. 4231, p 1553. Approved November 8, 1988.]

Original text — Art. 6 Section 3 WHO DISQUALIFIED — *All idiots, insane persons, and persons convicted of infamous crime unless restored to their civil rights are excluded from the elective franchise.*

SECTION 4 RESIDENCE, CONTINGENCIES AFFECTING. For the purpose of voting and eligibility to office no person shall be deemed to have gained a residence by reason of his presence or lost it by reason of his absence, while in the civil or military service of the state or of the United States, nor while a student at any institution of learning, nor while kept at public expense at any poor-house or other asylum, nor while confined in public prison, nor while engaged in the navigation of the waters of this state or of the United States, or of the high seas.

SECTION 5 VOTER — WHEN PRIVILEGED FROM ARREST. Voters shall in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections and in going to, and returning therefrom. No elector shall be required to do military duty on the day of any election except in time of war or public danger.

SECTION 6 BALLOT. All elections shall be by ballot. The legislature shall provide for such method of voting as will secure to every elector absolute secrecy in preparing and depositing his ballot.

SECTION 7 REGISTRATION. The legislature shall enact a registration law, and shall require a compliance with such law before any elector shall be allowed to vote; *Provided*, that this provision is not compulsory upon the legislature except as to cities and towns having a population of over five hundred inhabitants. In all other cases the legislature may or may not require registration as a pre-requisite to the right to vote, and the same system of registration need not be adopted for both classes.

SECTION 8 ELECTIONS, TIME OF HOLDING. The first election of county and district officers not otherwise

provided for in this Constitution shall be on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November 1890, and thereafter all elections for such officers shall be held bi-ennially on the Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday in November. The first election of all state officers not otherwise provided for in this Constitution, after the election held for the adoption of this Constitution, shall be on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1892, and the elections for such state officers shall be held in every fourth year thereafter on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November.

Cf. Art. 27 Section 14.

Gores, Loni

From: Richards, Ron
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 8:33 AM
To: Emery, Bruce
Cc: Gores, Loni
Subject: Questions for Bruce Emery

Hi Bruce,

Thank you for speaking to the Charter Review Commission the other night. I appreciated the in-depth manner in which you attempted to answer the CRC's questions. I also appreciate your willingness to talk with the CRC Water Committee today.

In regard to your comments from the last CRC meeting on what conflicts you see in the Charter language regarding the DDCD's responsibilities, I have a few questions.

I believe you mentioned a few areas where you provide input on forest related issues, such as land use conversions under the FPA, and participating in Clallam County forest zoning issues. But then I heard you say because under state law the DNR manages the county's forest lands the DDCD should not be giving the responsibility to "administer, enforce and advise the County Commissioners" laws on forest management.

While it is true that the DNR does manage county forest lands to a large extent, there are forests that the county owns that are not managed by the DNR, e.g., the forested Clallam County Park lands, and now I understand around 400 acres recently acquired from the DNR for the OCR. So there are these lands that might need advice on managing, and there are the other duties you mentioned that involve forest management to a degree, and there could be changes in state law that add more duties to the county's role in forest management.

A major purpose of the charter is to assign (with very limited exceptions) those duties state laws give to counties to whichever officers the charter specifies regardless of the officer to which those duties are assigned by state law, and regardless of how minor those duties are.

It seems to me that your same argument could be used to say that since state law also gives the DNR the power to issue mining permits, you should have no role in mining issues. Yet the charter gives you the responsibility to "administer, enforce, and advise the County Commissioners" on laws related to mining. Wouldn't your same argument be used to say you should not have any duties regarding mining? But you did not suggest those be removed from your duties. Why?

The point I'm trying to make, Bruce, is that the charter only applies to the duties state laws give to the county. When the charter gives you the authority to manage forest lands, it does not purport to require you to do the DNR's job, it only gives you the authority to administer, enforce and advise the county commissioners on those duties the county has been given regarding forests (such as those referred to above).

Your suggestion that "forest management" should be removed from your powers would under Article 11, Section 4 of our state constitution hand those powers back to the County Commissioners. But wouldn't your same argument still apply there. i.e., since the DNR manages state forest lands, the county

commissioners should have no role in managing forest lands? And why would a board of three commissioners have any more expertise in managing forests than a professional planner.

Moving on to a related issue, you were asked in the last CRC meeting why your department is not managing the OCR project, despite the language in the charter that the DCDD “shall administer, enforce and advise the County Commissioners on all laws, except health, with respect to the environment, natural resources, and **land and shoreline development**, including, but not limited to, zoning, land divisions, environmental policy, building and fire codes, forest management, mining, agriculture, **watershed planning, and floodplains.**” Your answer as I understood it was that you weren’t managing the OCR project because it was a public works project. It does not seem to me that the charter supports that position, especially at the planning stage where this project should be considered to be because the environmental impact statement is still in the process of being prepared, and no final design has been decided upon. If you could point out any authority to justify your position, I would appreciate it. The risk here is that a court might eventually enjoin the project from going forward because it was designed and managed by a person with no authority under the charter to do so.

And on this same subject, I understand the primary funding for the OCR would be coming from a federal program controlled by a federal document named HMA Guidance 2015. That document contains the following language: “E.2 Ineligible Activities. The following list provides examples of activities that are not eligible for HMA funding: Projects that do not reduce the risk to people, structures, or infrastructure.” Considering that this project increases the risk of flooding to people living in Dungeness Meadows, how would you suggest getting around this limitation on eligible projects?

Also, the feds have asked the county to restate the purpose of the OCR in its HMA funding application to meet other eligibility guidelines because ecological and agricultural activities are not eligible for funding. Because this project, since its inception, has been sold as a project to solve late summer stream flow problems for fish, and water supply problems for agriculture, how can the county justify claiming another primary focus for the project now?

Finally, one more question. This one regarding the proposed water steward. My intention in originating this idea was to establish a position in county government solely to research and develop information necessary for intelligent and informed decision making on water management and supply issues in Clallam County by all the jurisdictions involved with water issues. The position would be just to develop the necessary information, and would have no regulatory powers.

You mentioned that you thought this issue belonged in the Comprehensive Plan. That means to me that this proposal has not been adequately explained. In my mind, the proposal is to create a position where the person in the position would gather information that you could use in proposing Comprehensive Plan language. It is not a proposal to create Comprehensive Plan language. In addition, the person in this position would provide information to all the other jurisdictions making water management and supply related decisions. The person would play no role in making those decisions other than to supply information and those other jurisdictions would be free to accept or reject the information provided.

Thank you for considering these issues. Please provide me with any feedback that you think would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Ron Richards

Gores, Loni

From: john worthington <worthingtonjw2u@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Fw: Jimmycomelately Restoration Science
Attachments: DUNGENESS SALMON, FARMING AND WATER RECLAMATION PROJECT.pdf

Loni,

For the water committee.

From: john worthington <worthingtonjw2u@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 4:51 PM
To: Todd.Mielke@ClallamCountyWA.gov <Todd.Mielke@ClallamCountyWA.gov>
Subject: Fw: Jimmycomelately Restoration Science

I before e..Thats Milkey not Melky. I can hear Rick Flair hollering Milky in my head.. Sorry you did not get a copy Todd.

From: john worthington <worthingtonjw2u@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 15, 2025 8:28 AM
To: Commission (DFW) <commission@dfw.wa.gov>; French, Mike <Mike.French@ClallamCountyWA.gov>; Johnson, Randy <Randy.Johnson@ClallamCountyWA.gov>; Ozias, Mark <Mark.Ozias@ClallamCountyWA.gov>; Emery, Bruce <bruce.emery@clallamcountywa.gov>; hhals@jamestowntribe.org <hhals@jamestowntribe.org>; Lear, Cathy <cathy.lear@clallamcountywa.gov>; Kim Williams <kim.williams@clallamcd.org>
Subject: Re: Jimmycomelately Restoration Science

Hello,

Please add this proposal to your meeting on May 15-17, 2025.
Thanks

John Worthington

April 15, 2025

Clallam County Commissioners
223 East 4th Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: 360-417-2000

Hello,

I am asking you to halt all funding on the Dungeness River reservoir project because the project as designed is too dangerous and is not worth the public investment. I propose a freeze on the funding until the Commissioners have reorganized the planning phase to include science and procedures already previously established by the 6 corners of public policy in 2003. Attached is the new proposal which has incorporated the 2003 science into the reservoir project.

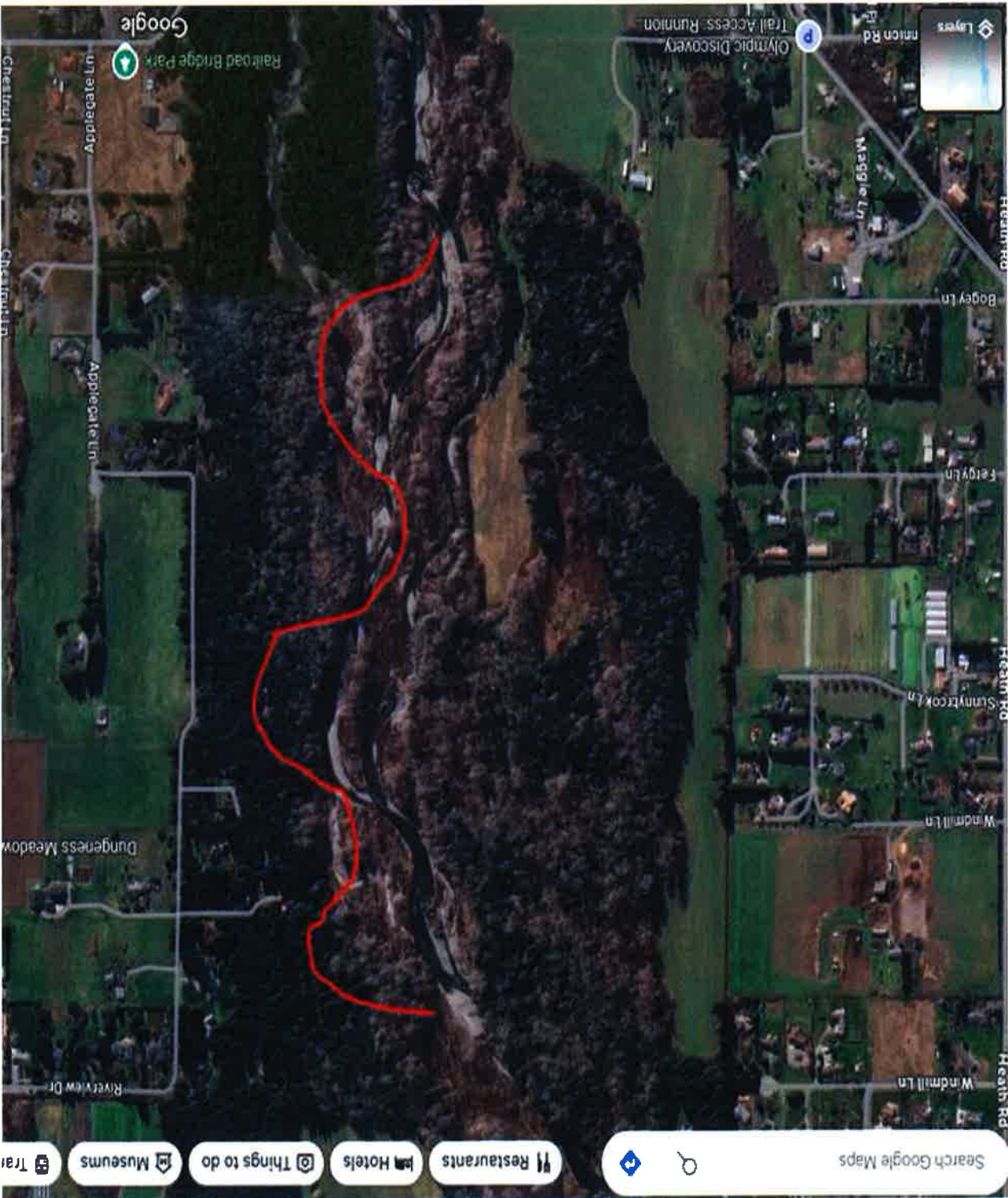
The Dungeness river needs to be slowed down. For a lack of a better term the "Jamestown fixed meandering coil" needs to be engineered on the Dungeness river. There are enough similar locations where the Dungeness river could have a "Jamestown fixed meandering coil" installed, without harming the current genetics. Once completed, the straight parts of the Dungeness river would then be diverted to the "Jamestown fixed meandering coil."

The first "Jamestown fixed meandering coil" installations would be designed to slow down the river so that the speed of the river could be reduced to make baffles effective, and to obtain reservoir water gathering opportunities for more than once a year as the law requires now. Rather than gather river water once a year by law, the project would gather stormwater from the baffles as stormwater permits.

The moneymaker for the Dungeness river would be down below highway 101 where the optimum 3 percent grade would permit. The riparian and tributary projects would be replaced by slower moving deeper water with the proper percentage and sizes of gravel and silt. This will quadruple salmon spawning opportunities and conserve water.

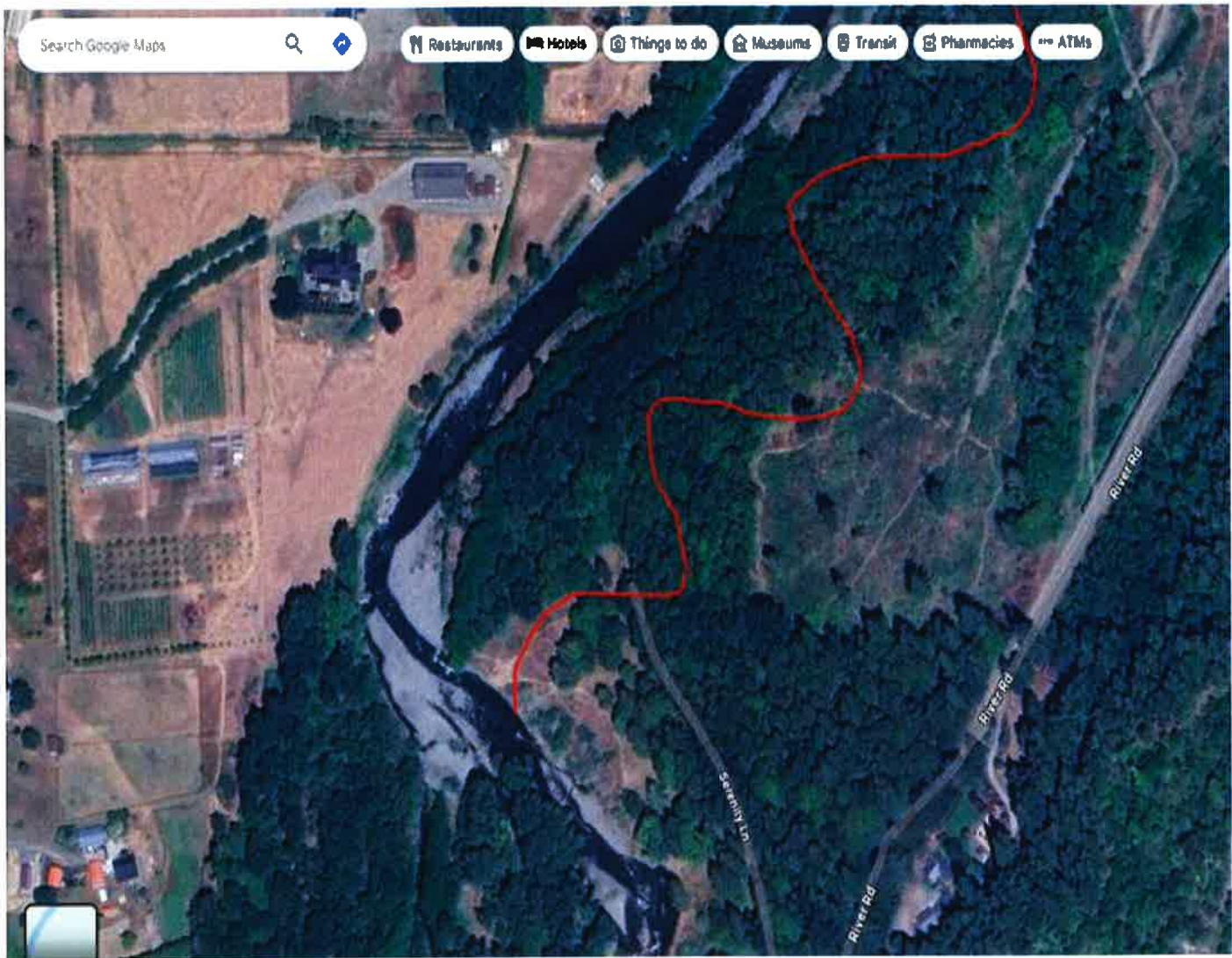
The Anchor group should be deciding where the "Jamestown fixed meandering coils" should be specifically placed, where the baffles should be placed and where the smaller reservoirs should be placed.

John Worthington









From: john worthington <worthingtonjw2u@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 4:56 PM

To: Commission (DFW) <commission@dfw.wa.gov>

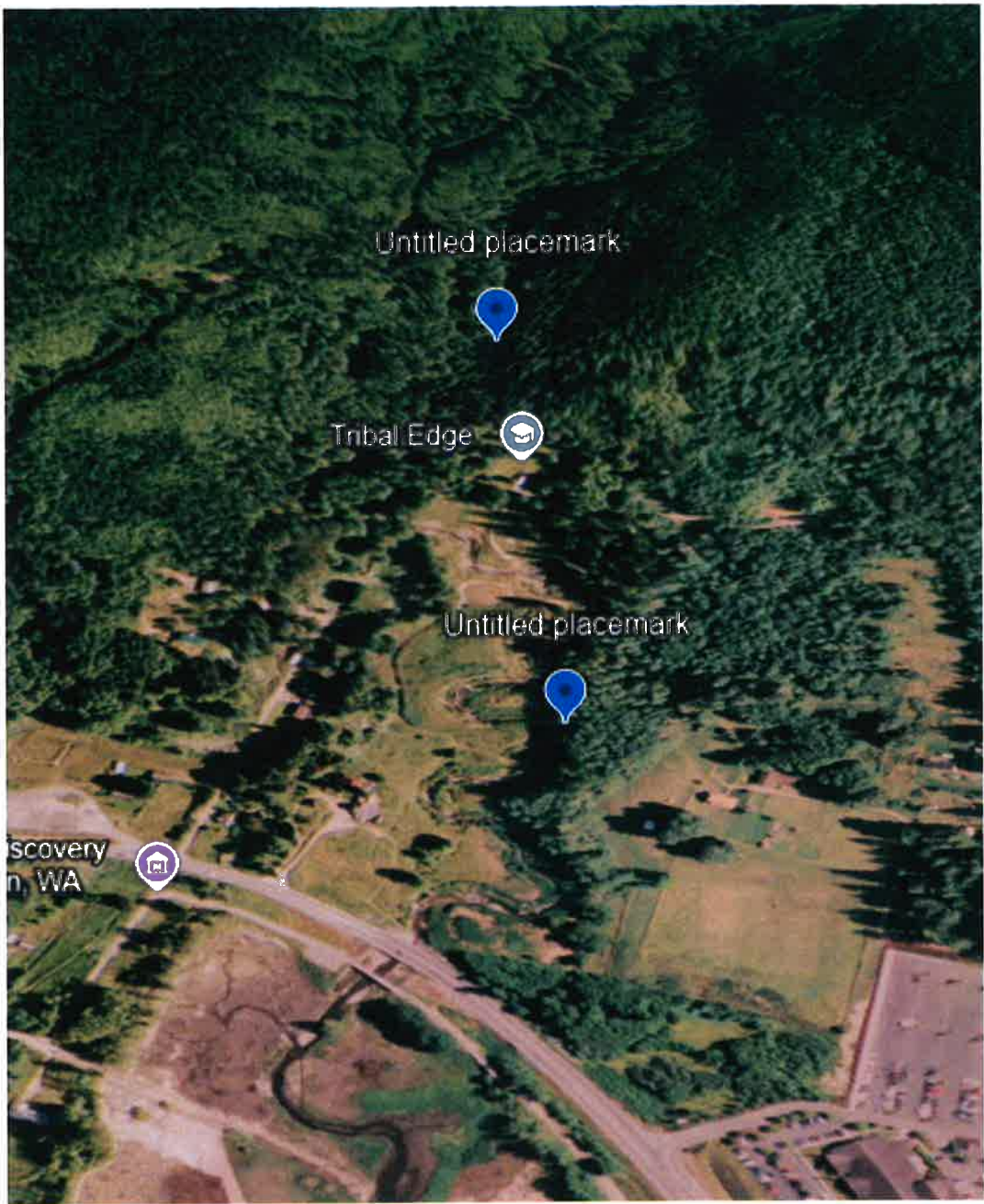
Subject: Re: Jimmycomelately Restoration Science

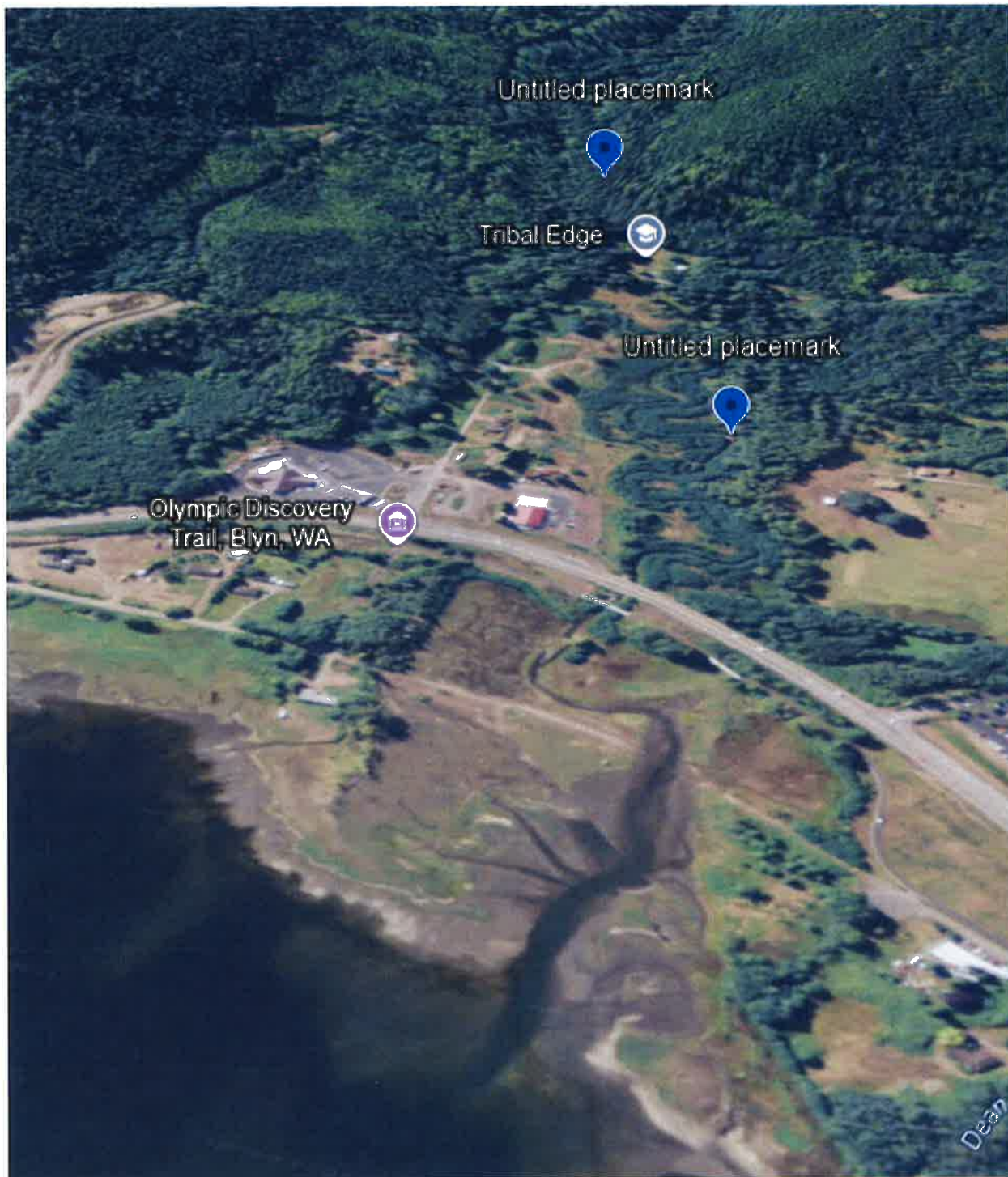
Hello,

You have been sent particular versions before. I received no response.
Here is an altered version of one.

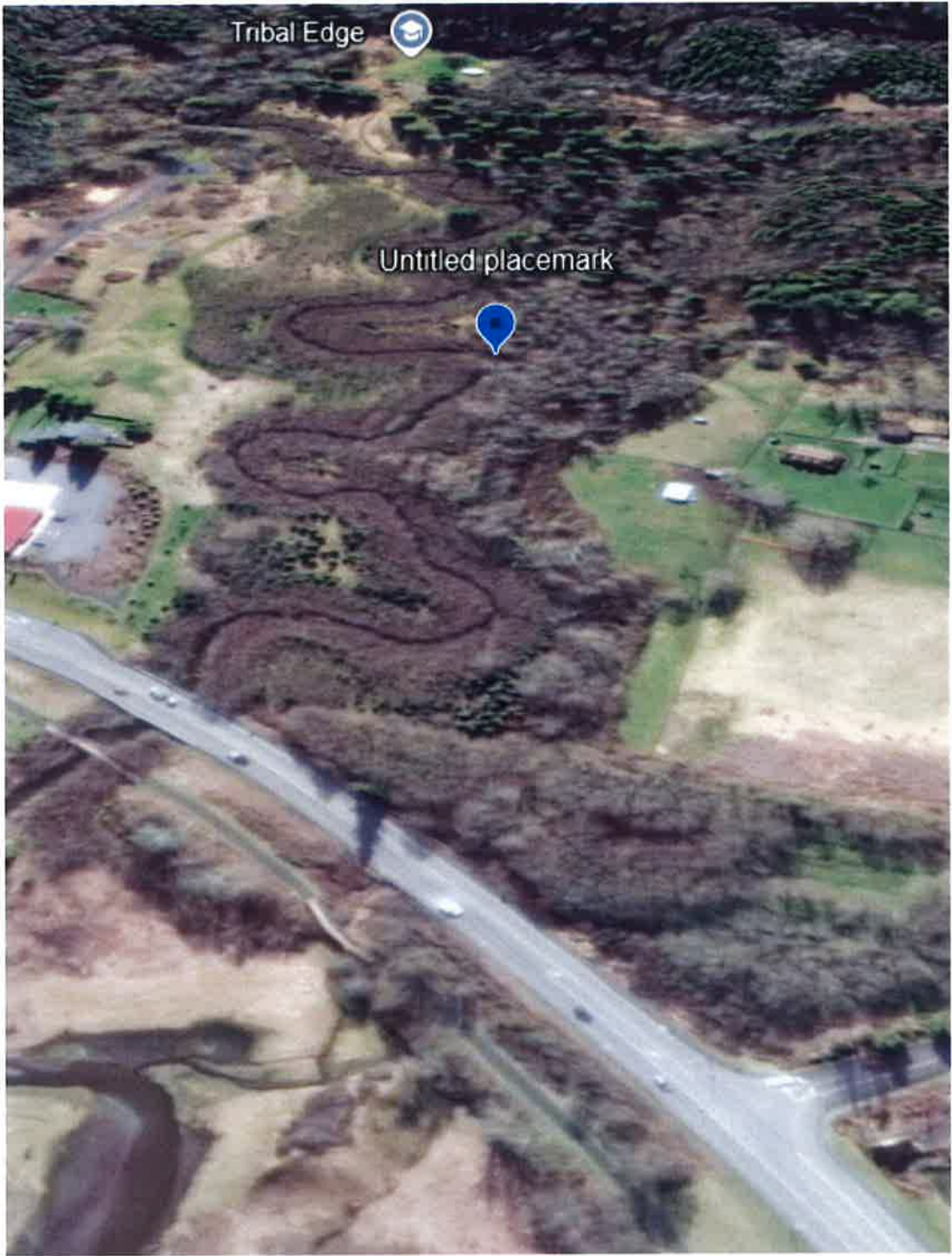
The Jimmycomelately fixed meandering coil has not moved for 20 years. Why are the same people now deciding to use re-channeling and tributaries when the Jamestown Tribe has made no complaints about the fixed non rechanneling and deeper water conserving one channel approach. At the very least, the non tribal properties should be getting the same equal protection as the Jamestown Tribe.

Thanks

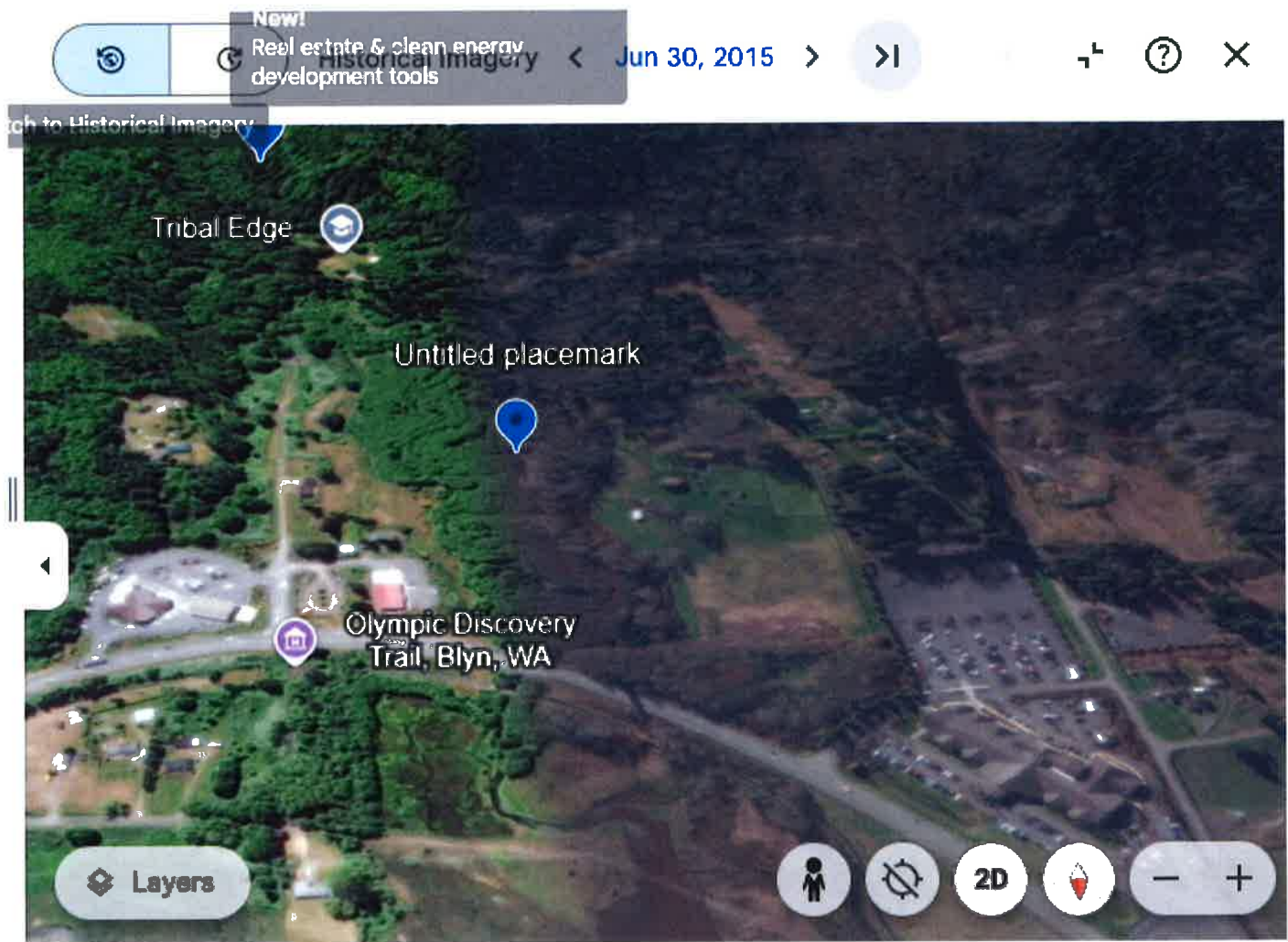




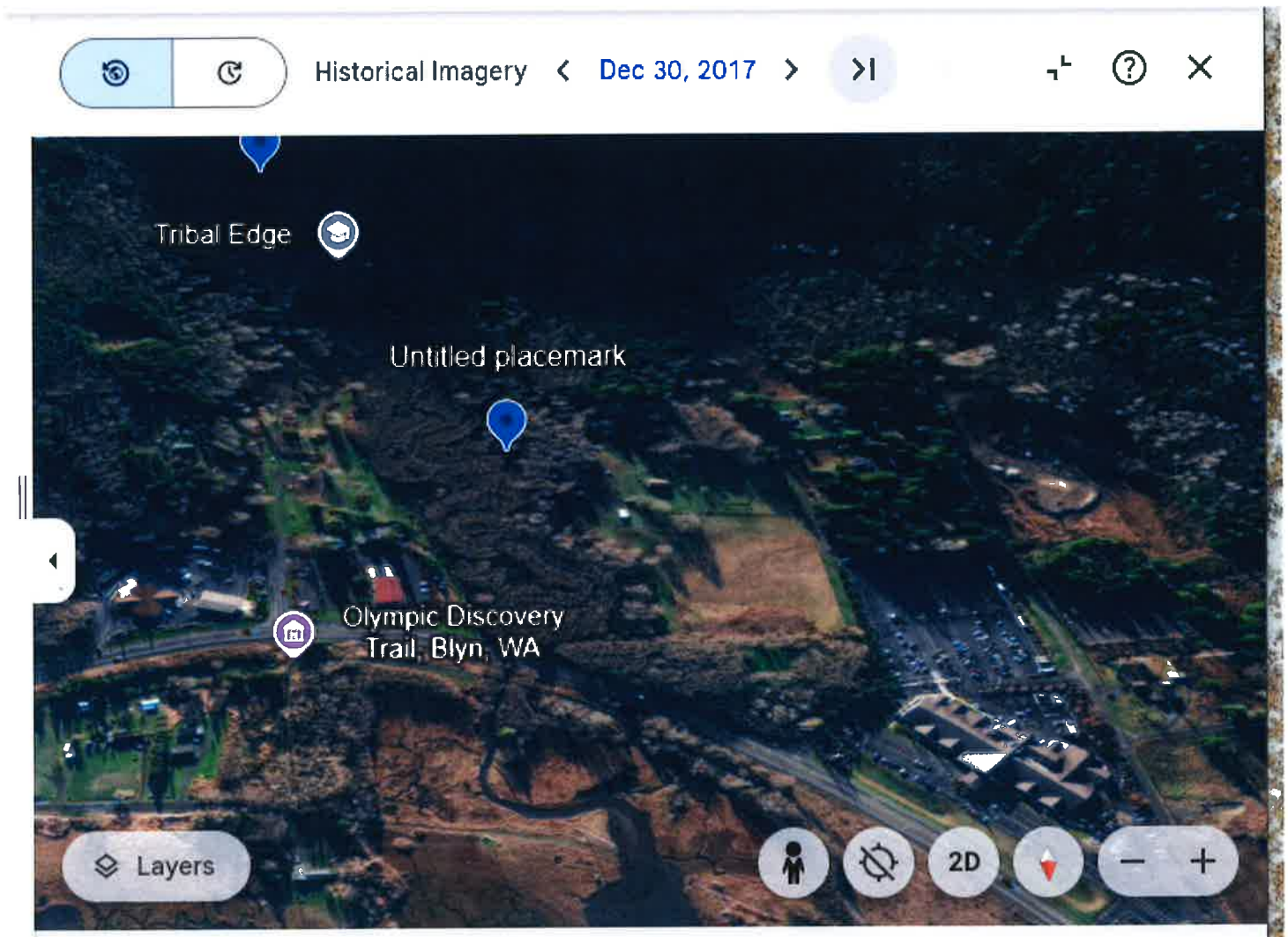
2014

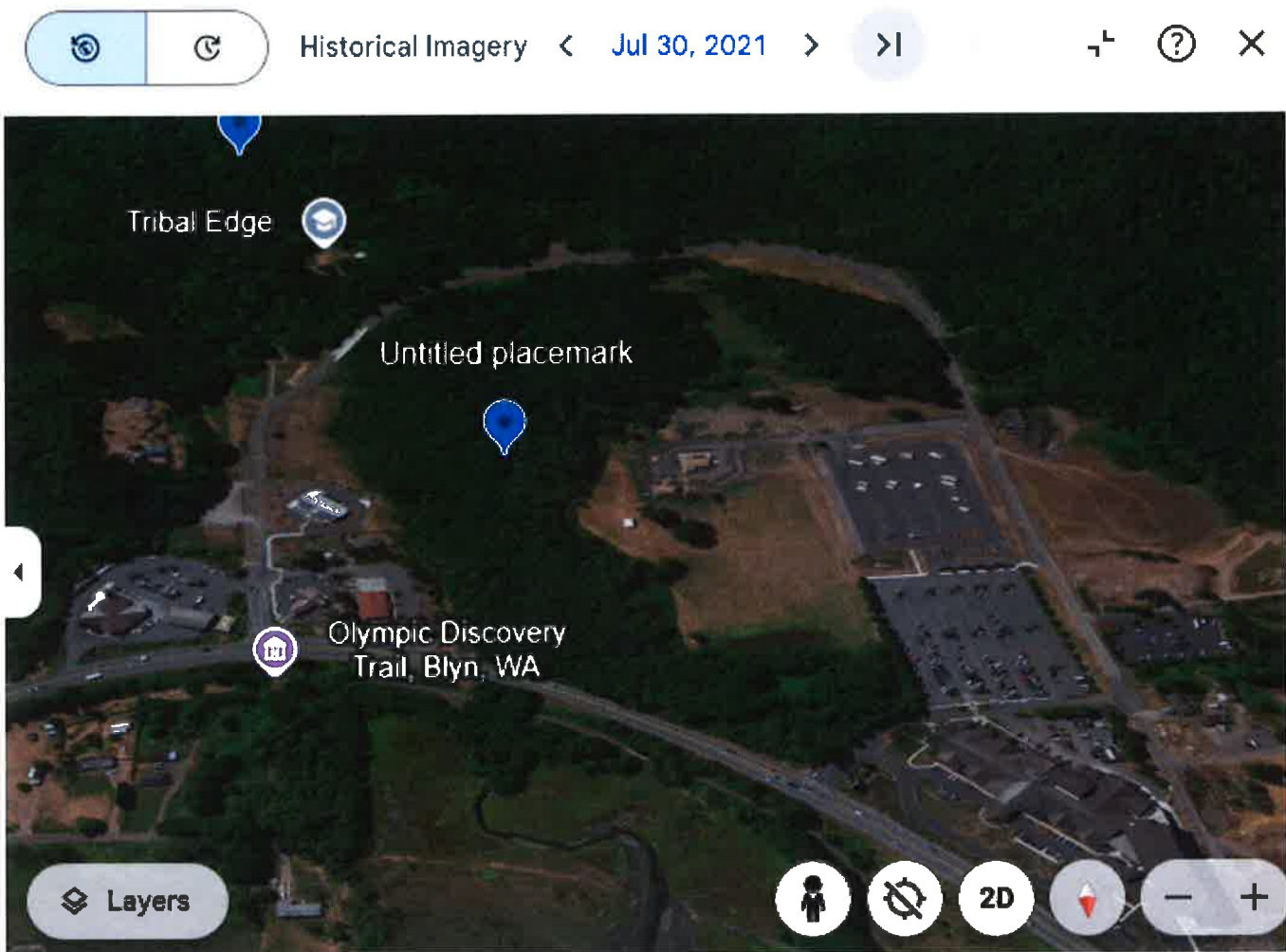


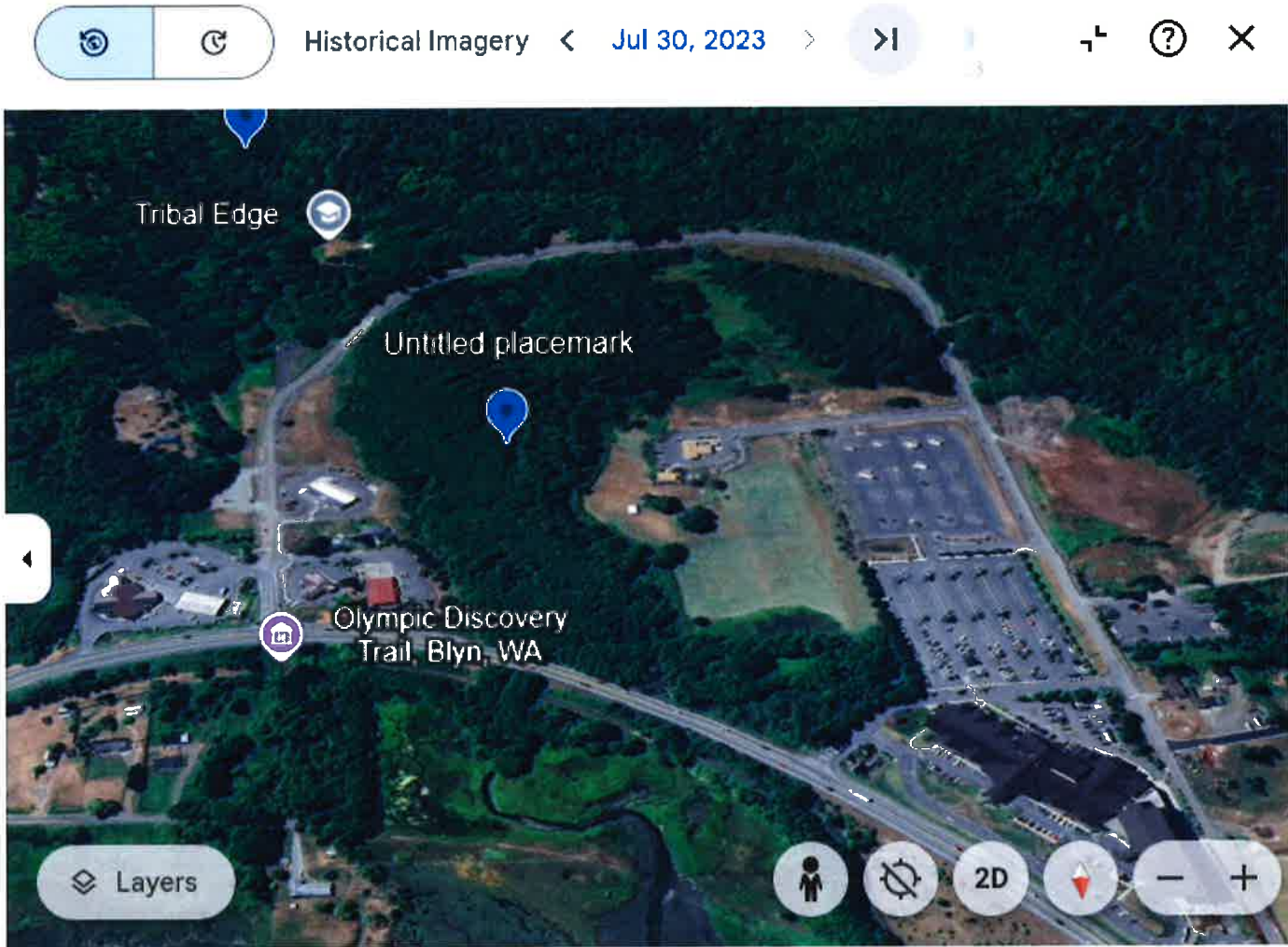
2015



2017







From: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 8, 2025 3:51 PM
To: john worthington <worthingtonjw2u@hotmail.com>
Subject: RE: Jimmycomelately Restoration Science

Good afternoon Mr. Worthington,

Thank you for your interest in bringing information to the Commissioners on the project you mentioned. The agenda items themselves are topics that staff are currently working on, will be working on, or is something that a Commissioner has requested further information on. The agendas haven't been opened up to allow members of the public to give presentations to the Commission.

That being said, if you wanted to email me the info, I'll get it distributed to the Commissioners. You're also more than welcome to utilize the public comment period on Friday and Saturday mornings to speak to the Commission about the topic. I could also get you in touch with Habitat Program staff and you could discuss the project with them. If it's something they wanted to bring forward to the Commission for a briefing, then they could go through the process of scheduling that. Please let me know if you need anything else. Thank you!

Jamie Caldwell

Fish and Wildlife Commission
1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia WA 98501 (Office)
P.O. Box 43200 Olympia, WA 98504-3200 (Mailing)
Office: (360) 902-2265
Web: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/commission>



Washington Department of
FISH & WILDLIFE

From: john worthington <worthingtonjw2u@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 7:14 PM
To: Commission (DFW) <COMMISSION@dfw.wa.gov>
Subject: Jimmycomelately Restoration Science

External Email

Hello,

On one of the days from May 15- 17, I would like to do a short presentation on the Jimmycomelately restoration project from 2004. What better time to investigate and monitor that project since you all will have to drive over it to get to Sequim.

To sum up my presentation, I am advocating a statewide implementation of that project.

It would not take more than 10 minutes to go over my presentation.,

Thanks

John Worthington
425-919-3910

April 15, 2025

Clallam County Commissioners
223 East 4th Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: 360-417-2000

Hello,

I am asking you to halt all funding on the Dungeness River reservoir project because the project as designed is too dangerous and is not worth the public investment. I propose a freeze on the funding until the Commissioners have reorganized the planning phase to include science and procedures already previously established by the 6 corners of public policy in 2003. Attached is the new proposal which has incorporated the 2003 science into the reservoir project.

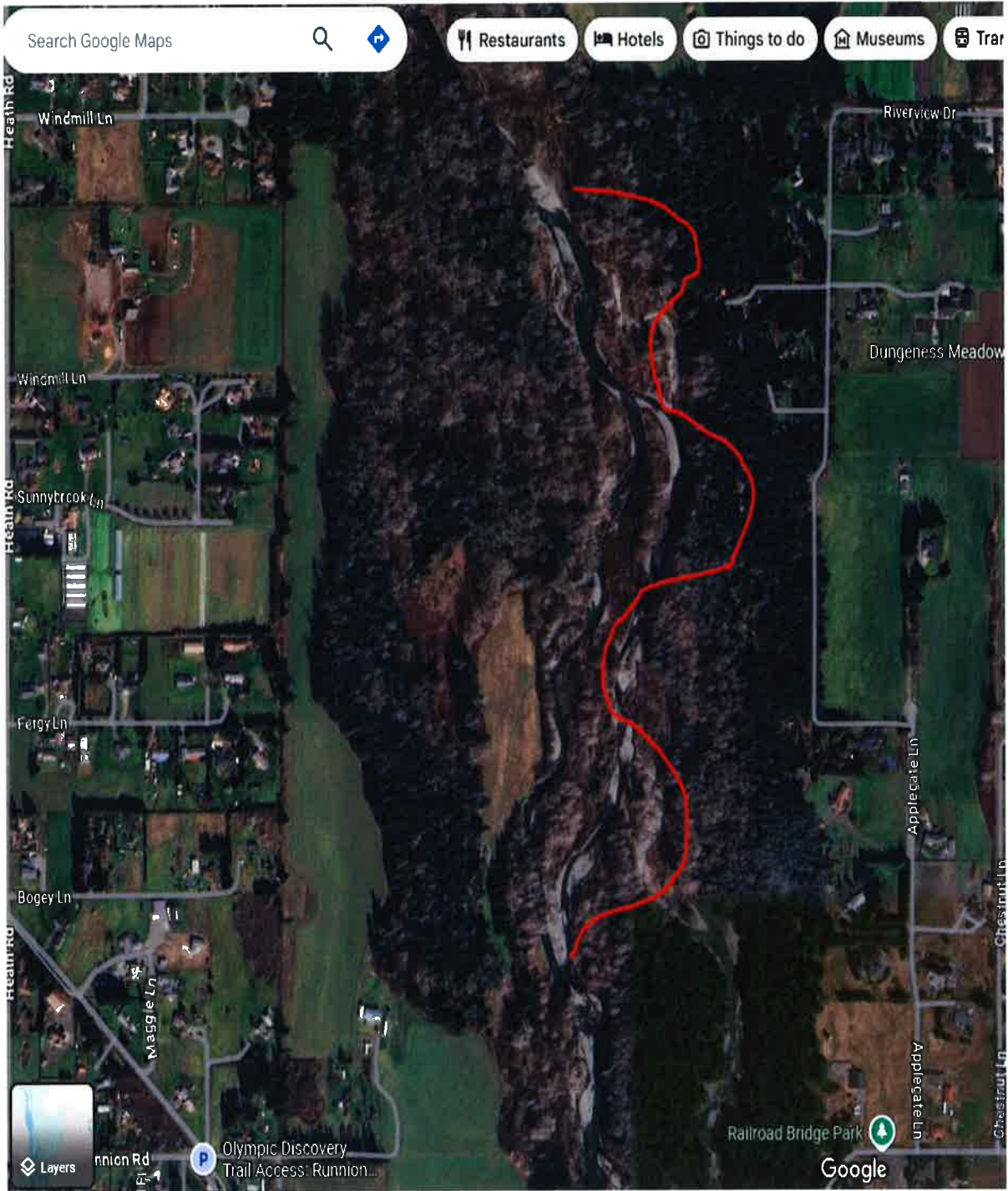
The Dungeness river needs to be slowed down. For a lack of a better term the “Jamestown fixed meandering coil” needs to be engineered on the Dungeness river. There are enough similar locations where the Dungeness river could have a “Jamestown fixed meandering coil” installed, without harming the current genetics. Once completed, the straight parts of the Dungeness river would then be diverted to the “Jamestown fixed meandering coil.”

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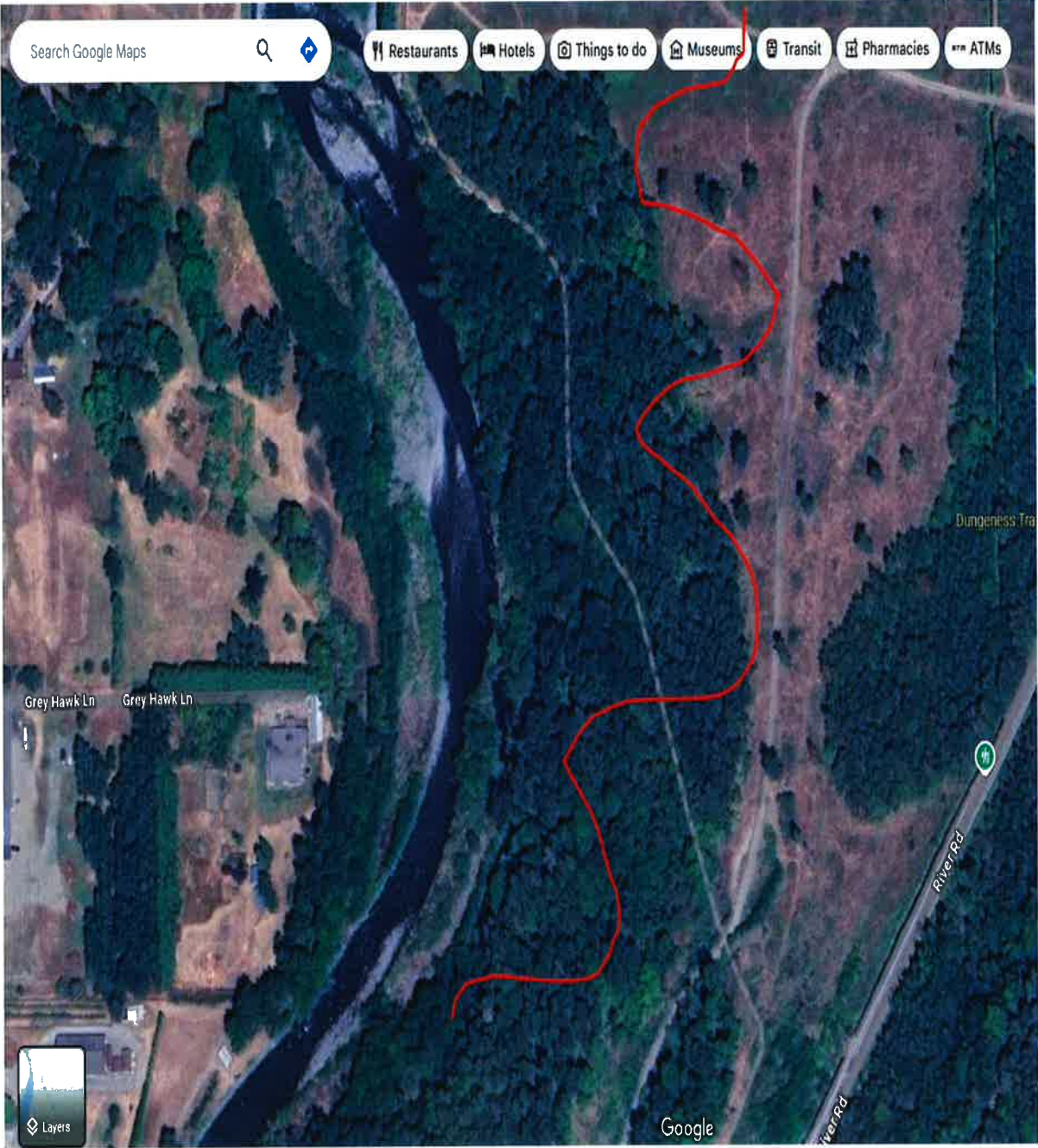
The moneymaker for the Dungeness river would be down below highway 101 where the optimum 3 percent grade would permit. The riparian and tributary projects would be replaced by slower moving deeper water with the proper percentage and sizes of gravel and silt. This will quadruple salmon spawning opportunities and conserve water.

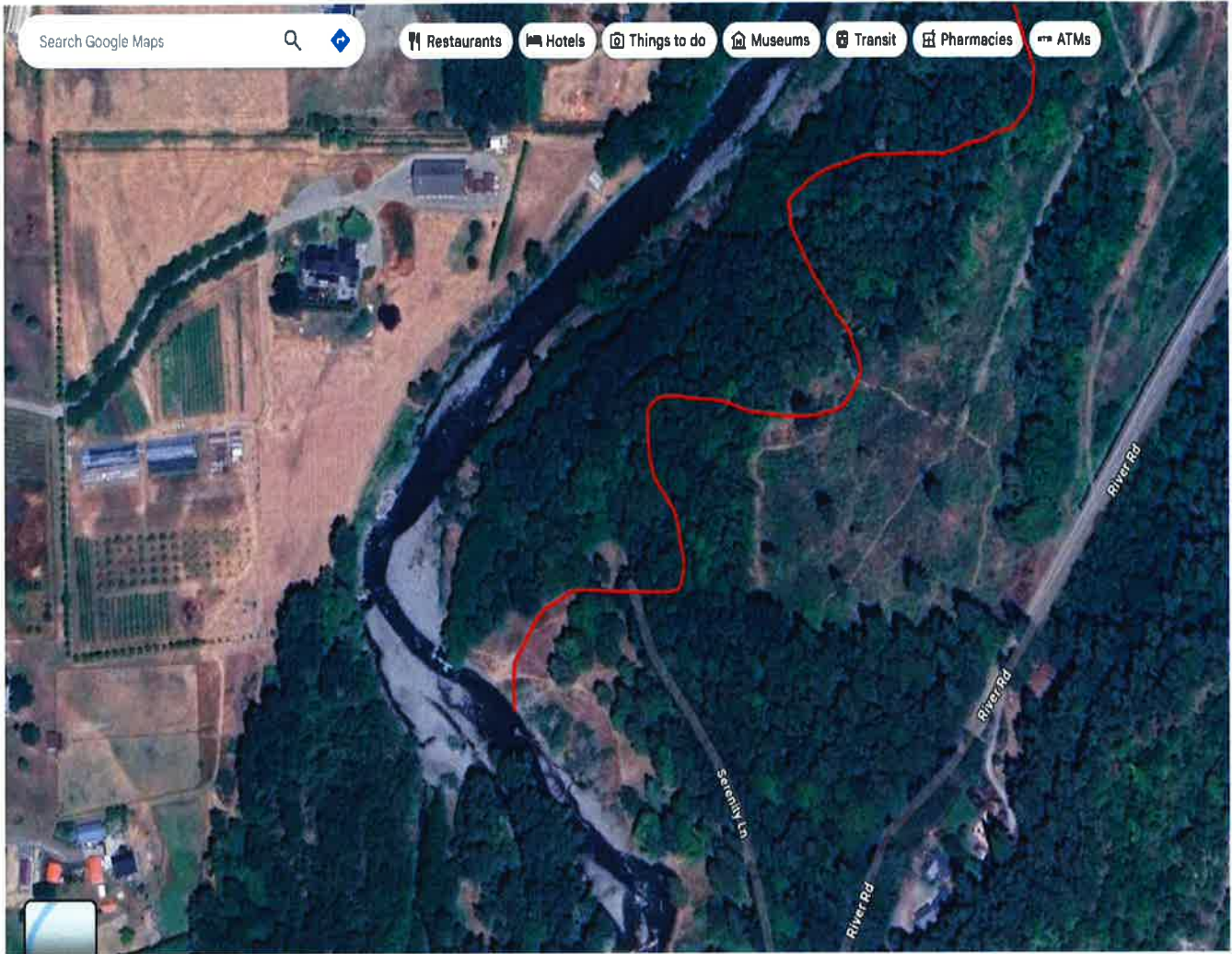
The Anchor group should be deciding where the “Jamestown fixed meandering coils” should be specifically placed, where the baffles should be placed and where the smaller reservoirs should be placed.

John Worthington









Gores, Loni

From: Tozzer, Jeff
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 11:55 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Re: Message for distribution to the Charter Review Commission

Hello Loni,

Please distribute to all 15.

Dear CRC Commissioners,

I would like to request that an item be added to the agenda for our next meeting concerning the Town Hall Outreach Committee.

Specifically, I'd like us to address questions raised in an email from Virginia Shogren, as well as similar feedback I've received from constituents:

- What criteria were used to select the seven prioritized questions/issues the CRC intends to promote?
- Is there documentation or background material that guided the Outreach Committee's selection of these priorities?

I hope we can engage in a thoughtful and open discussion on this topic, without the premature use of "call to question" to limit conversation. Given that we spent over six hours trying to add a single sentence to the bylaws, I believe we can dedicate some time to clarifying a matter that continues to cause confusion among both commissioners and the public.

Thank you for your attention to this request,

Jeff

From: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 4:59 PM
To: Benedict, Bill <bill.benedict@clallamcountywa.gov>; Boughton, Dee <dee.boughton@clallamcountywa.gov>; Cameron, Ron <ron.cameron@clallamcountywa.gov>; Fane, Alex <alex.fane@clallamcountywa.gov>; Fisch, Susan <susan.fisch@clallamcountywa.gov>; Fleck, Rod <rod.fleck@clallamcountywa.gov>; Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>; Hodgson, Mark <mark.hodgson@clallamcountywa.gov>; Holy, Christy <christy.holy@clallamcountywa.gov>; Morris, Patti <patti.morris@clallamcountywa.gov>; Noble, Chris <chris.noble@clallamcountywa.gov>; Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>; Richards, Ron <ron.richards@clallamcountywa.gov>; Sarmiento, Nina <Nina.Sarmiento@clallamcountywa.gov>; Stoffer, Jim <jim.stoffer@clallamcountywa.gov>; Tozzer, Jeff <jeff.tozzer@clallamcountywa.gov>; Walde, Cathy

<cathy.walde@clallamcountywa.gov>

Subject: FW: Message for distribution to the Charter Review Commission

Comments received from Virginia Shogren.

“My email address has changed! The new format is Loni.Gores@clallamcountywa.gov Please update my contact card as your earliest convenience, Thank you!”

*Loni Gores
Clerk of the Board
Commissioners Office
223 East 4th Street, Suite 4
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: 360-417-2256*

From: Virginia Shogren <vshogren@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: Message for distribution to the Charter Review Commission

Dear Charter Review Commission,

It is my understanding that the attached proposed amendments to the Charter have been preemptively rejected by the Commission with no presentation to the public either at a Town Hall meeting or otherwise. If I am incorrect, please let me know.

Please advise as to the criteria that was used to choose the seven prioritized questions/issues that the CRC intends to promote, and please provide the record of the CRC's discussion and vote on the proposed amendments attached.

Thank you!

Virginia Shogren
961 W Oak Court
Sequim, WA 98382
360-461-5551

Gores, Loni

From: Diana H <dianahender@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 3:14 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: CRC Priorities List and Town Halls

Hi Loni,

I meant to CC you on this communication. I sent it to all CC Charter Commissioners.

Very best,
Diana

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Diana H** <dianahender@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Apr 18, 2025, 1:24 PM
Subject: Priorities List and Town Halls
To: <Susan.Fisch@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Bill.Benedict@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Jim.Stoffer@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Jeff.Tozzer@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Alex.Fane@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Ron.Cameron@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Patti.Morris@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Chris.Noble@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Paul.Pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Ron.Richards@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Rod.Fleck@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Mark.Hodgson@clallamcountywa.gov>, <nina.sarmiento@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Christy.Holy@clallamcountywa.gov>, <Cathy.Walde@clallamcountywa.gov>

Commissioners,

I attended two of the three Town Hall meetings. The first was not in a Town Hall style, questions were asked but not answered. At the first Town Hall, one citizen was allowed to speak for some time and sounded as though in a job interview related to a water commission. Unfortunately that first Town Hall was cut short by Commissioner Fisch before the advertised time. Someone asked if the extensive priority list was going to be available online. It is not online.

The second Town Hall was poorly attended. However, Commissioner Stoffer was helpful facilitating attendee questions in order for the panel of commissioners in attendance to answer.

District 1 Commissioners, I want you to know that attending the CRC meetings mostly by Zoom, and two Town Halls, I do not feel represented. Commissioner Tozzer represents me. Commissioners Fisch and Stoffer do not represent me. At this time I am still unclear about Commissioners Benedict and Fane.

It is always helpful when Commissioners state their names when viewing in Zoom to know who is speaking.

Regarding the priorities list I picked up at the Town Hall, below are ten items that rise to the top for me. At the recent CRC meeting it was said that a seven question survey would be sent to citizens.

Why would only seven questions be surveyed when there are over 25 on the priorities list made available only to Town Hall attendees?

Will the other priorities listed be surveyed at a later date and if so, why?

As a citizen, if another survey was sent, thinking I had already completed the survey, I would disregard a subsequent survey.

Please reconsider only a seven question survey.

Please make available open fields on any survey to allow citizens to offer input.

- Ethics Board and Commissions
- Recusal Issues and Conflict of Interest
- Transparent BOCC & Public Engagement
- Transparency and NGOs
- Fair Bidding
- DCD Elected or Appointed
- Trust Land Transfer Program
- Term Limits for County Commissioners
- General Fund Reserve Minimum
- Elected/Appointed Positions Oversight

Very best regards,
Diana Henderson

Gores, Loni

From: Tom Ash <ashtomas@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 9:01 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Cc: Boughton, Dee; Nichols, Mark; Johnson, Randy; French, Mike
Subject: Subversion of the Clallam County Charter Commission by The Clallam County League of Women Voters

Hi Loni.

Please submit the following to the Charter Commissioner as well as Attorney Boughton and Attorney Nichols

Dear Charter Commissioners

One week ago, the Chairwoman of the Clallam County Charter Review Committee Susan Fisch, her girlfriend and fellow member of the Clallam County League of Women Voters (but otherwise not associated with the Charter Review Committee) Sequim School Board member Patricia Johnston, their Confidant on the Charter Review Committee Commissioner James Stoffer and four other misguided individuals continued their out of scope, unfounded, and personal attack on an individual Charter Review Commissioner they continue to attack and attempt to remove from the Charter Commission solely for their selfish, personal, and inappropriate reasons that are blatantly outside the non-partisan foundation of the Charter Commission. Fortunately for the goodness in true justice, they failed on multiple votes last Monday and are left with no continued attempts left under their contrived personal attacks within the committee to continue their folly which has been a detriment to any real work coming out of this Committee in 2025 and has only succeeded in dividing and separating the credibility of this proclaimed non-partisan elected committee. This seven-party bad behavior has also divided the public view of the effectiveness of this committee as well as the committee itself. It has also brought into question the continuation of this committee as it sits today.

Despite this stunning defeat of non-integrity driven behavior of this non-partisan committee, another unfounded lie was used by the same individuals to attempt other lies and discredited attacks on the same Committee Commissioner. The League of Women Voters attempted to remove from the Charter Committee despite their abject failure last Monday night. Having been rebuked by The Grange and the church on other occasions to have this Charter Commissioner removed from these organizations, Charter Commissioner James Stoffer lied again to the Church in his second attempt to have this Charter Commissioner removed from the church with a series of lies that were called out and Commissioner James Stoffer was told to stand down. How can this illicit and illegal behavior continue inside or outside the Charter Committee by these rogue and wrong individuals continue un-thwarted? At the very least the Chairwoman should be replaced and the outside influence of the non-elected partisan Clallam County League of Women Voters influence removed from the Committee.

It is past time that the fair-minded individuals who blocked this coup d'etat within the Clallam County Charter Commission in an attempt to actually focus on the work they were elected to perform, remove the partisan internal and external pressure, and attempt to produce the product this divided and mis-focused committee is running out of time to complete.

Thomas Ash

Gores, Loni

From: Lane, Mark
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: FW: Charter Review Commission - a few questions

Forgot to cc you on this follow up response to Paul Pickett.

****PLEASE NOTE—my work email has recently changed to mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov . Please update my contact card at your earliest convenience****

Mark Lane

Chief Financial Officer
Clallam County
223 E 4th St, Suite 4
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Ph 360-417-2383
Email: mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov

From: Lane, Mark
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 8:52 AM
To: Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: RE: Charter Review Commission - a few questions

Paul,

Attached is a [link](#) to MRSC Revenue Guide for Counties—this outlines all of the potential revenue streams counties may have. The various sales taxes and their permitted uses are covered on pages 69-96.

As to your question whether the property tax levy rate can be increased, outside of the 1% levy amount increased we are limited to by RCW, the only way we can do a levy rate lift is through a voter-approved ballot measure. Covered on page 20 of the MRSC Revenue guide, counties maximum levy rate allowed is \$1.80 for its Current Expense (i.e. General Fund). Clallam's General Fund levy rate for 2025 is currently \$.7305536050 per \$1,000 of assessed value. While Olympia was considering legislation to allow Counties to raise property taxes up to 3% rather than the current 1% limit, I heard this morning that the House version of the budget dropped that from the bill based on Gov Ferguson push back.

****PLEASE NOTE—my work email has recently changed to mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov . Please update my contact card at your earliest convenience****

Mark Lane

Chief Financial Officer
Clallam County
223 E 4th St, Suite 4
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Ph 360-417-2383
Email: mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov

From: Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 6:19 PM
To: Lane, Mark <mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: Re: Charter Review Commission - a few questions

Thanks Mark - this is helpful.

Do you happen to know where I can see the list of allowed uses for sales tax?

Also, could the county raise the property tax rate? I can see the property tax revenues in the Treasurer's report, so that give me an idea of what could be done.

In both cases, the tax proposal would be part of the Charter amendment that would go to the people, (of course if my idea goes anywhere).

Paul Pickett
Charter Review Commissioner, District 2

From: Lane, Mark <mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 1:41 PM
To: Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>
Cc: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: RE: Charter Review Commission - a few questions

Hi Paul,

The first two questions are somewhat difficult questions to answer as educational background/work experience and job requirements are largely going to dictate the answers I am able to give.

Based on the name "Water Steward", I am going to presume that this is potentially an engineering position coupled with someone very well versed in the science of water management. The closest position I can think of that might be a close equivalent to that would have been a Project Coordinator position held by an individual with a Water Geologist educational background who headed up the early days of our County's Dungeness Off Channel Reservoir and deep water well development who was in Community Development and later Public Works prior to her retirement.

At Range 70, this position's annual salary would range from \$86,041.48 to \$104,833.01. Fully benefited, this position's total cost would be between **\$105,000 to \$127,500.**

On the mid-level specialist Communications and Education role, my best guess would be that position might be equivalent to Environmental Health Specialist II position in HHS Environmental health (range 60), which would put them in the annual salary range of \$68,892 to \$84,760. Fully benefited, this position's total cost would be between **\$83,500 to \$103,000.**

On your question whether the County has the ability to raise its sales tax rate to support such a position, I don't believe so. The capacity to raise sales taxes simply by an act by the Commissioners is very limited—with I believe only a 0.1% arts & sciences sales tax being available to be added by a simple majority vote of the Commissioners, but such a tax is limited to support nonprofit organizations in the arts and sciences. All other available increases in sales tax are for restricted purposes (such as public safety, affordable housing, mental health, etc) AND require voter approval for any increase available for unused taxing capacity the County has beyond what is currently in place.

- As a side note, if we did have capacity to raise sales tax, a 0.1% sales tax increase would generate approximately \$2-\$2.1 million

Hope that answers your questions.

*****PLEASE NOTE—my work email has recently changed to mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov . Please update my contact card at your earliest convenience*****

Mark Lane

Chief Financial Officer

Clallam County

223 E 4th St, Suite 4

Port Angeles, WA 98362

Ph 360-417-2383

Email: mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov

From: Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>

Sent: Saturday, April 19, 2025 12:18 PM

To: Lane, Mark <mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov>

Subject: Charter Review Commission - a few questions

Mark,

I'm Chair of the Water Committee of the Charter Review Commission. We are discussing several options around the idea of a "Water Steward". Could you help me with some financial information?

Questions:

- How much would a senior technical specialist cost in a budget, such as an Engineer?
- How much would be budgeted for a mid-level specialist, like a Communications and Education position or science technician?
- Could the County increase the local sales tax rate? If so, could you estimate how much revenue would be raised by an increase of 0.1% added on (2.2% instead of 2.1%)?

Thank you for your time and attention!

Paul Pickett

Charter Review Commissioner, District 2

Gores, Loni

From: Cameron, Ron
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 1:24 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Notes
Attachments: Coroner Committee 2-7_000.jpg; Coroner Committee 2-7_001.jpg; Coroner Committee 4-10.jpg

Hi Loni

Got the meeting notes you requested. See attached.

Ron Cameron
Charter Review Commission District 2
Clallam County
223 E 4th St
Port Angeles WA 98362
ron.cameron@clallamcountywa.gov





Ron Cameron, Charter Review Commissioner Dist. 2
Clallam County
223 E 4th Street
Port Angeles WA 98362
ron.cameron@clallamcountywa.gov

CORONER COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES FROM FEBRUARY 7, 2025

Members of the Coroner Committee met on February 7, 2025 at Sunset Coop in Clallam Bay, Washington. The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Commissioner Ron Richards, Dist 2
Commissioner Alex Fane, Dist 1
Commissioner Cathy Walde, Dist. 3
Commissioner Ron Cameron, District 2

Also in attendance were three citizen participants, who identified themselves as District 3 residents.

The meeting convened at 2:06 pm.

The first order was to publicly elect a chair. Comm. Walde nominated Comm. Cameron, which was seconded by Comm. Fane. Comm. Cameron was unanimously named as Chair.

Discussion started with Comm. Richards position on the Prosecutor relinquishing the coroner position and the District Court 1 Judge assuming the task. Comm. Richards discussed his position that having the Prosecutor continuing to act as Coroner in 2025 is appropriate and lawful, due to the fact that it is addressed in our Home Rule Charter and that the Prosecutor, not the Judge, is specifically named as the Coroner. Comm. Richards presented that he feels a judicial decision to ascertain whether the Home Rule Charter prevails in this case.

Following this discussion, we moved to talk about the Coroners office in general. Assignments were set out to be conducted before the next meeting to learn about other counties, especially Charter County's, deal with the Coroner issue. Additionally, laws relating to Coroner functions and details of their duties will also be researched for the next meeting.

We touched on what our amendment suggestions would look like as we develop our decisions moving forward.

There were several general questions from the public folks attending about how such investigations have traditionally and are currently handled which were answered to the best of our ability.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Cameron



Ron Cameron, Charter Review Commissioner Dist. 2
Clallam County
223 E 4th Street
Port Angeles WA 98362
ron.cameron@clallamcountywa.gov

CORONER COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES FROM APRIL 10, 2025

Members of the Coroner Committee met on April 10, 2025 at the courthouse in the small conference room. The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Commissioner Ron Richards, Dist 2
Commissioner Alex Fane, Dist 1
Commissioner Ron Cameron, District 2

Comm. Walde was excused for this meeting. Comm. Richards met via Zoom and Comm. Benedict (Dist 1) joined as a guest.

The meeting convened at 1:04 pm.

The main point of this meeting was to construct a draft document outlining the amendment for the coroner change to the charter. The committee agreed at our previous meeting that the elimination of the reference to the prosecuting attorney serving as the coroner statement in the Charter would be the focus of the amendment.

Working from a draft presented by Comm. Richards, the document was discussed and developed into a final draft for presentation to the full Charter Review Commission. Once completed, the draft was sent to Loni and a request to include the presentation of the draft to the Commission on April 14.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Cameron

Gores, Loni

From: Gayle Baker <gaylebaker7458@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 11:27 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: For CRC Review

To CC Charter Commissioners:

- Please remove the water commissioner from consideration on the ballot. Bruce Emery has recommended such and you should listen. Who's going to pay for that position? The county piggy bank is broke and we taxpayers have had enough of excessive spending with no fiscal responsibility.
- Please remove Rank Choice Voting from consideration on the ballot. Who's going to pay for this VERY expensive change to ballots when the county is broke? How does this get paid for when the county is laying off the very employees that will have to implement and administer this change?

Please think with your heads and not your ideology when making changes to the charter. Please listen to all of the other commissioners, who answer to the citizens in their districts.

I'm very aware that the chair and a few more of you commissioners are progressive (socialist) Democrats, with an affiliation with the local Tribe. Bully for you, not so good for the citizens who live here and pay for your mistakes. We are watching you.

Two of your ballot items could be condensed into one item, but at the very least, yes, they should be brought to the ballot:

- Should County Commissioners recuse themselves from participating in non-government organizations? YES!
- Should the Charter create an ethics board or commission? Should it mandate ethical standards and civil penalties for violations? YES!

As to the rest of your ballot items:

- Should County Commissioners be elected by district or countywide? DISTRICT

- Should the Charter create a Water Steward position to collect and analyze water-related information? BIG FAT NO
- How many County Commissioners should Clallam County elect—three or five? FIVE (The west side needs to be represented)
- How frequently should the Charter Review Commission meet—every three, five, or ten years? FIVE (You have bigger issues to consider. Junk this one)
- Should the Charter consider adopting ranked choice voting? BIG FAT NO!

Gores, Loni

From: marolee diane smith <maroleedsmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 12:20 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: information for Charter Review Commissioners

<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11470/Charter-Amendments?bidId=>

Lets LOOK at what voters have previously put on the ballot and what has been voted down...
so you don't reinvent the wheel.

FYI... worth a look.

Gores, Loni

From: Stoffer, Jim
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 2:46 PM
To: Cameron, Ron; Morris, Patti; Walde, Cathy; Holy, Christy; Richards, Ron
Cc: Stoffer, Jim; Gores, Loni; Fisch, Susan; eggplant@hvalley.net
Subject: 23 Apr Outreach Committee Meeting Draft Agenda
Attachments: Outreach Committee Meeting Agenda 23 April.docx; Townhall/Outreach Committee; 10 Priorites.docx

Greetings Outreach Committee,

Reminder of our meeting on Wednesday, 23rd April, 2-4 pm at the Training Room EOC.

- Draft Agenda is attached, plus a couple other items.
- Zoom Link Topic: Town Hall/ Outreach Committee Meeting Time: Apr 23, 2025 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86444797822?pwd=aqKteTx38eke2s1mR36l4Eb62kuHXw.1> Meeting ID: 864 4479 7822 Passcode: 738837

Take good care, see you tomorrow and thank you for your work.

Best!

Jim

Commissioner Stoffer
Clallam County Charter Review
Jim.stoffer@clallamcountywa.gov
360.775.9356

Draft Agenda for Outreach Townhall Committee

Wednesday 23rd April 2pm-4pm

EOC Training Room

Purpose of the Meeting is to review input received during outreach sessions. As this is a work meeting, Public Comments is not expected to be taken.

<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/22373/Committee-Notice-Town-Hall-4-23-25>

Welcome Intro

Discussion items:

- Meeting notes from last meeting
- 10 items direction from Chair Fisch, received on 4 Mar; see attachment.
- Request from Executive Committee, see attachment
 1. *What criteria were used to select the seven prioritized questions/issues the CRC intends to promote?*
 2. *Is there documentation or background material that guided the Outreach Committee's selection of these priorities?*
- Input from Coroner Com & Water Steward Com Rep
- DCD thoughts – Com Richards & Com Stoffer
- Other input from Dist3
 1. Plans & Agenda for the Sekiu Forum
 2. Plans & Agenda for the Forks Forum
- Other Input from Dist2
 1. Survey Status – Com Morris
- Next Steps, next meeting
 1. Possible Motions thoughts

Gores, Loni

From: Fisch, Susan
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2025 1:39 PM
To: Stoffer, Jim
Cc: Hodgson, Mark; Noble, Chris
Subject: Townhall/Outreach Committee

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Jim:

We are hoping that you can add an item to your Wednesday committee meeting agenda. Commissioner Tozzer's 4/18/2025 email to the entire commission raises two questions about the survey. Could your committee discuss these issues and include a response in your committee report?

Susan

from: Fisch, Susan
Tuesday, March 4 2025 10:24 AM
Gores, Loni
Subject: March 10 Meeting
Atücfimen%: Questionnaire for County Officials.docx; CRC Commissioner Suggestions and
Priorities
Commissioners:

Please find attached two documents for our Monday meeting. One is a compilation of the ideas forwarded by alt of you and comments we have received directly from community members. The second is a proposed questionnaire (based on the 2020 CRC) for our elected officials and department heads.

Please read both documents and -let me know the following:

- 1.Survey: It is my understanding that the Commission wanted to use the list of suggestions to prioritize ten issues. These ten issues would form the basis of the survey questions that will go out to the community. Just because an item does not make it into the top 10, does not mean it is off the table. Anyone can propose a charter amendment or a recommendation to the BOCC We also have the ability to prioritize proposed amendments for the 2025 ballot end the 2026 ballot. i would also suggest that we start a list of citizen input that may not be Charter related but that should be passed on to our elected officials.

I am trying to figure out the most efficient way of doing the survey at the meeting. Loni has multiple easels charts. I can write the suggestions on the charts and we can do the red dot method. Or. all of you could circle your priorities on the attachment and we can have a discussion. Let me know your thoughts -

Z Questionnaire: t took the 2020CRC questionnaire and added a couple of questions. Please let me know if you have any changes

Susan

Gores, Loni

From: Tozzer, Jeff
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 11:55 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Re: Message for distribution to the Charter Review Commission

Hello Loni,

Please distribute to all 15.

Dear CRC Commissioners,

I would like to request that an item be added to the agenda for our next meeting concerning the Town Hall Outreach Committee.

Specifically, I'd like us to address questions raised in an email from Virginia Shogren, as well as similar feedback I've received from constituents:

- What criteria were used to select the seven prioritized questions/issues the CRC intends to promote?
- Is there documentation or background material that guided the Outreach Committee's selection of these priorities?

I hope we can engage in a thoughtful and open discussion on this topic, without the premature use of "call to question" to limit conversation. Given that we spent over six hours trying to add a single sentence to the bylaws, I believe we can dedicate some time to clarifying a matter that continues to cause confusion among both commissioners and the public.

Thank you for your attention to this request,

Jeff

From: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 4:59 PM
To: Benedict, Bill <bill.benedict@clallamcountywa.gov>; Boughton, Dee <dee.boughton@clallamcountywa.gov>; Cameron, Ron <ron.cameron@clallamcountywa.gov>; Fane, Alex <alex.fane@clallamcountywa.gov>; Fisch, Susan <susan.fisch@clallamcountywa.gov>; Fleck, Rod <rod.fleck@clallamcountywa.gov>; Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>; Hodgson, Mark <mark.hodgson@clallamcountywa.gov>; Holy, Christy <christy.holy@clallamcountywa.gov>; Morris, Patti <patti.morris@clallamcountywa.gov>; Noble, Chris <chris.noble@clallamcountywa.gov>; Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>; Richards, Ron <ron.richards@clallamcountywa.gov>; Sarmiento, Nina <Nina.Sarmiento@clallamcountywa.gov>; Stoffer, Jim <jim.stoffer@clallamcountywa.gov>; Tozzer, Jeff <jeff.tozzer@clallamcountywa.gov>; Walde, Cathy

<cathy.walde@clallamcountywa.gov>

Subject: FW: Message for distribution to the Charter Review Commission

Comments received from Virginia Shogren.

“My email address has changed! The new format is Loni.Gores@clallamcountywa.gov Please update my contact card as your earliest convenience, Thank you!”

*Loni Gores
Clerk of the Board
Commissioners Office
223 East 4th Street, Suite 4
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: 360-417-2256*

From: Virginia Shogren <vshogren@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 11:49 AM
To: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: Message for distribution to the Charter Review Commission

Dear Charter Review Commission,

It is my understanding that the attached proposed amendments to the Charter have been preemptively rejected by the Commission with no presentation to the public either at a Town Hall meeting or otherwise. If I am incorrect, please let me know.

Please advise as to the criteria that was used to choose the seven prioritized questions/issues that the CRC intends to promote, and please provide the record of the CRC's discussion and vote on the proposed amendments attached.

Thank you!

Virginia Shogren
961 W Oak Court
Sequim, WA 98382
360-461-5551

Gores, Loni

From: Pickett, Paul
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 4:06 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Cc: Sarmiento, Nina; Holy, Christy; Richards, Ron
Subject: Re: CRC Water Committee Draft meeting notes for 18April2025
Attachments: CRC Water Committee notes 18April2025.docx

Loni,

The meeting notes I sent can be considered final. I didn't get any suggestions for changes from the other Committee members.

Here's a short summary for the other Commissioners (my personal interpretation):

Bowen Kendrick from Clallam PUD:

- Bowen gave us an overview of how the PUD interacts with the County. This includes:
 - Right-of-way issues
 - Use of the drinking water laboratory
 - County-funded infrastructure improvements
 - Developments needing water, such as the work being done in Carlsborg
- Bowen provided an overview of the issues with Carlsborg water
- Regarding the Water Steward proposal, he had some suggestions for what might be of value:
 - Working on an inventory of water resources and identifying gaps in information
 - Developing a strategic plan for county water resources
 - Support for a Coordinated Water System Plan
 - Working on water issues in the west end, which has rain but geology that limits water supply

Bruce Emery (DCD) and Jennifer Garcelon (Environmental Health):

- Water gets considered in permitting and zoning. Dungeness has a complex and comprehensive rule.
- Comp Plan could look at water sustainability more closely.
- West end issues with water limitations
- EH works on water for small and individual systems, well driller policies, onsite septic systems, and has the drinking water laboratory
- The PIC program for the Dungeness Bay area is a significant effort.
- EH staff have science degrees to compare information submitted to standards
- DCD has biologists for fish habitat.
- Bruce uses grant funding for around 2 FTE of staff. This include federal pass-through funds.
- Bruce sees climate change impacts as a driver for a water specialist. Jennifer also sees a need.
- Bruce thought identifying a funding source might be a good idea
- Where the position might sit in the organization is complicated, given various legal requirements, like Board of Health oversight of EH

Discussion:

- Committee agrees that position should be focused on data collection, coordination, and education, not regulation or enforcement.
 - However "coordination" need to be clearly defined - such as sharing information, but not being in control
- Committee agrees this would not be a volunteer position
- Next steps:
 - Nina will continue research into other counties
 - Paul will organize a meeting with the Tribes
 - Paul will look into position costs and funding options
 - Christy will work on a flow chart describing water management
 - Paul is working on a list of rivers and major streams

Paul Pickett
Charter Review Commissioner, District 2

From: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 8:16 AM
To: Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: FW: CRC Water Committee Draft meeting notes for 18April2025

Hi Paul,
Checking back for a final version of the water committee notes from April 18.
Thanks, Loni

“My email address has changed! The new format is Loni.Gores@clallamcountywa.gov Please update my contact card as your earliest convenience, Thank you!”

*Loni Gores
Clerk of the Board
Commissioners Office
223 East 4th Street, Suite 4
Port Angeles, WA 98362
Phone: 360-417-2256*

From: Pickett, Paul <paul.pickett@clallamcountywa.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2025 3:42 PM
To: Richards, Ron <ron.richards@clallamcountywa.gov>; Sarmiento, Nina <Nina.Sarmiento@clallamcountywa.gov>; Holy, Christy <christy.holy@clallamcountywa.gov>; Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: CRC Water Committee Draft meeting notes for 18April2025

Attached are my draft meeting notes. Nina will roll her notes into mine. Please reply all with any corrections. I didn't hear everything so some things may be misstated.

Send your comments by Monday the 21st, please.

I'll send a draft cover email later.

Paul Pickett
Charter Review Commissioner, District 2

Clallam County Charter Review Commission
Water Committee meeting
April 18, 2025

Committee attendees: Paul Pickett, Nina Sarmiento, Christy Holy, Ron Richards

Clallam PUD – Bowen Kendrick

Clallam County and PUD

- County right-of-way
 - BOCC on utility easement
- Public works – operation, maintenance
- Drinking water laboratory – regulatory requirements for routine monitoring, or other like water main break, line flushing. QA/QC
- County funded structure improvements, \$3¾ million
- Specific projects, like Carlsborg

Carlsborg case study

- Outside PUD service area, limitations to providing services outside that area
- Water rights, system capacity
- Ensure existing needs are met first, then capacity for new systems in new service area
- County contacted PUD about serving Carlsborg
- County doing drilling, pump testing, hydrogeo analysis
- Looking at tapping 4th aquifer (deepest)
- Steve Gray at County, moving forward
- WQ problems – nitrate in existing wells
- Develop new deep well

Value of Water Steward concept

- Vacant position – licensed hydrogeo: Caro Kreise (sp?), Ann Soule before
- Water steward looks similar, maybe different
- Have some recommendations

Q&A

- Order of Operations
 - 1st priority – take inventory of water resources in jurisdiction
 - Gaps in staff and information
 - County responsibilities and authorities – related to PUD operations
 - USGS provided studies
 - Water resources issues outside of Dungeness
 - Strategic plan for water resources
 - Objectives and Goals
 - Gaps
 - Actions needed
 - Other entities – coordinate, don't double
- Ron: “guide and coordinate”, focus on collecting information
 - Lack of information – clearing house
 - BK: consistent with his views

- Nina: more on Sequim watershed study? Other watershed studies?
 - BK: Dungeness – not sure who was lead. Clallam was lead agency, others co-lead (PA, CoSequim, JSK Tribe, Agnew irrigation)
 - Look at County website
 - PUD and ongoing watershed planning: water system plan addresses source protection, including watershed
 - Coordinating water system plan with County Comp planning
- Ron: re water rights, what does water supply look like
 - BK: GW and surface water supply. Surface source out west, limits when flow is low. Assessing source can be expensive. Paper rights may not represent actual water available
 - Morse Creek has limits on water use with stream flow. Had to do emergency development of GW sources to back up surface sources
 - Water rights can be interrupted, frequency may be increasing due to climate
- Ron: question about GW sources – management and adaptation
 - BK: GW rights require monitoring of water levels. Most wells have stable levels. Drawdowns are stable some eastern well show signs of declines. Shallower wells, changes in irrigation water may have affected them (loss of “Artificial recharge”)
- Ron: status of deep well? BK: consultant working on testing, pumping rates for testing long term at lower rate
- Christy: Water steward and PUD – use water system plan information? BK: WSP doesn’t do hydrogeo. Ecology has a lot of that info. USGS, too. Role as purveyor is to comply with state law and code, to develop and operate. Not validation unless called
- Paul: gaps in data outside of Dungeness? BK: western systems have issues with limitations due to limited recharge and emerging drought. Makahs having problems. Need for information about sustainability. Working on efficiency and cooperative watershed management.
- Nina: Morse Creek likely to have more interruptions, how does community address climate impacts BK: historically information has been collected, trends are clear, reliance on surface water is uncertain, GW more important.
 - Nina: recharge being explored? BK: did work on that in California, not a big proponent of active GW management. Talking to Dungeness Water Exchange about sustaining GW resources and helping with future water rights needs.
- Paul: watershed planning – just Dungeness, how about others? Elwha included in plan. Reevaluation of WRIA 18 west might be good. Other tools available, such as CWSP – county could take a lead role to coordinate resources and water system boundaries [ask Bruce]. More review of water from holistic planning is good.

County roles – Bruce Emery and Jennifer Garcelon

- Bruce: Charter notes watershed planning. Extensive in Dungeness. Multiple layers of aquifers, managing for people an environment. Dungeness Rule has allocation to flow and human supply. Unregulated wells have a reserve. Water rights need to show no impact on environment and senior rights.
 - WRIA 19 “fledgling”. WRIA 17 inactive.
 - Heading west, rain increases but geology limits recharge. Communities clustered near water availability.
 - Reservoirs? Might be helpful in some areas. Current proposal: try it and see how it works. Dungeness reservoir supports irrigators and ag.
- Paul: role of water in permitting and planning? Bruce: comp plan looking climate and resilience. Need to look at limits on water resources – evaluate availability and changes, how it affects land uses
- Nina: hydrogeo staff historically. Jennifer: Around 2020 had hydrogeo on staff.
 - Bruce: Ann Soule was hired for watershed planning in DCD. Carol Kriese in DCD, then to PW (roads). Water steward could fit in DCD. EH reports to Board of Health. A lot of overlap.
- Ron: EH can’t be elected official – Charter, or WDOH? Jennifer: EH is regulated by BoH, enforcement duties – Pros Atty said it can’t be elected position. Charter exempts Health.
- Jennifer: water availability for small and individual systems. Well driller policy. Onsite septic systems. Drinking water laboratory.

- Nina: does DCD or EH address specific problems? PIC monitoring for bacteria problems in Dungeness. Started at Straits, working upstream.
- Me: water availability – how do you do? Just checking in admin role that pumps and pipes are available. Individual
- Me: staff doing water? Jennifer: EH has science degrees. Pump tests – just look at numbers compared to specs. Bruce: DCD has biologists who know fish habitat. Go to Ecology for more detailed water evaluation.
- Ron: See coordination as a problem. Bowen talked about wells with dropping water levels. Sequim looking at aquifer recharge. Should ditches not be lined? What about forest practices and stream flows? Multiple issues
 - Bruce: ditching lining from 90s helped river flows, but lowered aquifers. Exchange program is working on restoring GW levels. Timing of recharge and ISFs – one solution makes another problem worse. Working ok, perhaps in hindsight could have been handled differently.
 - Ron: coordination role could help. Bruce: had a hydrogeo during Dungeness process. Good to have someone on staff to monitor and advise. Ron: streamflow effects need more attention
- Nina: adaptive management – DCD Natural Resources division – both water and forest. County wants to move forest responsibilities. Need to look at both water and forests. Do current staff have capacity to deal with these issues?
 - Bruce: Current positions are mostly grant funded, which forces them to focus on specific projects.
 - Charter points to environmental management – gives authority to look at broader issues, forest health and watershed health. Removing trust land issues could be addressed with environmental management.
 - Partial grant funding for all positions. Some is federal or pass-through
- Paul: how does the County implement Dungeness rules for wells and septic?
 - Get well permit application. Go to water bank to buy offset
 - Septic: distance from wells. Look at soils – designers can decide systems that are required. Work closely with DCD.
- Nina: public education – who does it? Jennifer: septic system training, Dungeness education, home shows and expos. Bruce: have done public outreach on water quality (fertilizer, oil, pesticides) Jennifer: household waste disposal training, through city landfill. Part of Dungeness training for bacteria control.
- Paul: how to respond to angry property right advocates?
 - Bruce: calm down the discussion. Environment is part of our infrastructure. Jobs always have an education component. Help people see how one person's rights affects another person's rights. "do whatever you want" versus living in a society.
 - Jennifer: get septic complaints. Often some resistance. Explain problem, direct to cost-shares or other help.
 - PIC program has an education component
- Ron: send some background info.
- Paul: would a water steward be helpful, and how? What are the boundaries?
 - Bruce: Can see a need, especially with climate change impacts. Need to be looked at closely. What would scope be? Would it belong in the Charter? BOCC sets structure of DCD. Watershed planning versus infrastructure element. Legal and functional questions.
 - Jennifer: no strong opinion. Need for water expertise. Example – needed hydrogeo review of a septic (use loophole to keep regulation at local not WDOH). Once in 20 years. Lots of water
- Nina: curious about code regarding water collection – what are the rules. Bruce: allowed unless there is an impaired water body. Paul: individual ok, larger may need permitting.
 - Ron: when first practicing law, sometime since then residential use was authorized.
- Paul: relationship with Tribes?
 - Bruce: good relationships with Tribes. GMA required Tribal consultation. Tribes have treaty rights to fish, and therefore to water, but "murky". Participate in watershed planning, and other water resource issues.
 - Jennifer: JSKT active in PIC, do a lot of sampling. Board of Health include Tribal members.
- Paul: his own ideas – science division. Also identify funding source.
 - Bruce: identifying funding source is a good idea.
 - Ron: other proposals have cost issues – hearing examiner. Cost of position would be small.

- DCD has 1.8 FTE grant-funded, plus halftime internship for marine resources, so 2.3 FTE. Some direct revenue. Not counting City of PA
- Nina: where would it sit in the organization? Paul: independent under BOCC perhaps? Bruce: need to look at legal requirements of what belongs under Board of Health.
 - Ron: duties in state statute can be assigned by Charter. Required duties opens a can of worms. Focus on gathering information, don't overlap with responsibilities
- Nina: State law requirements is one thing, but still a gap in the overall view. Logically fit under Natural resources department, under be available for other departments.

Other counties – Nina

- Done some research, not ready to report

More discussion:

- Ron: public comment says apolitical, suggests it's independent. Independent source of data useful, such as for comp plan. Colorado model interesting – appointment, followed by election confirmation (for judges).

Public Comment

- John Worthington. We lack information from (???) Forestry organizations not on radar. DCD just one point of view. Other streams have other approaches – lack of consistent. Political goals of organizations making decisions for water. Creating a county commission that they won't want. Don't need a hydrologist. Need coordinated policies. Racial profiling of communities.

Next agenda items and some decisions

- **TASK:** Nina will continue work on Counties
- **TASK:** Paul will organize a meeting of Tribes
- Ron: concerned with perception of our work – stay focused on information
 - Christy: not clear on role of position, or multiple position
- Ron: What information is needed? Lots of issues out there – fish, etc. Charter includes natural resources issues. PUD expressed willingness to help
- Nina: DCD Natural resources department is project-based and grant funded. This could be a barrier. Like idea of bringing some resources to help.
- Paul: can we agree on certain parameters?
 - Not regulation and enforcement. Data collection, coordination, education. **All agree.**
 - Not a volunteer position? **All agree.**
- Paul: Core need is a hydrogeologist, but other job classes with similar skills could work, like engineer or hydrologist. Needs careful definition.
- Nina: coordination is tricky. We should work more on defining coordination. **All agree**
- Nina: should we leave funding to the BOCC?
 - Paul: might be good to include sources of funding. I'd like to research more.
 - Ron: tiny amount of funding.
 - Paul: would like to see what position would cost
 - Christy ok to research
 - **TASK:** Paul will do some preliminary research on position costs and funding options.
- Nina: why was hydrogeologist position cut? Can we designate that?
- **TASK:** Christy: will make a flow chart of water management
- **TASK:** Me: I'm working on a list of rivers and streams, will send that later
- Ron: including in Charter explains the importance of it.
- Paul: should we summarize legal boundaries of water issues?

- Ron: complex, for example, County Board of Health can be formed different ways. State defines duties, Charter can set them up different.

Next meeting: May 1st, 9:00 to 10:30 am

Gores, Loni

From: Nicole Hartman <pacwnicole@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 8:39 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: CRC

You don't often get email from pacwnicole@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello Loni, following is public comment I would request be submitted to the CRC. Thank you.

CRC Commissioners,

I attended the first Town Hall meeting in Sequim and appreciated the opportunity as I have a conflict with your regular meetings. I had read the County charter beforehand. I would like to offer my comments on this process and the priorities you have identified.

First, thank you for holding the town halls. There were one or two attendees who criticized the name and were rude about it which was uncalled for. This should be a respectful dialogue and they could have asked rather than attacking. I expected the town halls to be for public comment and not back and forth dialogue because the CRC Commissioners are elected to conduct a charter review, not to answer questions about how the County would implement anything or questions better directed to County staff. Like many other governing boards, often questions are asked that are operational in nature as opposed to governance so I would not expect you to be able to answer the “in the weeds” questions and I want you to know that I appreciate your dedication to public service despite the bullying.

Second, a LOT of suggestions from county residents have been provided to you as suggested changes. You have the difficult task to winnow it down based on how many submissions are similar and rise to the top, or based on the ability to actually implement, etc. I have observed the same level of interest in these priorities that you identified. It is still not easy as there are questions about what these look like and you have a time pressure to be able to hear from constituents and be able to educate and turn these into a ballot item that the public can easily understand.

Looking at these priorities I would comment as follows:

County Commissioner elections - recently there was a public utility district on the east side of the state that was sued over this issue because the suit claimed that by allowing the entire county to vote for a single district, it negatively impacted marginalized groups. I think this is worthy of consideration because we can see through the precinct results that several elections would have had different results if only those district residents were able to vote. Therefore I support only those district residents voting in both the primary and general election.

NGOs - this doesn't seem worth even having on the ballot. We are a rural county and naturally elected officials interact and hold delegate positions on many boards. Yes they should recuse themselves in a vote where they or their organizations could benefit, but otherwise participation is common.

Ethics board - I don't believe this needs to be any more complicated than the County staff developing an ethics policy for elected officials and appointed positions to have to agree to. Elected officials are governed by state RCW. Appointed persons in violation could be subject to removal.

Water Steward - I understand that across the county, from a variety of residents in many different water systems that there is a lot of confusion about whether we have sustainable resources. This topic unfortunately I believe requires more thought than perhaps we have time before this has to go on the ballot. There are so many water purveyors and some are aquifer-based while others are rely on streamflows that it is difficult to know how they are all interconnected and I'm sure there needs to be a lengthy process to establish MOUs or interlocal agreements. I did hear during the town hall that it would make sense for this to be an actual job description rather than an appointment so the skill set is identified. I don't know if there is a method to recommend this that the County look into establishing this position in conjunction with all water purveyors with a timeframe of not to exceed x years. The proposal could recommend for now to establish a commission with a representative from each water purveyor so this could be an ongoing process?

The number of county commissioners is already dictated by RCW and as a county with under 400,000 residents we are well within only needing three.

I do think it would be beneficial to have the CRC meet every five years and give them a two year term to not be rushed and have time for a thoughtful process.

Ranked choice voting. I have seen where this has been implemented and it seems to be effective.

I appreciate that you have had ample opportunity for public input with all of the Zoom options and ability to email comment as I am now. You have methodically been managing the meetings according to parliamentary procedure to avoid hijacking and have provided a fair and nonpartisan forum. This is what you were elected to do it is large.y thankless but I want you to know your service is very much appreciated as I know you must be putting hours into your analysis and thought directly related to this public process.

Nicole Hartman
Sequim resident

Gores, Loni

From: Holy, Christy
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:47 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Cc: Stoffer, Jim; Morris, Patti
Subject: CRC Records Request Response 2025-521 – HOLY
Attachments: Clean copy of Questionnaire 4.11.25.docx; Public Records Request.pdf

Hi Loni,

I will respond to this, as I have been the one taking notes in the meetings.

We did not have a meeting on April 17th. We did meet on April 3rd, and those minutes are attached. I have also included notes from all the town hall meetings and drafts of the questions which were gone through and prioritized. We did not have the capability to record these Town Hall meetings, so there are no recordings.

Also included is the email from Chair Fisch to all commissioners stating that our task was to come up with a survey of 10 questions. She also references the fact that we can entertain any other input at any time. It does not have to be on the survey to be brought forward.

Also included is a draft of the questionnaire before we agreed on the final 7 questions and the final list.

Thank you for your exhaustive work on all this,
Commissioner Christy Holy

Public Survey Questions – Charter Review Commission - 2025

1. County Commissioners are currently nominated by district and elected county-wide.

**How should County Commissioners be elected? ____ by the district you live in?
____ countywide?**

2. Currently, County Commissioners serve on a variety of state, regional, and local non-government organizations. If the work conflicts with the duties outlined in the charter for county commissioners, there could be cause for recusal. This could limit commissioners' ability to endorse policies that directly benefit organizations with which they are involved.

Should County Commissioners recuse themselves from participating in non-government organizations?

____yes ____no

3. Clallam County has a charter provision that requires the County Commissioners to adopt an ethics ordinance, but does not specify any requirements of the ordinance. The ethics ordinance that does exist contains no penalties for a violation.

Should the charter create an ethics board or commission? ____yes ____no Should the charter mandate certain ethical standards? ____yes ____no Should the charter mandate civil penalties for violations of the code of ethics? ____yes ____no

4. There are multiple jurisdictions that are involved in county-wide water management. No one is currently proactively identifying county-wide concerns regarding water supplies, and reactive measures are more expensive to the county taxpayers. Available water resources information is inadequate and outdated.

Should the Charter create a Water Steward position to gather necessary information? It would not have regulatory or enforcement authority. It shall operate as an independent information gathering, analysis, and advisory office.

____yes _____no

5. Clallam County currently has three county commissioners. They are nominated by district and elected county-wide.

How many county commissioners should Clallam County elect? ____3 ____5

6. All other charter counties in our state meet every ten years. Currently, the Clallam Charter Review Commission meets every 5 years.

**How frequently should the Charter Review Commission meet? ____3 years ____5 years
____10 years**

7. Currently, the county does not provide for ranked choice voting options for elections.

Should the charter consider the adoption of ranked choice voting options to the county? ____yes ____no

- Tuesday, March 4, 2025 – Email from the chair to the commissioners regarding the intention to create a survey with 10 priorities.
- In an effort to gather more public input, the outreach committee put together town halls. The first was at Clallam Bay *See Outreach committee report.
- Subsequent Town Halls took place at KSQM, Fairview Grange, and Crescent Grange.
- At each Town Hall, notes were taken on the public input. *See notes
- At each Town Hall, the list of priorities submitted by the commissioners was passed out to the participants.
- At the Town Hall meetings, a significant number of people mentioned that many of these topics could be combined, many under the creation of an ethics code. Also, people complained that they did not understand the topics and would need further information about what the questions were that were being asked.
- The Outreach Committee created a list of 22 questions, which was sent to the commissioners for their input.
- Input from the commissioners was added to the formulation of questions.
- The Outreach Committee met to go through the questions to create a list of ten, reflecting the priorities that emerged from Town Hall, written public input, and the commissioners' priorities. * See Draft 4
- The Outreach Committee narrowed the list down to ten questions. Three of those questions were removed, since they were moved on for further action. *See Draft 4.
- Draft 4 lists the reasons other questions were not included in the final survey.

Submitted by Christy Holy

4/23/25

Gores, Loni

From: Fisch, Susan
Sent: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 10:24 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: March 10 Meeting
Attachments: Questionnaire for County Officials.docx; CRC Commissioner Suggestions and Priorities.docx

Commissioners:

Please find attached two documents for our Monday meeting. One is a compilation of the ideas forwarded by all of you and comments we have received directly from community members. The second is a proposed questionnaire (based on the 2020 CRC) for our elected officials and department heads.

Please read both documents and let me know the following:

1. **Survey:** It is my understanding that the Commission wanted to use the list of suggestions to prioritize ten issues. These ten issues would form the basis of the survey questions that will go out to the community. Just because an item does not make it into the top 10, does not mean it is off the table. Anyone can propose a charter amendment or a recommendation to the BOCC. We also have the ability to prioritize proposed amendments for the 2025 ballot and the 2026 ballot. I would also suggest that we start a list of citizen input that may not be Charter related but that should be passed on to our elected officials.

I am trying to figure out the most efficient way of doing the survey at the meeting. Loni has multiple easels and flip charts. I can write the suggestions on the charts and we can do the red dot method. Or, all of you could circle your priorities on the attachment and we can have a discussion. Let me know your thoughts.

2. **Questionnaire:** I took the 2020 CRC questionnaire and added a couple of questions. Please let me know if you have any changes.

Susan

	Commissioners	Written Public Comment
Coroner	14	
Ethics Board and Commissions	9	
Elected/Appointed Positions Oversight/Over	7	
Govt to Govt Relations and Training	7	
District Based Elections	6	
DCD Elected or Appointed	6	
Charter Ambiguities	6	
County Clerk Enumerated Responsibilites	5	
Public Defender's Office	5	
Environmental Steward	5	
CRC Term	5	
Rank Choice Voting	5	
Transparent BOCC & Public Engagement	4	
Trust Land Transfer Program	4	
Townhalls Budget	3	
Number of Commissioner	3	
Fair Bidding	3	
Elected Officials & CRC Vacancy Language	3	
Independent Hearing Officer	3	
Recusal Issues	2	
Transparency w/ Non-Governmental Orgs	2	
General Fund Reserve Minimum	2	
Voter approved tax increases or no prop tax increases	2	
Lower Permit Costs for Property, Business & Owners	0	
Revise Procedures for amending charter	0	

MINUTES FROM TOWN HALL COMMITTEE MEETING - 2.7.25 – 12 pm

Sunsets West Food Co-op, 16732 Hwy 112, Clallam Bay, WA 98326

Attending: Jim Stoffer, Cathy Walde, Ron Richards, Ron Cameron, Christy Holy (will be appointed member on 2.10.25), citizens from Clallam Bay

Call to Order – 12:02 pm

Election of Chair – Ron Cameron nominated Jim Stoffer, Patti Morris seconded, unanimous consent

Introductions - Each committee member introduced themselves – Jim Stoffer, Cathy Walde, Ron Richards, Patti Morris, Ron Cameron

Goals of the meeting – Chair Stoffer explained to attendees that our goal is to gather input, take it back to the Commission, and see if it is in the charter. He also announced the current vacancy on the Commission. The Town Hall committee's interest, per Richards is to get people involved in county government.

Introduction of guests – Clallam Bay citizens introduced themselves and voiced concerns.

- Greg Bellamy – Clallam Bay Fire Commissioner reported that the fire department has been making great leaps and bounds, with 15 members and a good chief. He is consumed with the “timber thing”- the state’s losing money from lost timber sales. He intends to speak to his legislators about it. He is policy driven and is looking at grants. He extolled the Jamestown Healing Clinic. He is concerned with people bringing in recreational drugs and then wanting help when they OD and outsiders coming to the area and buying property. He wants a say-so in how the county commissioners have the legislative power to do what they’re doing with timber.
Discussion – Stoffer – This is a complex issue that resulted in the RAC (Regulatory Advisory Committee). Richards – DNR is interested in getting more revenue to the area that is not timber-related. Belallamy – proposes an incumbent land fee where outsiders coming in pay revenue.

- Susan Hiney – started a nonprofit to manage Slip Point Lighthouse.
- Kenneth Reandeau – On the planning dept in District 3. He likes the way the Commission is handling the vacancy.

New Business

- Stoffer asked how we reach out to young people and explained how the charter works. He encouraged people to sign up on the website for alerts.
7 Ways. 7 Touches.

Discussion - Hiney commented that in Clallam Bay, the website is not as effective. She suggested putting flyers up at the post office, on reader boards, and word of mouth. Clallam Bay is a diverse group, and she welcomes meetings at night. Morris mentioned Rod Fleck had posted emails around the area on paper copy.

- Introduce Deborah Boynton – Secretary of Clallam Bay Slip Point Lighthouse. Their first mission is to get a roof on the keeper's house. Their interest is to drum up support and funding for their organization.
- Discussion about contacting the Commission – Richards - thinks the Commission needs more visibility on the website and more money in the budget to do outreach. Morris – fastest way to get in touch with us is sending an email to Loni. Cameron – need to talk about what this committee is going to do. Need to schedule town hall meetings. Richards – thinks we should take our time and shoot to get things on ballot for next year's general election. He wants to create more town halls and make it a permanent part of the community.
- Town Halls - Bellamy- go to the Community Center in the future. Walde – How does each district want to run their town halls? Suggested having town halls once a month. Senior lunches are good outreach. CAC Meetings. Morris – How do we reach 50 and under and can we? Hiney – always use food.

Action Item - Stoffer – We have to post on the county page, so each district will report to him about how we are going to reach out to our districts and how are we going to consolidate? (District 1 – Stoffer, District 2 – Morris, Richards, Cameron), District 3 – Holy, Walde. Richards – West End Business Association.

- Main purpose – How do we reach all demographics?
Discussion – Morris – stay consistent across all 3 districts. Cameron – urge people to look at the charter. We can make amendments, and then make suggestions to the commissioners. Morris – explained that it all goes to the attorney's office, and we work with them to write out what will be reviewed and go to voters. Richards – wants to make a permanent charter. Bellamy – Doesn't understand how the charter works. Morris – create a flowchart. Holy- Agrees. Create a one-sheet. Boynton – to reach young people, put links and qr codes on literature.

- Permanent Town Halls proposed by Richards – Town halls are a way to get people into county government. He wants the Charter to create a Town Hall Commission, give them money, and give them a chance to say where they want the money to go. Get people to understand the give and take in government.

Discussion – Reandeau – a lot of these things are being done right now, and with the zoom option, more people can join. People get involved in long-term issues. Morris – Families and young people are Cause-oriented. Bellamy – Voting has dropped in Clallam Bay. Boynton – have meetings in the schools. Morris – Instagram or text. Walde – get parents involved. If a parent values voting, the child will vote. Boynton – utilize principal Cheryl Erickson to have a meeting at the school.

Adjourn – 1:50 pm

10m Hall #2 Sequim

Aug 5th - to auditor

Bonnie - Sequim - Coroner apptd

Mr Brown - Sequim - county - wide water steward

non-partisan - advisory capacity

Ms Jayno - D1 - District voting

- against RCV (return to in-person)

Ms Graham - D1 - NGOs - money allocated into water

- Commissioners should not align selves to

transparency (not private agendas)

Ms Hutto - D1 - among all entities - non-partisan pro

data + scientific.

Ms Lavin - Sequim - coroner apptd. expectative not campaigning
population too small for more commissioners

35/39 have 3

- change charter to 10 yrs (smaller + efficient govt)

Mr Parker - D1 - apptd coroner. water steward.

Mr Curtis - D1 - RCV (top 2 priority on ballot, not necessary)

- opposed to water steward (group of power, dept)

Can't afford w/ budget

substance

Mr. Worthington - primary - come - fairly water policy

① incompatible to hold an office + county govt

③ with culture

Mr. Smith - D2 - Code of ethics - state design + enforce

County ethics

Signature laws = ethics + penetration

② medical examiner (Shawin Hgg Co)

* say names before you speak

Ms. Gale - D2 - permanent water steward (water expert)

no hydrologist (1995 + 1996)

public health, govt, data + someone to track it
person, technical hydrologist

Mr Day - D1 - district voting/coroner = elected sheriff
already have position

-SCA (better access)
-caution 10 years (eg 10 yr + 2 yr term)

Anders - voting districts (public who + law enforcement)
-environment (air, water, governing)

-sales tax
-unhoused

Jamie - D1 - water - Dungeness River Mgmt Dept
water steward - volunteer

Mr James - Corliss - transparency - Code of Ethics
water - hydrology - planning more wisely rate + usage of water

Quercet - D2 (4 domains) - Tsunami escape routes? 250 people
Griest - OMC - Coroner - need for a medical examiner
(night) Roads - can't buy the home
-instructive for disasters
-water

Tehum -
Bagnall - D1 - Doan + want 10 yr
city - forum - look @ process of town hall
open discussions
Carin Cummins - no 10 yr
Tarko - D3

25
attending

Town Hall #3 Fairview Grange

Denise D1 → Coroner

- ethics board -
- environmental steward? why do we need a
- RCV - against - causes confusion (water suppression)
in-person same-day voting

Batch Day - Sequim - coroner - only one who can remove Sheriff
(problem at appted person firing elected)

District-based elections

- ethics board - county commissioners (rules + regs)
- water - approved tax increase (people on fixed income)
- go to 5 commissioners (2 can meet for lunch)
- CRC terms - year 1 + year 5 (8 yr term)

Fehrman - 8 who left

Mark Klinker D1 - favors district elections

5 commissioners

Conflicts of interest (misconception - actually
merely by being transparent.
Recused himself (Conflicts ahead of time)

ID'ing conflicts of int (people have conflicts of int)

- even appearance of conflicts of appearance

RCV - against - confusion - disenfranchisement

Subal went to govt training - who puts this training?

What other commissions use this training?

Fred Miller - Claco out of money

profit + loss statements?

property taxes (go thru books + find out which
(itemized dept used most)
Spent amount)

* not readily available
Treasures

Budgets are available

who manages grant requests?

Layout groundwork + layout projects
projects - when there's a project, it has to get there
a mission → \$ spent
- [Live town hall budget meeting]
quarterly

Raelton
Anderson - D3 - Code of ethics - conflict of int serving
Joyce on multiple boards

- use as taxpayers are not getting their full attention
(come to meetings as a public member, but
not live on the boards)

- Commissioners - 13 yr term - annual
players → then go to 5 commissioners
D/D ~~tried more \$ in budget~~ - elected
District voting

water-approved tube
CRC team - stay @ 5

Ally: Whipple

Raelton Anderson - D2 - thank you
and that (corner could ~~be~~ ^{great} slough)
- ethics board

Prop 13 C (prop taxes) - based on 1% when passed
- full room here / no commissioners should be
commissioners - 5 / having town halls like this

ms. Wilkings - Saigon - town hall on specific topic
gout to gout relations -
ambiguously ambiguous prices
5% enough
conflict of interest - no mtp on sovereign lands
Under US laws apply there / not giving token
water - plan w/ water already spending
taxpayer money

Clumms - 5 years -
each month go to a different district
- 3 once a mo.
not S'Kalam people, has issue w/ government
tax burden being placed on those paying taxes
no ordinance - no change
final tax roll

lack of ex care / after nothing
taxpayers citizens

Bennie - descriptions - survey (meeting don't
reflect whole)
write in other ideas

~~questionnaire~~

ms. Dehman - 17 people did not answer question

Co. Office: City of Ft. Smith
Sundline laws
overweight transparency - no enforcement
note - approved for increase
BIA - causing trouble a problem / st

~~no~~ no enforcement
ethics committee - who does that consist of
citizens -

ethics → water reservoir
discrepancies between our rivers
Tonne Road → nay

Conflicts of interest
- fact-finding
- impartial

Town Hall #4

Gayle Baker - Sequim - 2+ CC

- Chastise to change + censor by-laws
- required to report conflicts of interest + recuse themselves

Carey - Joyce - Ethics regulations / Transparency / Accountability

- requirement to recusal
- transparency w/ BOCC

- penalties have been removed from BOCC

public engagement

- more frequent

Tom Ash - do you know if it's legal

ethics + transparency
vote outside other districts

Budget for
Commissioners:

Town halls for
Commissioners

Sehman - Ron Richards - Trust land

- Restricting CC's to one term (budget is in green grants out of equation)
- Commissioners required to hold town hall meetings

→ Commissioners hold town halls

codes + permits being weaponized → appear to be weaponizing
threatened to fine after speaking @ event

- afraid they will be targeted
- cap on max fine / COLA / property tax vote of the people

Talking to commissioners →

→ tax going to people not council-matic

Executive Session Principle
Transparency - my interest + my needs are represented

meeting in evening ()

quarterly meeting w/ BCC

Rain Curran - no thanks

AGOs, non-profits, tribal, ethics

- requirement that any county/govt meetings

be held on govt lands

Ed Bowen - depending on AGOs to conduct business.

transparency of AGOs.

- district - local elections

- 5 commissioners for greater representation

- water steward

- oversight on commissioners

- lower the fine

Rick Faust -

Ethics - ethics board w/ 10 - judge + 3 people from community

Hospital Board

Cindy Keely - wa state public disclosure commission

planning commission - fees

- all meetings 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

goe - accountability, credibility, access to
meeting (time of day + different parts
of town)
- Meeting ~~area~~
PCV - taken off list

MINUTES FROM TOWN HALL COMMITTEE PLANNING MEETING - 3.5.25 – 4 pm
BOCC Room, Clallam County Courthouse, Port Angeles, 98362

Attending: Jim Stoffer, Ron Cameron, Ron Richards, Patti Morris, Christy Holy, Alex Fane, Citizen Ed Bowen online

Call to Order – 4 pm

Commissioners' Reports by District-

- D2 – Patti Morris and Ron Cameron –
 - Swain's - Will sponsor a bake sale where they will hand out pamphlets and info about the Charter Review Commission. The goal is to let people know what the Charter is. Patti will contact Swain's to get a date. Larry has tents, chairs, etc.
 - KONP – Ron reached out to the Todd Ortloff show, and they are offering the CRC a slot on Tuesday, March 11th at 1:15. Ron and Patti volunteered to be interviewed. Jim will contact Susan F. to let her know. This info will be shared with others at Monday night's meeting.
 - Patti will check on Fairview Grange for Tuesday, April 1st 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- D1 – Jim Stoffer –
 - 1st Townhall is set for March 26th at KSQM in Sequim from 5:30 – 7:30
 - Other future locations could include Dungeness Schoolhouse (\$140), Diamond Pt., Blyn
- D3 – Christy Holy and Cathy Walde
 - Crescent Grange, Joyce – Christy reached out to them, and they said we could have the space for free most days except Thursdays and Sundays. She will ask about April 7th as possible date from 6-8 and ask about zoom capabilities.
 - Cathy will attend the Senior Lunch in Clallam Bay.
 - Festivals? – Committee attendees suggested Irrigation Festival, Logging, Lavender, JFFA, County Fair, Field Hall, Riverfest, 4th of July parades, car show
 - Other places – Thrifty's Forks, Sekiu Fun Days, Joyce Dayze

Public Comment

- Ed Bowen –
 - Look at doing something at Lake Sutherland – Reach out to Milfoil Community, Boating group, fire station
 - Commission is a place that needs community input
 - Come up with a postcard for outreach events listing interests of Commission and send to folks in D3

Chair Stoffer will send out the report to the committee and will get back to Ron about Susan's response to KONP. Jim will be gone Mar 14-21 and Apr. 12-18.

Minutes from Town Hall/Outreach Meeting 4/3/25

Call to Order – 1:00 pm

Chair's Suggestion – Take three items and move forward to the Commission for consideration on the ballot, since we've had quite a bit of input on those items. These would be the coroner, the water steward, and the BIA land trust.

Discussion – Christy H. – Should we create the survey first, since we will likely get push-back on moving some items forward and not others before getting the rest of the input from the town halls?

Committee decided to move the Coroner issue off the questionnaire and forward to the Commission. There is still another Coroner meeting next week, and committees are still working on other amendments.

The remainder of the meeting was spent going through each of the questions on Draft 1 of the Questionnaire. These comments are all logged on Draft #2 of the Questionnaire. Included are comments sent via email from Commissioners Pickett, Tozzer, and Richards, as well as input at the meeting from Commissioners Walde, Cameron, Holy, and Stoffer. Commissioner Morris weighed in at a subsequent meeting where Commissioners Holy and Stoffer inserted the comments from all into a clean copy of the questions, to be reviewed at this Thursday's meeting after the Crescent Town Hall meeting.

Items to be discussed at next meeting – 1) take input from all written public comment, comments from Town Halls, and commissioners' priority list to create a questionnaire representing the top 10 priority questions, 2) clean up questions that still need work, 3) discuss distribution of the survey to be presented to the full commission at the April 14th meeting.

Commissioner Holy left at 2:20.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45

Submitted by Commissioner Holy on 4.7.25

Minutes from Town Hall/Outreach Meeting 4/10/25

Submitted by Commissioner Holy on 4/11/25

Attendees: Commissioner Stoffer, Commissioner Holy, Commissioner Morris,
Commissioner Cameron, Commissioner Richards

Online: Jenn Puff and Bonnie Bliss-Boenish

Call to Order – 2:30 pm

Review the agenda – Commissioner Stoffer

- 1) Look at survey questions
- 2) Prepare appropriate issues to make a motion on Monday
- 3) Morris – We should prioritize our top 10 issues first
- 4) Holy – Agreed, we should take commissioners' top 10 list and see how public input matches
- 5) Stoffer – Christy and I put together the questions, and then they went to all commissioners for their input, C. Benedict has been invited to this meeting to give comment. What can we move off this list to make a motion? We all took notes at each town hall, and we received a lot of feedback from public comment. We have enough input to go forward with the survey.
- 6) Morris – How is coroner language going to float in there?
- 7) Cameron – is going to give a petition with all the whereases to the commissioners. They will recommend pulling out the coroner language from the Charter. Most input agreed that it should be an appointed position, and this way, the commissioners would be expected to appoint a coroner. He will present at Monday's meeting.
- 8) Benedict – recommends the survey should remove references about coroner from the Charter, so BOCC can deal with this issue.
- 9) Holy – Can we pare down the list of questions to our top 10 priorities, including public input?
- 10) Morris – Can we get the priorities list first? Can Christy create a top 10 list?
- 11) Stoffer – Everyone has the questions doc. We can take questions and go down the list.
- 12) Cameron – Agreed – go down the list and go through the questions

Review of questions to see if they will stay on the survey, be removed, or be moved on as a motion to address.

- #1 – keep – use Richards rewrites
- #2- remove – Cameron will put forward on Monday
- #3 – NGO's – keep
- #4 – remove
- Morris – we need to take the language down to 8th grade level
- #5- keep – Cameron and Morris will rewrite
- #6 – remove

#7- Discussion around questions that come up when county becomes the leading agency and then contracts with other entities. Richards brought up Humane Society as an example. NGO's are performing a

public function. Debate ensued. Decided to leave as is for now and rewrite with Ron Richards' input.

#8 – remove and forward to commission for the ballot

#9 – remove – not appropriate to be on the Charter

#10- keep – use Ron Richards' input in red

#11 – keep – use Richards' input

#12- remove

#13 – keep – add 3, 5, and 10 years

#14- remove

#15 – remove

#16 – remove

#17 – remove and forward for an amendment if someone wants to write it up – suggestion Richards

#18 – keep – use Morris's language – Should the Charter consider RCV

#19 – remove

#20 – remove – doesn't state the law accurately

#21 – remove

Review of actions for Monday

1. At the April 14th meeting, Stoffer will brief everyone on the # of Townhalls, # of people that attended, and explain how we pared the list down to 7 questions
*Out of 21 questions, 7 were kept, 11 were removed because they were either not Charter-worthy, were not factually correct, or were too complicated to pare down to a single question
Of the remaining 3 questions, 1) Coroner will be addressed on Monday by Cameron, 2) DCD elected/appointed – removed and will be forwarded to commissioners to consider for the ballot, 3) the question about non-government organizations – shall be forwarded to the BOCC

Other Public Input that is not represented here?

1. Holy – Recommend to the BOCC that the public would like to participate in recurring Town Halls with commissioners
2. All – How do we get the message out that folks don't know who to call? Or don't understand the different jurisdictions handling things.

Work on remaining 7 questions

#1 – Cameron, Morris, and Richards changed language

#5 – Cameron and Morris changed language

#7 – more discussion – don't know how we can word the question

Action – Morris moved to remove this question from the survey and forward to the BOCC. Holy seconded. Motion carried.

Actions going forward

1. Holy will forward the MS Word doc with the 7 questions and rewrites that Morris and Cameron made to Morris
2. Stoffer – will prep for Monday's meeting – review the stats, make a motion to place 1 on the ballot, 2nd motion to go to the BOCC for action, get approval on all survey questions
3. Distribution – Per Morris, we need to come up with our distribution plan – survey monkey, get paper copies to libraries and other venues
4. Schedule a Forks Town Hall – Holy will follow up

Adjournment – 5:03 pm

Public Survey Questions – Charter Review Commission - 2025

1. County Commissioners are currently elected by district. Prior to 2015, commissioners were nominated by district and elected county-wide.

How should County Commissioners be elected? ___ by the district you live in ? ___
countywide?

2. ~~Coroner – new #2 – we'll be recommending this item to CRC. We will leave this item as is and confirm with coroner committee on Thursday.~~

~~Section 4.20 of the Charter currently states that "...The Prosecuting Attorney will serve as ex-officio coroner without extra compensation". State law allows for the appointment of a coroner. However, a law recently came into effect that does not allow a coroner to be an attorney. Therefore, a recent AG's opinion states that the Prosecutor cannot serve as the coroner. Recently, Clallam County's Prosecuting Attorney resigned the office of coroner and the county appointed a district judge to fulfill the vacancy, per another state law. The charter language needs to be changed to allow for the current situation and future decisions about who should take on coroner responsibilities.~~

~~How should the charter language be changed? ___ coroner shall be elected
___ coroner shall be appointed ___ take coroner language out completely~~

*Voted to remove this question. Ron Cameron will bring the petition to the Commission on April 4th for this issue.

3. Currently, County Commissioners serve on a variety of state, regional, and local non-government organizations. If the work conflicts with the duties outlined in the charter for county commissioners, there could be cause for recusal. This could limit commissioners' ability to endorse policies that directly benefit organizations with which they are involved.

Should County Commissioners recuse themselves from participating in non-government organizations? ___yes ___no

*Voted to keep this question as is

4. ~~Currently, there is no budget for conducting community outreach town halls by the charter review commission. It is the responsibility of the charter to work "within our means". The CRC has to go through a process to get legal counsel and create contracts with venues. Funds are often necessary to administer town halls.~~

~~Should a budget be allocated in the charter for conducting outreach and town halls? ___yes ___no~~

*Consensus vote to remove this question.

5. ~~Currently, 3 out of 7 charter counties have an amendment that covers ethics. The Clallam County Charter does not specifically outline a code of ethics for elected officials.~~

~~Should the charter appoint an ethics board or commission? ____yes ____no
Should there be civil penalties included for those who violate the code of ethics? ____yes
____no~~

*Voted to rewrite this question using Ron Richard's language as follows:

Clallam County has a charter provision that requires the County Commissioners to adopt an ethics ordinance, but does not specify any requirements of the ordinance. The ethics ordinance that does exist contains no penalties for a violation.

Should the charter create an ethics board or commission? ____yes ____no Should
the charter mandate certain ethical standards? ____yes ____no Should the
charter mandate civil penalties for violations of the code of ethics? ____yes ____no

6. ~~Currently the county commissioners have the ability to increase taxes by a vote of the BOCC and submit an increase proposal to the ballot. This has funding implications. Recommend removing, because they should keep these two options.~~

~~Should proposals for tax increases, whether it be property tax or sales tax, etc., be a ballot measure or by vote of the county commissioners? ____ballot
____county commissioners~~

*Voted to remove this question

7. ~~The county often contracts with non-government organizations.~~

~~Should the charter specify requirements for non-government organizations to be transparent with their fiscal reporting, giving citizens unlimited access to their budget information? ____yes ____no~~

*Voted to remove this question, as the charter does not govern

8. ~~Clallam Director of the Department of Community Development (DCD) is currently an elected position, and it is the only elected DCD in the nation. Historically, this position has alternated between elected and appointed. At times, the election of a DCD director creates conflicts between the BOCC planning division and the office of Community Development.~~

~~Should the DCD be elected or appointed by the commissioners? ____Appointed
____Elected ____no opinion~~

*Voted to remove this question from the survey and forward to the commission for the ballot

9. ~~Currently the county does not have a public defender's office.~~

~~Should the charter create a public defender's office? _____ yes _____ no~~

*Voted to remove this question. Not appropriate for the charter.

10. ~~There are multiple jurisdictions that are involved in county-wide and region-wide water management. These include Cities of Sequim and P.A., Clallam County Conservation District, PUD, the tribes, Dry Creek Water Association, Joyce Water Association, and various others.~~

~~Do you think the Charter should have language included to guide water management, such as a designated water steward? _____ yes _____ no If so, should the position be appointed or elected? _____ appointed _____ elected~~

*Voted to keep this question, but with Ron Richards' rewrites, as follows:

There are multiple jurisdictions that are involved in county-wide water management. No one is currently proactively identifying county-wide concerns regarding water supplies, and reactive measures are more expensive to the county taxpayers. Available water resources information is inadequate and outdated.

Should the Charter create a Water Steward position to gather necessary information? It would not have regulatory or enforcement authority. It shall operate as an independent information gathering, analysis, and advisory office.

_____ yes _____ no

11. ~~Clallam County currently elects three county commissioners by district.~~

~~How many county commissioners should Clallam County elect?
_____ 3 (currently) _____ 4 (3 districts and one at-large member) _____ 5~~

*Voted to keep this question, but to reword it as follows:

Clallam County currently has three county commissioners. They are nominated by district and elected county-wide.

How many county commissioners should Clallam County elect? _____ 3 _____ 5

12. ~~Currently, businesses who pay taxes are bidding against businesses who are not required to pay taxes when trying to win county contracts.~~

~~??~~

*Voted to remove this question

13. ~~All other charter counties in our state meet every ten years. Clallam Charter Review Commission has met 7 times since 1976.~~

~~How frequently should the Charter Review Commission meet? _____ 5 years _____ 10 years _____~~

*Voted to keep this question, but change the wording and add a 3 year option as follows:

All other charter counties in our state meet every ten years. Currently the Clallam County Charter Review Commission meets every five years.

How frequently should the Charter Review Commission meet? 3 years 5 years 10 years

14. There is language in the charter as to how to fill a vacancy, but it could be clearer or more specific. There is a proposal to make it more specific.

~~Should the charter require that the vacancy on the Charter Review Commission automatically be filled by the person holding the next highest amount of votes in the same district, or as currently specified by the Charter Review Commission through an application process in the community? _____ highest vote-getter _____ application~~

*Voted to remove this question

15. Currently, hearing officers rotate between staff from jurisdictions, and only when necessary.

~~Should the charter create an independent hearing officer position? _____ yes _____ no If so, should this position be elected or appointed? _____ appointed _____ elected~~

*Voted to remove this question

16. Now called State Forest Transfer Program (Commissioner Stoffer and Commissioner Sarmiento and community member Mr. Ed Bowen)

*Jim will work on this before the next committee meeting.

*Voted to remove this question

17. _____

17. Should the county be required to respond to the Bureau of Indian Affairs when land use changes affect county interests? _____ yes _____ no

*Voted to remove and forward to an amendment, for whomever chooses to tackle it

18. Currently, the county does not provide for ranked choice voting options for elections. – Leave as is

~~Should the charter allow or require consider the adoption of ranked choice voting options to the county? _____ yes _____ no~~

*Voted to keep, but changed language in question

19. Government-to-Government Relationship Training is required for school board directors. RCW 28a.343.100 – Government's training program

~~Should similar training be required for all other elected officials under the charter's authority? _____ yes _____ no~~

RCW 28A.343.100

Governance training program.

- (1) Except as provided otherwise by this subsection (1), beginning with the 2022 calendar year, each member of a board of directors shall complete a governance training program once per term of elected office. If the director is appointed or elected to a first term of office, the director must complete a governance training required by this subsection (1) within two years of appointment or certification of the election in which they were elected.
- (2) Governance training programs completed by directors in accordance with subsection (1) of this section must be aligned with the cultural competency, diversity, equity, and inclusion standards for school director governance developed under RCW 28A.345.115 and provided by the Washington state school directors' association.
- (3) For purposes of this section, "cultural competency," "diversity," "equity," and "inclusion" have the same meaning as in RCW 28A.415.443.

*Voted to remove this question

20. Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Washington is entitled 'Elections and Elective Rights' the laws of the state. It states that all elections shall be held at the precinct level; each prospective voter shall be vetted as a Qualified elector under Article VI, Section I of the State Constitution prior to the receipt of a ballot for any election, and that all ballots cast shall be hand counted, publicly viewable and subject to public verification.

~~Should the charter require all elected officials to be nominated and elected in the same manner, except when this conflicts with prior amendments to the charter? yes
no~~

*Voted to remove this question

21. Should county meetings be held on sovereign land?

21.22. *Voted to remove this question

Gores, Loni

From: Diana H <dianahender@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 10:49 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Cc: Fisch, Susan; Benedict, Bill; Stoffer, Jim; Tozzer, Jeff; Fane, Alex; Cameron, Ron; Morris, Patti; Noble, Chris; Pickett, Paul; Richards, Ron; Fleck, Rod; Hodgson, Mark; Sarmiento, Nina; Holy, Christy; Walde, Cathy
Subject: CRC Priorities

Some people who received this message don't often get email from dianahender@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Commissioners,

Below are more comments and concerns. Thank you for your service working through what community input you have received so far.

District based elections -

Yes, rather than countywide, otherwise, why are their districts in the first place?

Meetings, Town Halls & Public Engagement -

Yes, to reach all constituents in our county;

Increase public engagement;

A better way for citizens to engage with public officials;

Move weekly work and regular sessions to evening time to increase constituent ability to attend

Financial Oversight & Transparency-

Yes, greater transparency is needed overall and with any NGO the county contracts;

Require meetings be held on land governed by county policy and state law;

NO fee required to attend meetings;

Budgets required in advance of projects;

Amend Section 1.20 of the Charter

Adding "American" will ensure that any Clallam County partnerships with foreign nations are subject to federal oversight to prevent conflicts of interest or foreign interest .

Ethics Board & Commissions -

Yes, we need a Code of Ethics with penalties for violations;

Reform committee appointments;

Restrict board membership and sitting on boards of organizations that receive county funding or influence county policy, conflict of interest;

Recusal requirement when there is a conflict of interest;

Recusal requirement from participating in non-government organizations;

Restrictions on elected officials advocacy to limit their ability to endorse policies that benefit organizations they are involved with;

Require Bureau of Indian Affairs on Adverse Effects, mandate the county notify the BIA when land use changes affecting county interests

General Fund Reserve Minimum -

Yes, to ensure long term financial stability

Elected/Appointed Positions Oversight -

Yes, with financial oversight and transparency

Voter Approved Tax Increases -

Yes, citizens should have a say whenever they are required to carry the financial burden

DCD Position -

Keep it elected position

Public Defender's Office -

If this would increase the need for funding, voters should decide

Revise Procedures for Amending Charter -

Clarify where needed to remove ambiguities

Environmental Steward - (or whatever other term that may be used)

NO - IF there is a concern about our water resources, why is building allowed to take place at all?

Would this benefit all citizens of Clallam County? There are already a number of regulatory systems in place. How does adding more layers of bureaucracy and control to county systems help citizens? The plan appears to be unpaid, however, what are "modest operating funds sufficient for public outreach, research, and travel"? (page 80 of 4/28/25 agenda) we could expect there would still be expenses.

Additionally, The League of Women Voters is a liberal organization as seen here

<https://handsoff2025.com/about-1> Why are they being looked to on the subject?

Number of BOCC -

No Increase at this time due to funding, consider if/when the number of citizens increases and funding is available

Fair Bidding -

Yes, transparent and fair, no special treatment for pet groups/projects/organizations

CRC Term -

Keep it the current 5 years, 10 years is way too long to wait for changes that may be needed

Elected Officials and Charter Review Vacancy Language -

Clear language must be used as to how to fill any vacancy

Independent Hearing Officer -

Yes, Independent, impartial, sensible, free from political influence

Trust Land Transfer Program -

We lose money. I agree with Ron Richard's proposed Charter Amendment to include a dedicated section establishing criteria and procedures for responding to trust land requests.

Ranked Choice Voting -

NO, there are plenty of other priorities and this complicates the election process.

Thank you for taking my comments and concerns into consideration.

Very Best Regards,

Diana Henderson

District 1

Gores, Loni

From: ROBERT WISSOLIK <pgtiwissolik@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 9:08 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Opinions on proposed 2025 Ballot
Attachments: CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION.docx

You don't often get email from pgtiwissolik@comcast.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

Loni,

Attached is a document that presents my opinions on the proposed 2025 ballot.
Robert Wissolik

Gores, Loni

From: Pickett, Paul
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 9:33 PM
To: Fisch, Susan
Cc: Gores, Loni
Subject: Re: OPMA questions

One other question, added below:

Susan,

I see Dee Boughton is on the agenda for our next meeting to discuss OPMA.

Could you forward these specific questions that we need answered:

- Is Committee created by the Charter Review Commission a "Governing Body" covered under OPMA?
 - Does having a public comment time on the agenda make a Committee an "Governing Body"?
 - If our Committees did not "act on behalf of the governing body, conduct hearings, or take testimony or public comment", would we not be a "Governing Body"?
- Does OPMA require Committees to publish agendas in advance?
- Does OPMA require Committees to publish minutes?
- Are emails between Committee members discussing what will be in the draft agenda an "action" under OPMA?
- Are emails between Committee members reviewing and providing comments on draft meeting notes an "action" under OPMA?
- Are emails between Committee members reviewing and providing comments on draft minutes a "action" under OPMA?
- Are emails "deciding who asks who to invite someone to speak to the committee" an "action" under OPMA?
- **Would sharing information prior to a meeting to discuss at the meeting be an "action" under OPMA?**

We are struggling with this in our Committee. Some guidelines would be helpful.

I can send Dee examples if that's helpful.

Loni, cc the Commission, please.

Paul Pickett
Charter Review Commissioner, District 2

Gores, Loni

From: Tony Corrado <tony.corrado@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 25, 2025 10:01 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Proposed Considerations for a Clallam County Charter Amendment
Attachments: 250425-Proposed Clallam County Charter Amendment Submission.pdf

Hello Ms. Gores,

Kindly forward the attached recommendation to the CRC Water Committee for their consideration and deliberation relative to establishing the position of Clallam County Water Steward.

Thank you,
Tony Corrado

Title: Amend the Clallam County Charter to Establish the Office of County Water Steward

Section X: Clallam County Water Steward

- **Position Established**

The Office of Clallam County Water Steward is hereby established as a County wide elected, nonpartisan, volunteer position. The Steward shall serve as an independent agent to analyze and quantify Clallam County's water system¹ resource for sustainability and availability. The Steward will recommend policies that ensure the adequacy of water for all users in the face of climate change. The Steward shall operate to ensure fairness, and equity among stakeholders based upon data and science with full transparency and public oversight.

Authority:

1. The Water Steward shall not have regulatory or enforcement authority and shall operate as an independent analysis and advisory office.
2. The water Steward shall have the authority to utilize volunteer resources to conduct any or all tasking associated with this position, as required.

Duties: The Water Steward shall have the following duties and/or responsibilities:

- Conduct data gathering efforts, inclusive of expert opinions from professional hydrologists/hydrogeologists and all water stakeholders, to include irrigation companies, domestic users, city and utility agencies, affected Tribal Nations, fish and wildlife responsible agencies and interested members of the general public.
- Quantify the status of countywide water systems, inclusive of groundwater, river and stream flow, aquifer status, and water storage systems.
- Determine the current operative state of documentation, infrastructure and consumption within the current water system.
- Forecast future water availability with consideration of planned county wide growth, climate impacts, and ecological needs;
- Determine the maximum sustainable County growth correlated with a direct relationship to the projected, worst case, wet water availability;
- Recommend a prioritized hierarchy of consumptive uses correlated with calendar related precipitation events and a prioritized hierarchy of sustainable conservation practices;
 1. This requirement shall include, in addition to the designated river flow reductions for irrigation water extraction correlated to the preservation of a minimum flow for Salmon, a prioritized list of conservation practices, to include:
 1. Reductions in nonfood (defined as other than vegetable, forage and animal consumption) uses of irrigation water;
 2. Reductions for domestic consumption;
 3. Increased fees for non-essential uses;
- Propose changes to water-related regulations, laws, and conservation strategies at the local level of government with aspirational changes recommended for Federal and State regulation to enable higher efficiency conservation and sustainability;

¹ The term, "water system", does not refer to water infrastructure. This term implies that *all* water is interrelated, regardless of its source or final usage. These complex and nuanced interactions form an ever changing and vital natural system, herein referred to as "water system".

- Include the ecological needs of all wildlife and flora, native to the river basins, in these considerations.
- Provide reports, updates and recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and appropriate county departments in public meeting settings only.

Qualifications and Terms

- The Water Steward shall be a qualified Clallam County resident with no financial or stakeholder conflicts in water-related entities or policies.
- The position shall be nonpartisan, elected by countywide vote to a three-year term, and shall receive no compensation other than reimbursement for approved expenses.

Support and Resources

The County shall provide the Water Steward with:

- Operating funds sufficient for public media outreach, data research, public meetings and travel;
- Access to County data, staff coordination, and meeting space;
- The ability to initiate studies and recommendations through existing County procedures, contracts, and departments.

Ballot Title (75-word limit):

Shall the Clallam County Charter be amended to create an elected, nonpartisan, volunteer position of Water Steward which shall not have regulatory or enforcement authority and shall operate as an independent analysis and advisory office. This function shall consider water use priorities, sustainability, climate induced impacts, projected population growth impacts and conservation methodologies. The Water Steward shall operate with transparency, fairness and equal weight to all stakeholders.

Pro Statement (in support of the measure):

Vote YES to protect Clallam County's water future. This amendment creates a fact-based, transparent, and independent voice for water planning—free from political or financial pressures and elected countywide. As droughts increase and snowpack diminishes, we need someone accountable only to the people, to ensure a sustainable water supply. This position has minimal direct taxpayer costs associated with its operation, yet its impact on sustainability, planning, and equity will be profound and is needed NOW. Let's lead with wisdom. Vote YES.

Con Statement (opposed to the measure):

Gores, Loni

From: Gores, Loni
Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2025 11:15 AM
To: Benedict, Bill; Boughton, Dee; Cameron, Ron; Fane, Alex; Fisch, Susan; Fleck, Rod; Hodgson, Mark; Holy, Christy; Morris, Patti; Noble, Chris; Pickett, Paul; Richards, Ron; Sarmiento, Nina; Stoffer, Jim; Tozzer, Jeff; Walde, Cathy; Gores, Loni
Subject: FW: Research Request - CRC NEW LAR - RUSH BY APRIL 21
Attachments: OPMA for Committees.pptx

PowerPoint for the meeting on Monday. I'll have copies available at the meeting.

From: Fisch, Susan <susan.fisch@clallamcountywa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2025 11:03 AM
To: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: Research Request

Mr. Bouhgton:

The CRC voted on Monday, April 14 to forward a research request to you regarding the OPMA. I previously forwarded you an email from Commissioner Tozzer that had an attachment from a citizen commenter. That is part of this request. The other issues are:

1. Please provide more detailed information about serial emails and what would constitute a "meeting" under the OPMA.
2. How does the OPMA apply to committees? How can committees use email to correspond and what can they address?
3. Are committee meeting the same as special meetings? Should committees set a regular meeting schedule?

What are the notice requirements for regular and special meetings?

I think it would be a good idea for you to present information. If it is okay with you, we will put you on as an agenda item under Business Items.

Susan Fisch

Meetings Which are Open and Public

RCW 42.30.030

Meetings declared open and public.

(1) All meetings of the governing body of a public agency shall be open and public and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the governing body of a public agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(2) Public agencies are encouraged to provide for the increased ability of the public to observe and participate in the meetings of governing bodies through real-time telephonic, electronic, internet, or other readily available means of remote access that do not require an additional cost to access the meeting.

1

Are Committees Subject to OPMA? Are Committees the "Governing Body"

RCW 42.30.020

Definitions.

As used in this chapter unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) "Public agency" means:

(a) Any state board, commission, committee, department, educational institution, or other state agency which is created by or pursuant to statute, other than courts and the legislature. This does not include a comprehensive cancer center participating in a collaborative arrangement as defined in RCW 288.10.930 that is operated in conformance with RCW 288.10.930;

(b) Any county, city, school district, special purpose district, or other municipal corporation or political subdivision of the state of Washington;

(c) Any subagency of a public agency which is created by or pursuant to statute, ordinance, or other legislative act, including but not limited to planning commissions, library or park boards, commissions, and agencies;

(d) Any policy group whose membership includes representatives of publicly owned utilities formed by or pursuant to the laws of this state when meeting together as or on behalf of participants who have contracted for the output of generating plants being planned or built by an operating agency.

(2) "Governing body" means the multimember board, commission, committee, council, or other policy or rule-making body of a public agency, or any committee thereof when the committee acts on behalf of the governing body, conducts hearings, or takes testimony or public comment.

(3) "Action" means the transaction of the official business of a public agency by a governing body including but not limited to receipt of public testimony, deliberations, discussions, considerations, reviews, evaluations, and final actions. "Final action" means a collective positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a governing body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance.

• (4) "Meeting" means meetings at which action is taken.

2

Committees are not generally subject to OPMA

- Committees are not subject to OPMA if:
 - A quorum of the Commission is not present, and:
 - Committee is not taking final action on behalf the Commission, and:
 - Committee is not conducting a public hearing and not taking testimony, and:
 - Committee is not accepting public comment

3

If a Committee is taking public comment, it is defined as a “Governing body”, and is subject to OPMA as set out in RCW 42.30.030

4

OPMA does not require recording of meetings.

RCW [42.30.035](#)

Minutes—Recording of school district board of directors meetings.

- (1) The minutes of all regular and special meetings except executive sessions of such boards, commissions, agencies or authorities shall be promptly recorded and such records shall be open to public inspection.
- OPMA requires only prompt recording of minutes and availability for inspection.

5

Recordings and Streaming are encouraged but not required.

RCW [42.30.220](#)

Recording or online streaming by agency encouraged.

- (1) Public agencies are encouraged to make an audio or video recording of, or to provide an online streaming option for, all regular meetings of its governing body, and to make recordings of these meetings available online for a minimum of six months.
- (2) This section does not alter a local government's recordkeeping requirements under chapter [42.56](#) RCW.

6

Regular Meetings

RCW [42.30.070](#)

Times and places for meetings—Emergencies—Exception.

- The governing body of a public agency shall provide the time for holding regular meetings by ordinance, resolution, bylaws, or by whatever other rule is required for the conduct of business by that body. Unless otherwise provided for in the act under which the public agency was formed, meetings of the governing body need not be held within the boundaries of the territory over which the public agency exercises jurisdiction. If at any time any regular meeting falls on a holiday, such regular meeting shall be held on the next business day. If, by reason of fire, flood, earthquake, or other emergency, there is a need for expedited action by a governing body to meet the emergency, the presiding officer of the governing body may provide for a meeting site other than the regular meeting site, for a remote meeting without a physical location, or for a meeting at which the physical attendance by some or all members of the public is limited due to a declared emergency, and the notice requirements of this chapter shall be suspended during such emergency. It shall not be a violation of the requirements of this chapter for a majority of the members of a governing body to travel together or gather for purposes other than a regular meeting or a special meeting as these terms are used in this chapter: PROVIDED, That they take no action as defined in this chapter.

7

Regular Meeting Agendas

RCW [42.30.077](#)

Agendas of regular meetings—Online availability.

- (1) Public agencies with governing bodies must make the agenda of each regular meeting of the governing body available online no later than 24 hours in advance of the published start time of the meeting. An agency subject to provisions of this section may share a website with, or have its website hosted by, another public agency to post meeting agendas, minutes, budgets, contact information, and other records, including any resolution or ordinance adopted by the agency establishing where and how the public agency will meet in the event of an emergency. Nothing in this section prohibits subsequent modifications to agendas nor invalidates any otherwise legal action taken at a meeting where the agenda was not posted in accordance with this section. Nothing in this section modifies notice requirements or shall be construed as establishing that a public body or agency's online posting of an agenda as required by this section is sufficient notice to satisfy public notice requirements established under other laws. Failure to post an agenda in accordance with this section shall not provide a basis for awarding attorney fees under RCW [42.30.120](#) or commencing an action for mandamus or injunction under RCW [42.30.130](#).

8

Special Meetings

RCW [42.30.080](#)

Special meetings.

(1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the governing body of a public agency or by a majority of the members of the governing body by delivering written notice personally, by mail, by fax, or by email to each member of the governing body. Written notice shall be deemed waived in the following circumstances:

(a) A member submits a written waiver of notice with the clerk or secretary of the governing body at or prior to the time the meeting convenes. A written waiver may be given by telegram, fax, or email; or

(b) A member is actually present at the time the meeting convenes.

(2) Notice of a special meeting called under subsection (1) of this section shall be:

(a) Delivered to each local newspaper of general circulation and local radio or television station that has on file with the governing body a written request to be notified of such special meeting or of all special meetings;

(b) Posted on the agency's website. An agency is not required to post a special meeting notice on its website if it does not have a website or share a website with another agency. Except in the case of a remote meeting or a meeting at which the physical attendance by some or all members of the public is limited due to a declared emergency as provided for in this chapter, an agency is not required to post a special meeting notice on its website if it employs no full-time equivalent employees, or does not employ personnel whose duty, as defined by a job description or existing contract, is to maintain or update the website; and

(c) Prominently displayed at the main entrance of the agency's principal location and the meeting site if it is not held at the agency's principal location and is not held as a remote meeting; except that during a declared emergency which prevents a meeting from being held in-person with reasonable safety an agency that hosts a website or shares a website with another agency may instead post notice of a remote meeting without a physical location on the website hosted or shared by the agency.

Such notice must be delivered or posted, as applicable, at least 24 hours before the time of such meeting as specified in the notice.

(3) The call and notices required under subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted. Final disposition shall not be taken on any other matter at such meetings by the governing body.

• (4) The notices provided in this section may be dispensed with in the event a special meeting is called to deal with an emergency involving injury or damage to persons or property or the likelihood of such injury or damage, when time requirements of such notice would make notice impractical and increase the likelihood of such injury or damage, or when the required notice cannot be posted or displayed with reasonable safety, including but not limited to declared emergencies in which travel to physically post notice is barred or advised against.

9

Public Comment

RCW [42.30.240](#)

Public comment.

(1) Except in an emergency situation, the governing body of a public agency shall provide an opportunity at or before every regular meeting at which final action is taken for public comment. The public comment required under this section may be taken orally at a public meeting, or by providing an opportunity for written testimony to be submitted before or at the meeting. If the governing body accepts written testimony, this testimony must be distributed to the governing body. The governing body may set a reasonable deadline for the submission of written testimony before the meeting.

(2) Upon the request of any individual who will have difficulty attending a meeting of the governing body of a public agency by reason of disability, limited mobility, or for any other reason that makes physical attendance at a meeting difficult, the governing body shall, when feasible, provide an opportunity for that individual to provide oral comment at the meeting remotely if oral comment from other members of the public will be accepted at the meeting.

(3) Nothing in this section prevents a governing body from allowing public comment on items not on the meeting agenda.

• (4) Nothing in this section diminishes the authority of governing bodies to deal with interruptions under RCW [42.30.050](#), limits the ability of the governing body to put limitations on the time available for public comment or on how public comment is accepted, or requires a governing body to accept public comment that renders orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible.

10

Gores, Loni

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2025 2:09 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Online Form Submission #7133 for Contact the Clerk of the Board

Contact the Clerk of the Board

First Name	Jan
Last Name	Kreidler
Email	Janet2.Kreidler@gmail.com
Phone	3606815027
Subject	Gratitude for your work
Comments	As a Clallam County resident. I wish to express my thanks to one and all who are diligently working on the Clallam County Charter Review. With all of the diverse personalities, it cannot be an easy job for anyone, perhaps even more difficult for elected officials. It is especially important for all entities to work together in a respectful manner. All of our ancestors who came to the "New World" did not treat our Native Americans well so I am especially grateful that our Native American friends are included in this process. Know that you are greatly appreciated! Sincerely, Jan Kreidler

Please Note

This form is not for emergencies. If you have an emergency, please phone 911.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Gores, Loni

From: altruego@me.com
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 7:31 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Water Management

You don't often get email from altruego@me.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Loni, Please forward to the Charter Review Commission and to the Commissioners. Thanks!

Water is a resource we need to manage wisely. There is discussion about creating a Water Steward to assist with water management in Clallam County. Although I agree that we need this function in Clallam County, there are options that don't place the responsibility on a singular person.

For example, a Water Advisory Board or Committee could assist in creating policies and strategies for managing water. The Clallam County Charter provides for boards and committees. An advisory board/committee brings a variety of perspectives, expertise, and experience that a singular person can't. Some of the groups that might be included in the board/committee could be:

- PUD
- Irrigation / water districts
- Dept of Ecology
- Conservation Districts
- Extension Offices
- Hydrologist
- Citizens

Benefits:

- A County Commissioner sits on boards/committees
- Provides transparency
- Has an existing mechanism for public input
- Agendas and recordings of the meetings are available on the county web site
- Accountability to multiple stakeholders
- Board and Committee positions are filled by volunteers

Having a singular Water Steward does not provide the transparency, accountability or expertise required to manage a resource as critical to the community as water.

Please consider creating a Water Board / Committee to assist in water strategies in Clallam County.

Thank you,
Jai Porter

Gores, Loni

From: Pickett, Paul
Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2025 9:03 PM
To: Holy, Christy; Sarmiento, Nina; Richards, Ron
Cc: Gores, Loni
Subject: Clallam River and Streams, For your information
Attachments: Major Clallam County Rivers and Streams.pdf

I put together a table of rivers and major streams in Clallam County, as resource for the Water Committee.

Loni, could you send this out with the Water Committee agenda?

Paul Pickett
Charter Review Commissioner, District 2

Major Clallam County Rivers and Streams

Name	Drain. Area	Adjudicated	ISF Rule	Agency	Gage Location	Period of Record
WRIA 17 WAC 173-517						
Chicken Coop	5.1		not incl.			
Jimmycomelately	18.7		not incl.	ECY	mouth	Oct 1999 - Sep 2001, Aug 2002 - Sep 2013
Dean	3.4		not incl.			
Johnson	5.8		not incl.			
WRIA 18 WAC 173-518						
Bell	6.8		Dung. rule			
Gierin	4.2		Dung. rule			
Cassalery	5.9		Dung. rule			
Meadowbrook	0.8		Dung. rule			
Dungeness River	198.0	1924	Dung. rule	ECY	Anderson Rd (mouth)	Nov 1999 - Present
				USGS	nr Sequim (foothills)	1923-06-01 - present
				USGS	at RR Br	1993-09-08 - 1994-05-24
				USGS	at Dungeness	1898-10-01 - 2001-09-29
- Matriotti	--		Dung. rule	ECY		Nov 1999 - Nov 2000
- Sequim/Prairie ID	---			ECY		July 2000 - present
- Independent ID	--			ECY		July 2000 - present
- Highland ID	--			ECY		July 2000 - present
- Agnew ID	--			ECY		July 2000 - present
- CCD ID	--			ECY		July 2000 - Jan 2007
McDonald CK	23.0		Dung. rule	ECY		Apr 2003 - Present
- McDonald ID	--					Apr 2003 - Present
Siebert	5.0		Dung. rule	ECY		Aug 2002 - Dec 2010
				USGS		1952-06-01 - 1969-09-29
Bagley	7.7		Dung. rule			
Morse	57.0		not incl.	ECY	Four seasons	Aug 2000 - Sep 2010
				ECY	blw aquaduct	Mar 2003 - Present
				USGS		1966-07-30 - 1976-10-07
Lees	4.6		not incl.			
Ennis	9.9		not incl.	ECY		Mar 2003 - Present
Peabody	3.2		not incl.			
Valley	4.3		not incl.			

Name	Drain. Area	Adjudi- cated	ISF Rule	Agency	Gage Location	Period of Record
Tumwater	5.4		not incl.			
Dry	5.9		not incl.			
Elwha River	321.0		not incl.	ECY	nr 101	Jan 2017 - Jan 2020
				USGS	abv Lk Mills	1994-03-26 - 2011-09-29
				USGS	at Lk Mills	1994-04-02 - 1994-04-30
				USGS	McDonald Br	1897-10-01 - present
				USGS	blw Elwha Dam	1994-04-09 - 1994-04-22
				USGS	blw Diversion	1951-07-25 - 1954-09-29
- Indian Ck	--		not incl.	ECY		Oct 2002 - Sep 2012
- Little River	23.0		not incl.	ECY	mouth	Apr 2003 - Sep 2010
				ECY	Maple Grove	Apr 2003 - Sep 2009
				ECY	blw Lk Suth	Apr 2003 - Sep 2009
WRIA 19 No Rule						
Coville	9.9					
Salt Ck				ECY		Mar 2005 - Sep 2012
Whiskey	6.7					
Field	4.7					
Lyre River	66.1			ECY	Shadow	Mar 2005 - Mar 2011
				ECY	Crescent	Jul 2011 - Sep 2012
				USGS	Piedmont	1917-10-01 - 1927-09-29
East Twin R	14.0			ECY		Jun 2004 - Feb 2024
				USGS		1962-09-01 - 1972-10-03
West Twin R	12.8			ECY		Jun 2004 - Dec 2021
Deep Ck	17.3			ECY		Jun 2004 - Feb 2024
Jim Ck						
Pysht R	44.4			ECY		Mar 2005 - Sep 2013
Clallam R	31.6			ECY		Mar 2005 - Present
				USGS		1962-08-01 - 1962-09-30
Hoko R	71.0			USGS		1962-08-01 - present
Sekiu R	33.0			ECY	abv Carpenter	Jun 2006 - Oct 2010, Oct 2011 - Jul 2016
				ECY	North Fork	Nov 2017 - Present
Bullman Ck						
Sail R	5.4			USGS		1976-06-01 - 1979-09-29
WRIA 20 No Rule						
Waatch Ck	12.7			USGS		1976-05-01 - 1979-09-29
Sooes (Tsoo-yess) R	40.9			USGS		1976-03-20 - present
Petroleum Ck						
Ozette R	88.4			USGS		1976-08-01 - 1979-09-29
Ellen Ck						
Dickey R	86.3			USGS	nr La Push	1962-09-01 - 1980-09-29
				USGS	East Fork	1962-08-01 - 1968-09-29
Quillayute R	629.0					

Name	Drain. Area	Adjudi- cated	ISF Rule	Agency	Gage Location	Period of Record
- Sol Duc R	--			ECY		Jun 2005 - Sep 2012, Mar 2013 - Present
				USGS	Fairholm	1917-10-01 - 1980-09-29
				USGS	Beaver	1921-10-01 - 1928-09-29,
				USGS	Quillayute	1897-11-01 - 1980-09-29
-- Lake Ck	--			ECY		Oct 2011 - Sep 2012
- Bogachiel R	--			USGS	nr Forks	1975-04-01 - present
- Calawah R	--			USGS		1897-11-01 - present

Gores, Loni

From: Stoffer, Jim
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 9:26 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Cc: Cameron, Ron; Richards, Ron; Walde, Cathy; Morris, Patti; Holy, Christy
Subject: Notes from the Outreach Townhall Committee Meeting 23rd April
Attachments: Notes from Town Hall committee meeting - 4.23.25.docx; Outreach Committee Meeting Agenda 23 April.docx

Loni,

Please see the attached Notes and Agenda from the last Outreach Committee Meeting on 23 Apr. Please distribute to the CRC, also we are tentatively planning to hold our next meeting on Thursday the 8th or Friday the 9th; will confirm this evening.

Thank you.

Best!

Jim

Commissioner Stoffer
Clallam County Charter Review
Jim.stoffer@clallamcountywa.gov
360.775.9356

Notes from Town Hall/Outreach Meeting 4/23/25

Submitted by Commissioner Holy on 4/26/25

Attendees: Commissioner Stoffer, Commissioner Walde, Commissioner Holy, Commissioner Morris, Commissioner Cameron, Commissioner Richards (online)
Public Online: John Worthington, Diana Henderson, Bonnie Bless-Boenish, plus others who left before we could get their names.
Public present: Laurel Hargis, Larry Morris

Call to Order – 2:00 pm

Review of process and criteria used for creating 7-question survey – Commissioner Stoffer
Commissioner Morris – Thinks there is a misunderstood perception about what we were trying to achieve. We were just trying to get our survey completed so that we can start gathering public input, but some people thought our questions are final ballot proposals or that these are the only questions that can be asked. We didn't have a specific set of criteria to arrive at our top ten priorities. Instead, we went through the survey, question by question, discussing each one in depth until we arrived at the final seven. We took our work to the commission, but we will take the direction of the commission.

Commissioner Holy – The criteria we used to determine which questions remained on the list included the commissioners' priorities, priorities that rose to the top from public comments at town halls and written public comments, as well as which things fall within the scope of the charter, which could be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners, and which conflicted with the law

Commissioner Richards – Agrees that this our list of questions does not reflect final ballot submissions, because there are several questions that he would not like to see on the ballot and would vote against if they came up.

Commissioner Cameron – Agrees with other three, and in addition, anyone at anytime can raise something to the commission.

Commissioner Stoffer – it goes back to the process. There is a process by which a bill becomes a law. There is a process by which amendments come to the commission. The coroner is an issue we have to deal with, and we are currently looking at others that might be forwarded to the commission to act on.

Commissioner Walde – we combined several topics together, for instance, certain issues such as transparency and recusal issues all fell under "ethics"

Commissioner Richards – anyone can bring forward anything they want at anytime

Commissioner Morris – everything we do goes to the commission to make decisions on. We are making the process easier for the commission. Thank you, Christy, for your work responding to the request for public records.

Commissioner Holy – read the email from Susan from March that went out to all the commissioners, requesting that the outreach committee produce a 10 question questionnaire and reinforcing that these are not the only issues we are looking at, and anyone at anytime can bring something to the commission, *see email

Report from Coroner Committee – Commissioner Cameron – they are waiting on public input from the West End Town Halls before bringing it to the commission to bring it forward as an amendment

Report from Water Steward Committee – Commissioner Holy and Richards – Still gathering input. So far, we have determined that this would be a data-collecting position with no regulatory aspects. Heard from Bowen Kendrick with PUD and Bruce Emery and Jennifer Garcelon from the county.

Commissioner Walde – People in Forks and the West End are skeptical and are not on board with it. Why do they want to spend money on another position? How will this affect the budget?

Commissioner Stoffer – no county commissioners brought this forward. There are many jurisdictions that deal with water, over 356 water systems in the county.

Commissioner Richards – Bruce Emery is warming to the idea once he saw that it was a data-collecting position. We would be saving money in the long run.

DCD – thoughts on bringing it forward again -Commissioners Stoffer and Richards

Commissioner Stoffer – wants to bring it forward for elected or appointed

Commissioner Morris – the BOCC has authority over all elected officials. Was on the commission when they went from appointed to elected. We do not need to ask the question again.

Commissioner Cameron – understands why we would want to appoint, but this has been asked over and over again, and we have other issues to deal with. Wasted effort.

Commissioner Stoffer - We discussed and kicked it around.

Upcoming Town Halls

Sekiu Forum – April 29th – 6 pm at the Lion's Club – public notice has gone out – need agenda

Forks – May 6th – 6 pm at the Congregational Church – walk in the back –

Commissioner Walde got it advertised on the reader's board at the school and in Neah Bay

*Christy will send Loni the latest priorities list to make copies

The Survey

Commissioner Morris – We got approval to go forward with the survey. Now we have to determine distribution. Will have paper copies of the surveys at the town halls so that people can fill out paper copies. She needs suggestions about where to send the link. So far, there is LWV, EDC, libraries in Clallam/ Forks

- Then we need to go through the list and determine which issues are secondary, or should be referred to the BOCC
- Need to put on next agenda and get the rest of the questions in front of the commission

Kiwanis Club – May 15th at noon – Ron Cameron, Paul Pickett, Susan Fisch, Jim Stoffer

Next Steps

- Survey
- Other input
- Report for 4/28 meeting
- Next meeting 5/7 – 2 pm – 4 pm

Public Comment

- Laurel Hargis – agrees that the DCD has been decided on – seems logical to let it go at this time
- John Worthington – online – delegation doctrine problem – NGO's make all the decisions and they do not delegate authority
- Diana Henderson – sent an email follow-up

Other Comments

Commissioner Walde – good with how today went

Commissioner Cameron – How long are we going to give the survey?

Commissioner Morris – would like to have input from May 6th first, and then should have results of the survey by the May 12th meeting

Adjournment – 3:22 pm

Draft Agenda for Outreach Townhall Committee

Wednesday 23rd April 2pm-4pm

EOC Training Room

Purpose of the Meeting is to review input received during outreach sessions. As this is a work meeting, Public Comments is not expected to be taken.

<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/22373/Committee-Notice-Town-Hall-4-23-25>

Welcome Intro

Discussion items:

- Meeting notes from last meeting
- 10 items direction from Chair Fisch, received on 4 Mar; see attachment.
- Request from Executive Committee, see attachment
 1. *What criteria were used to select the seven prioritized questions/issues the CRC intends to promote?*
 2. *Is there documentation or background material that guided the Outreach Committee's selection of these priorities?*
- Input from Coroner Com & Water Steward Com Rep
- DCD thoughts – Com Richards & Com Stoffer
- Other input from Dist3
 1. Plans & Agenda for the Sekiu Forum
 2. Plans & Agenda for the Forks Forum
- Other Input from Dist2
 1. Survey Status – Com Morris
- Next Steps, next meeting
 1. Possible Motions thoughts

Gores, Loni

From: Tom Ash <ashthomas@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 10:20 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Cc: Boughton, Dee; Nichols, Mark; Johnson, Randy; French, Mike; Ozias, Mark
Subject: For Charter Commissioners

Dear Clallam County, 2025 Charter Commissioners.

It is three months before your report is due to Clallam County with recommendations. What have you done with your year.

1. You let the League of Women Voters (using operatives within and outside the Clallam County elected Charter Commission) manufacture "evidence" (a single anonymous letter which had to be removed from evidence after being presented as evidence by chief conspirator Chairwoman Susan Fisch) and you allowed these same conspirators to commandeer the Charter Commissioner meetings to hold several sham trials and mock proceedings. The conspirators collectively fell on their faces repeatedly, losing all votes in a vicious, illegal, and evil attempt to silence the voice of the people by their attempt to manufacture an assination of one Charter Commissioner they came to the Charter Commission to silence. They failed, and this one Charter Commissioner stands stronger and truer and louder than the League of Women Voters attempt to assassinate them.
2. You ignored nationally respected attorneys from the Foundation of Individual Rights and Expression your attempt to solence this individual was unconstitutional, thus opening the Charter Commission to legal challenge on top of using personal vitriol from outside the Charter Commissioner's membership to drive the actions of the Charter Commission.
3. You have wasted 3/4's of your time to do your work on your ill-gotten vanity attacks and have nothing to show for it but divided Charter Commission and an embarrassed, shamed, and foolish League of Women Voters.
4. In the process you have abandoned your charter, the Clallam County Charter, the rules of orders your meetings are intended to run under, anything for the League's personal attack.
5. You have shown the old guard of Clallam County Government to be spiteful, silencing, incompetent, and shrinking.
6. You have shown the new guard of Clallam County Government to be welcoming, truthful, transparent, and growing.

Thomas Ash

Gores, Loni

From: Patrice Johnston <patricejohnston1953@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 12:00 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Charter Review Commission

Dear Ms. Gores,

Please forward this email to the members of the Charter Review Commission at your earliest convenience.

As the Commission moves forward with its work gathering public input and deciding on the items to recommend submitting to the voters, ***it is critical to keep in mind that the county charter is an overarching governing document, not a set of statutes or regulations.*** Adoption of the laws of the county, set forth in the Clallam County Code, is the responsibility of the County Commissioners. It is not always easy to determine what policies or concerns fall into which category, and reasonable minds can differ to a degree, but patient and careful analysis can help sort it out.

Coroner. The most important matter to submit to the voters involves the **county coroner** position, since the charter's current language that the prosecutor shall serve as the coroner no longer comports with state law. Because the coroner requires specific professional expertise, I believe it should be an appointed position.

Election of County Commissioners. Because the county commissioners address issues that affect the entire county, and benefit from a broad understanding of issues affecting the entire county, I believe that the current system of nominating candidates by district, and then electing them by the entire county, is sound and does not need to be submitted to the voters again.

Participation of County Commissioners in NGO's. Elected officials should be involved in their communities, including through participation in various service and charitable organizations. They also should participate in state, federal and international organizations that promote common interests and understanding. No persuasive reason has been offered that I'm aware of to prohibit such involvement. Of course, if a vote or issue before the commissioners presents a conflict of interest or concern because of a commissioner's involvement with a particular organization, the issue can be resolved by the commissioner recusing him or herself on that vote. There is no reason to submit this issue to the voters for a change to the charter.

Ethics Board. Clallam County already has an extensive code of ethics, which is found in section 3.01.030 of the County Code. In addition, Washington State law contains ethical requirements that apply to county officials, including RCW 42.20 and RCW 42.23. The county code of ethics provides that violations may be brought to the attention of the Prosecuting Attorney. It would be redundant to create a separate Ethics Board; in addition, the fact that this ethics code is already set forth in the county code illustrates that this is the type of issue that should be addressed by the commissioners, not the Charter Review Commission.

Water Steward. While I acknowledge the seriousness of water management issues in our region, and globally, the language that I have seen regarding the proposed elected, volunteer water steward position does not seem appropriate for submitting to the public. The proposed duties seem to require expertise more appropriate for an employee or appointed official than an elected member of the public. Furthermore, there are many agencies and organizations that currently involve themselves with water management, and it is not clear how this position would interact with them. Finally, given the budget constraints already facing the county, this does not seem to be a sound use of resources at this time. This may be something that should be referred to the county commissioners for possible action in the future.

Number of County Commissioners. I understand that there are some limitations with only three commissioners, particularly with respect to the constraints imposed by the OPMA, but I think that given the size of our county and current budget constraints, there is not a compelling reason to propose the addition of two more commissioners, and I would recommend that this issue not be submitted to the voters.

Frequency of convening Charter Review Commission. Given the limited remit of the CRC, and the fact that it appears that many of the same issues keep getting rehashed every five years, extending the period to every ten years would make sense, save county resources, and limit the need for 15 citizens to donate an extremely large amount of their time for a fairly narrow assignment. I would support submitting this issue to the voters.

Ranked choice voting. I think ranked choice voting is a good idea; I would just suggest that the commission consult with the County Auditor's office to see what the impact and cost would be to adopt this form of voting. If the cost is not prohibitive, I would support submitting this issue to the voters.

Director of Community Development. I know that this issue has been on the ballot before, and can understand the view that it should be considered settled for now. On the other hand, it is my understanding that Clallam County is one of the only, if not THE only, county in which this is an elected position. Given the significant duties of this office, it seems evident that this should be an appointed position where the candidates must demonstrate the requisite knowledge and experience, and be subject to termination if they do not perform adequately. A clear statement in the voter's pamphlet on this subject might persuade voters to make this logical choice. For that reason, I would support submitting this issue to the voters.

Thank you for your service. I know serving on the Charter Review Commission is a big and mostly thankless responsibility, but taking the time to understand this complex process and communicate it to the voters is the essence of sound, responsible governance. I appreciate your diligence.

Thank you for considering my views.

Patrice Johnston
Sequim, WA

Gores, Loni

From: Ed B. <yellowbanks@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 1:47 PM
To: Fisch, Susan; Pickett, Paul
Cc: Gores, Loni
Subject: Supporting Documentation for 28APR2025 Public Comment
Attachments: Proposed Amendment 04-28-25 Charter Review Public Comment Open Public Meetings Amendment EB.pdf

I thought it was a good idea to get this over to you all in regards to 3rd item under Business Items on this evening's CRC agenda, supporting documentation for my public comment at the beginning of the meeting.

I invite any questions this evening if my thoughts are not clear.

Thanks

Ed Bowen
Citizen



AGENDA

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

223 East 4th Street, Room 160
Port Angeles, Washington
April 28, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

Notes for the Audience

- Assistive listening devices are available. Please notify Clerk before the meeting if you would like a SoundMate personal listening system.
- Please utilize the public comment sign-up sheets located at the front door.

****ATTENTION****

Charter Review Commission meetings will also be available virtually at:

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom audio only, call 253-215-8782 and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345 and use *9 to raise your hand.

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom video conference, visit www.zoom.com and use meeting ID: 836 9266 4344 and passcode: 12345

This meeting can be viewed on a live stream at this link: <https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/669/Live-Archived-Meetings-Online>

Public comment can be directed to the Clerk at 360-417-2256 or Loni.Gores@clallamcountywa.gov

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Meeting Minutes April 14, 2025

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – Please limit comments to three minutes

CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Open Public Meetings Act – Dee Boughton, Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Consideration by the Commission of a proposed amendment regarding contract, grant, and loan management- Paul Pickett
- Notice to the Commission of a **proposed amendment** regarding open public meetings – Paul Pickett

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Water Committee
- Town Hall Outreach Committee
- Coroner Committee

REPORTS

- Chair Report – Commissioner Fisch

Summary of Comments on 04-28-25 Charter Review Public Comment Open Public Meetings Ammendment.pdf

This page contains no comments

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Business Items:

Notice to the Commission of a proposed amendment
regarding open public meetings – Paul Pickett

This page contains no comments

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION RESOLUTIONS No. ____
DRAFT – April 28, 2025

THE CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION finds as follows:

1. The current Charter can be improved by clearly linking its language to the Open Public Meeting Act; and
2. There have been requests from the public to clarify the requirements for public access to meeting of the Board of County Commissioners; and
3. Additional language in the Charter citing Chapter RCW 42.30 would improve transparency and accountability in County government;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Clallam County Charter Review Commission, in consideration of the above findings of fact, transmit the following amendment to the County Auditor for inclusion on the 2025 general election ballot in a form that substantially conforms to the following:

Article II, Section 2.40 shall be amended as follows:

Section 2.40: Rules and Organization of the Board of Commissioners

The Board of Commissioners shall by ordinance adopt its own rules and organization. The Commissioners shall elect one of their members as chair who shall preside at all meetings of the Commissioners. The terms "Meetings" and "Action" as used in the Charter, are defined as specified in RCW 20.020. The Commissioners shall meet regularly, at least once a week and shall adopt, by ordinance, rules and procedures designating the time and place for the conduct of their meetings and the manner of introduction, consideration, adoption and publication of the ordinances. Meetings of the Commissioners shall be open to the public and a public record shall be kept of each meeting and the votes taken therein. Any meeting of the Commissioners shall be held in a location where all of the requirements of Chapter RCW 42.30 RCW can be met. Records shall be kept in the form prescribed and shall be accessible as provided by ordinance and law. The Commissioners may appoint staff as they deem necessary to assist them in the performance of their duties.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of ____ 2025.

Susan Fisch, Chair
Clallam County Charter Review Commission

 Number: 1 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:31:27 AM
Should this not be RCW 42.30.020?

 Number: 2 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Highlight Date: 4/28/2025 7:30:04 AM

 Number: 3 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:42:36 AM

All approved rules and procedures will be maintained and readily available to the public, in writing. Any procedure that is not in writing but implemented as a manner to conduct the business of the county shall be appealable with response from the county.

 Number: 4 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:39:47 AM

There too many ambiguities in when and where the BOCC meets, both on and off county grounds. The charter needs to specify those requirements that the RCW doesn't list. To include:

1. Any and all meetings are required to host public comments during the meeting prior to taking such action, entering in to discussion that may imply an agreement with anyone and anybody, with emphasis on government to government meetings.
2. Where virtual or inperson attendance by the public is not feasible to the public, with emphasis on out of county jurisdiction, at a minimum an audio recording will be accomplished during the meeting and maintained as a public record. If such recording is not accomplished, no activity during such meeting will be construed to satisfy the definition of "Action" under RCW 42.30.020; "...receipt of public testimony, deliberations, discussions, considerations, reviews, evaluations, and final actions."

 Number: 5 Author: Ed Bowen Subject: Sticky Note Date: 4/28/2025 7:46:42 AM

Any agreement with organizations or entities that are not bound by the jurisdiction of the State will be subject to a public hearing prior to adoption by the county. Any such agreement shall incorporate a specification of identifying within the best interest of the citizens of the county.

RCW 42.30.020 Definitions. As used in this chapter unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) "Public agency" means:

(a) Any state board, commission, committee, department, educational institution, or other state agency which is created by or pursuant to statute, other than courts and the legislature. This does not include a comprehensive cancer center participating in a collaborative arrangement as defined in RCW 28B.10.930 that is operated in conformance with RCW 28B.10.930;

(b) Any county, city, school district, special purpose district, or other municipal corporation or political subdivision of the state of Washington;

(c) Any subagency of a public agency which is created by or pursuant to statute, ordinance, or other legislative act, including but not limited to planning commissions, library or park boards, commissions, and agencies;

(d) Any policy group whose membership includes representatives of publicly owned utilities formed by or pursuant to the laws of this state when meeting together as or on behalf of participants who have contracted for the output of generating plants being planned or built by an operating agency.

(2) "Governing body" means the multimember board, commission, committee, council, or other policy or rule-making body of a public agency, or any committee thereof when the committee acts on behalf of the governing body, conducts hearings, or takes testimony or public comment.

(3) "Action" means the transaction of the official business of a public agency by a governing body including but not limited to receipt of public testimony, deliberations, discussions, considerations, reviews, evaluations, and final actions. "Final action" means a collective positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a governing body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance.

(4) "Meeting" means meetings at which action is taken. [2022 c 71 s 11; 1985 c 366 s 1; 1983 c 155 s 1; 1982 1st ex.s. c 43 s 10; 1971 ex.s. c 250 s 2.]

Findings—Intent—2022 c 71: See note following RCW 28B.10.930.

Severability—Savings—1982 1st ex.s. c 43: See notes following RCW 43.52.374.



**PUBLIC NOTICE – SPECIAL MEETING
CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.080, the Board of Commissioners will be attending a joint meeting with the Port of Port Angeles at 11 a.m., Monday, April 28, 2025 at 338 West 1st Street, Port Angeles.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss:

- I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- II. EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 10 minutes)**
- III. WORK SESSION TOPICS**
 - A. Clallam County Comprehensive Plan
 - Department of Community Development Director Update – Bruce Emery
 - Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvement addendum to the Comp Plan
 - Industrial Development Corporation/Industrial Development District
 - B. NODC Presentation and Annual Report – Karen Affeld
 - C. EDC Call to Action
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 20 minutes)**
- V. ADJOURN**



**SPECIAL JOINT PORT COMMISSION WORK SESSION
WITH CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Monday, April 28, 2025 at 11:00 AM

338 West 1st Street

Via Zoom and In-Person

The Special Commission Meeting will be available to the public in person and remotely. For instructions on how to connect to the meeting remotely, please visit <https://portofpa.com/about-us/agenda-center/>

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. EARLY PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 10 minutes)

III. WORK SESSION TOPICS

A. Clallam County Comprehensive Plan

- Department of Community Development Director Update – Bruce Emery
- Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvement addendum to the Comp Plan
- Industrial Development Corporation/Industrial Development District

B. NODC Presentation and Annual Report – Karen Affeld

C. EDC Call to Action

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (total session up to 20 minutes)

V. ADJOURN



PUBLIC NOTICE – SPECIAL MEETING CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.080, the Board of Commissioners will be attending a joint meeting with the Quileute Tribal Council at 1 p.m., Friday, May 2, 2025 at 90 Main Street, LaPush, WA. There will be **no virtual** option available for the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss:

1. Opening Introductions
2. Discussion on impacts to the Quileute Tribe on federal decision making
3. Land into Trust (Interagency Agreement)
 - a. Update on Kitla building
4. Highway 110 road issues
 - a. Road condition/being less than one year old.
5. Discovery Trail
 - a. General updates/status
6. Recompete Grant
 - a. QTC involvement and plans
 - b. BOCC updates
7. Update on Tribal projects
 - a. Habitat restoration
 - b. Transportation
 - c. Housing
8. EOC/911 Project
 - a. BOCC status update
9. Updates on other economic development opportunities
 - a. Clallam county update
 - b. Quileute Tribe update
10. Closing remarks



Quileute Tribal Council

• QUILEUTE INDIAN TRIBE •

P.O. Box 279 • La Push, WA • 98350-0279
Phone: (360) 374-6163 • Fax: (360) 374-6311



May 2nd, 2025 at 1 p.m.

In person only at 90 Main Street, LaPush, WA

Quileute Tribal Council & Clallam County Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda

1. Opening Introductions
2. Discussion on impacts to the Quileute Tribe on federal decision making
3. Land into Trust (Interagency Agreement)
 - a. Update on Kitla building
4. Highway 110 road issues
 - a. Road condition/being less than one year old.
5. Discovery Trail
 - a. General updates/status
6. Recompete Grant
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 - b. BOCC updates
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 - a. BOCC status update
9. Updates on other economic development opportunities
 - a. Clallam county update
 - b. Quileute Tribe update
10. Closing remarks

Gores, Loni

From: Morris, Patti
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 2:58 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Charter Survey Paper and Online for Review Tonight
Attachments: Charter Final Survey Draft - 4-28-25.pdf; The Clallam County Charter Review
Commission Paper Survey - 4-28-25.docx

Can you please submit to commissioners? Thanks, Patti

Charter Review Commission Survey

The Clallam County Charter Review Commission (CRC) invites you to give us input on seven (7) priorities related to our County Charter.

Clallam County is one (1) of seven (7) counties in our state to have a Home Rule Charter. Our Charter allows local citizens to vote on how our county government should be structured. Currently the elected Charter Review Commission (CRC) is considering possible changes to our Home Rule Charter. The proposed changes will be voted on by the citizens of the county in a general election. This is an opportunity to give your input into the CRC discussion.

The CRC welcomes your input on these initial seven (7) priorities that have been recommended by the CRC. More input may be requested in the future depending on the citizen responses from the survey.

Please take a few moments to fill out the survey. All Survey responses are anonymous.

1. County Commissioners are currently nominated by district and elected county-wide.

How Should County Commissioners be elected?

- ☐ By the district you live in
- ☐ Countywide
- ☐ No Opinion

Comment

2. Should County Commissioners recuse themselves from participating in non-governmental organizations (NGOs)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Comment

3. Clallam County has a charter provision that requires the County Commissioners to adopt an ethics ordinance, but does not specify any requirements of the ordinance. The ethics ordinance that does exist contains no penalties for a violation.

- ☐ Yes - The charter should create an ethics board or commission.
- ☐ No - The charter should not create an ethics board or commission.
- ☐ Yes - The charter should mandate certain ethical standards.
- ☐ No - The charter should not mandate certain ethical standards.
- ☐ Yes - The charter should mandate civil penalties for violations of the code of ethics.
- ☐ No - The charter should not mandate civil penalties for violations of the code of ethics.
- ☐ None of the above

Comment

4. There are multiple jurisdictions that are involved in county-wide water management. No one is currently proactively identifying county-wide concerns regarding water supplies, and reactive measures are more expensive to the county taxpayers. Available water resources information is inadequate and outdated.

- ☐ Yes - The Charter should create a Water Steward position to gather necessary information. It would not have regulatory or enforcement authority. It shall operate as an independent information gathering, analysis, and advisory office.
- ☐ No - The Charter should not create a Water Steward position to gather necessary information.

Comment

5. Clallam County currently elects three (3) County Commissioners. They are nominated by District in the Primary election and in the General election are elected county-wide. How many County Commissioners should Clallam County elect?

- ☐ 3
- ☐ 5

Comment

6. All other charter counties in our state meet every ten years. Currently, the Clallam Charter Review Commission meets every 5 years. How frequently should the Charter Review Commission meet?

- ☐ 3 Years
- ☐ 5 Years
- ☐ 10 Years

Comment

7. Currently, the county does not provide for ranked choice voting options for elections. Should the charter consider the adoption of ranked choice voting options for the county?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment *

Clallam County Charter Review Commission Survey – 4-28-25

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Clallam County Charter Review Commission Survey – 4-28-25

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- ☐ 5 Years
- ☐ 10 Years

Comment:

Clallam County Charter Review Commission Survey – 4-28-25

7. Currently, the county does not provide for ranked choice voting options for elections. Should the charter consider the adoption of ranked choice voting options for the county?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:

Thank you for taking the time to respond to the survey.

1. Submit your answers: online @ <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M6M2FQT>

2. Mail to: Clallam County Charter Review Commission – 223 E. 4th St., Port Angeles, WA 98362 – Attn: Loni Gores _____ **Fold Here** _____

**Postage
Stamp**

**Clallam County Charter Review Commissioners
223 E. 4th Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362
Attn: Loni Gores**

_____ **Fold Here** _____

Gores, Loni

From: Pepai Whipple <pepalapu@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 3:22 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Agenda 4/28/25

Good afternoon Commissioners,

Going over tonight's agenda and several comments regarding agenda items.

We watched the committee meeting held on April 18 and noted Bowen Kendrick, PUD SME, commenting about the 900' well drilled to accommodate growth.

Other water districts should be required to do the same. Farmers can drill wells and build holding ponds, small reservoirs instead of expecting taxpayers to foot all the costs to provide water to a select few.

Why should Clallam County taxpayers foot the bill to clean up a hazardous waste dump, build a reservoir on or near an earthquake fault, steal water from the Dungeness river and the fish & threaten homes downstream from the reservoir site location?

It would be much less expensive for taxpayers to try these options first instead of jumping into such an

expansive project and complicated as the notes support.

Regarding the Public Survey -CRC 2025 several of the questions were 2 & 3 priority status when other questions were bypassed that were 7-4 priority with exception of Coroner.

Charter Ambiguities was rated a 6 and there are several letters to support adding the word "American" into the bylaws. Elected/Appointed Positions Oversight/Over was rated 7.

If Commissioners are not going to follow the list and cherry pick questions what is the point of a committee involvement? Thank you look forward to some answers.

Regards, Tom and Pepai Whipple

Sent from my iPad



April 14, 2025

Charter Review Commission
Clallam County
223 East 4th Street
Port Angeles, Washington 98362

Sent via U.S. Mail and Electronic Mail (loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov)

Dear Commissioners:

The Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE) urges the Clallam County Charter Review Commission (CRC) to reject a proposal that would bar commissioners—even when speaking in their personal capacities—from identifying individuals who made public comments at CRC meetings. As a nonpartisan nonprofit that defends free speech nationwide, FIRE is committed to ensuring local governments comply with their First Amendment obligations. The proposal under consideration would violate well-established First Amendment principles by restricting speech on public issues and publication of lawfully obtained information.

Our concerns arise from events beginning at the CRC's March 10, 2025, meeting.¹ Commissioner Jeff Tozzer raised concerns that holding government meetings on land under tribal jurisdiction could affect the application of transparency laws. During public comment, Clallam County resident and Sequim School Board member Patrice Johnston countered that transparency requirements apply regardless of meeting location and cautioned against suggesting that conducting government business on tribal lands is improper. After the meeting, Tozzer thanked Johnston for her comments and, at his request, she shared her email so he could follow up. They exchanged emails disputing each other's views, which Tozzer later published on his personal Substack newsletter, *Clallam County Watchdog*.²

During public comment at the CRC's March 24 meeting, Johnston accused Tozzer of misrepresenting their exchange by displaying her email as a single, continuous response,

¹ *Charter Review Commission Meeting - March 10, 2025*, CLALLAM CNTY., WASH., <https://clallamcowa.portal.civicclerk.com/event/3096/media>. The factual recitation in this letter reflects our understanding of the pertinent facts, but we invite you to share any additional information.

² *Balancing transparency and sovereignty*, CLALLAM CNTY. WATCHDOG (Mar. 22, 2025), <https://www.ccwatchdog.com/p/balancing-transparency-and-sovereignty>.

rather than interlineated replies to his original message.³ She also criticized Tozzer for including a copy of her page from a voters' pamphlet for the 2021 Sequim School Board election, and for making a "baseless accusation" about the board's lack of transparency without giving her a chance to respond before publishing it. Johnston also read aloud several comments posted under Tozzer's Substack entry that criticized her. She then urged the Commission to "adopt a rule that prohibits any commissioner from using social media or other channels to harass individuals who offer public comment and/or engage in email exchanges about issues."

Later in the meeting, the CRC moved to reconvene its Bylaws Committee to consider an amendment prohibiting commissioners, when speaking publicly, from identifying individuals who have made public comments at CRC meetings. At its April 3 meeting, the Committee approved a motion to amend the bylaws to add the following language: "To encourage the public to provide comments to the charter review commission, when making public statements (orally, in print publications, or electronically), commissioners shall refrain from identifying public commenters by name, appearance, address, employer, occupation, or affiliation with any organization." The Commission is slated to consider the proposed amendment at its meeting today.

The proposed amendment would violate the First Amendment by restricting commissioners from discussing public issues using publicly available information—even when speaking in their personal capacities and not on behalf of the Commission.

Government officials "have the right to speak about public affairs in their personal capacities."⁴ The Supreme Court has rejected the idea that the First Amendment's "policy of encouraging free debate" applies only to the "citizen-critic of his government" and not to their elected representatives.⁵ To the contrary, the "role that elected officials play in our society makes it all the more imperative that they be allowed to freely express themselves on matters of current public importance."⁶ As the Court explained:

The interest of the public in hearing all sides of a public issue is hardly advanced by extending more protection to citizen-critics than to legislators. Legislators have an obligation to take positions on controversial political questions so that their constituents can be fully informed by them, and be better able to assess their qualifications for office; also so they may be represented in

³ *Charter Review Commission Meeting - March 24, 2025*, CLALLAM CNTY., WASH., <https://clallamcowa.portal.civicclerk.com/event/3097/media>.

⁴ *Lindke v. Freed*, 601 U.S. 187, 203 (2024).

⁵ *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116, 136 (1966) (state legislature's refusal to seat newly elected member because of his opposition to Vietnam War violated First Amendment).

⁶ *Wood v. Georgia*, 370 U.S. 375, 394–95 (1962) (reversing sheriff's contempt conviction for statement criticizing county judge's charge to grand jury).

governmental debates by the person they have elected to represent them.⁷

The First Amendment also protects the right to publish lawfully obtained information on matters of public significance,⁸ as the “free flow of ideas and opinions on matters of public interest and concern” is “[a]t the heart of the First Amendment.”⁹ Government officials may not restrict this right “absent a need to further a state interest of the highest order.”¹⁰

The Supreme Court has invalidated restrictions more narrowly drawn and aimed at far more sensitive information than the CRC’s proposal—including restrictions on publishing the names of rape victims¹¹ and minors charged with crimes.¹² If the government cannot censor speech to protect those privacy interests, it certainly cannot prohibit individuals from identifying public commenters in the course of public debate.

The CRC’s proposed rule, which extends to speech by commissioners in their personal capacities, would violate these settled constitutional principles. The CRC may have discretion to regulate commissioners’ speech during its meetings, such as setting rules of order or limiting interaction with public commenters. But when commissioners speak outside their official roles—such as on a personal newsletter—the First Amendment protects their right to comment on matters of public concern using publicly available information, just as it does for any other citizen.

Comments made during public government meetings are, by definition, public information and matters of public interest.¹³ The identities of those making the comments are generally public as well, either because the speakers identify themselves or because their names are readily matched to their appearance through other publicly available information. The CRC cannot constitutionally restrict commissioners from referring to those names when commenting, in their personal capacities, on matters of public concern. To receive First Amendment protection, it is enough that the speech “generally, as opposed to the specific identity contained within it,” addresses a matter of public significance.¹⁴

⁷ 385 U.S. at 136–37.

⁸ *Bartnicki v. Vopper*, 532 U.S. 514, 527–28 (2001).

⁹ *Hustler Magazine, Inc. v. Falwell*, 485 U.S. 46, 50 (1988); accord *Citizens United v. Fed. Election Comm’n*, 558 U.S. 310, 339 (2010) (“The right of citizens to inquire, to hear, to speak, and to use information to reach consensus is a precondition to enlightened self-government and a necessary means to protect it.”).

¹⁰ *Smith v. Daily Mail Pub. Co.*, 443 U.S. 97, 103 (1979).

¹¹ *Fla. Star v. B. J. F.*, 491 U.S. 524 (1989); *Cox Broad. Corp. v. Cohn*, 420 U.S. 469 (1975).

¹² *Smith*, 443 U.S. at 105–06.

¹³ *Snyder v. Phelps*, 562 U.S. 443, 453 (2011) (“Speech deals with matters of public concern when it can be fairly considered as relating to any matter of political, social, or other concern to the community, or when it is a subject of legitimate news interest; that is, a subject of general interest and of value and concern to the public.”) (cleaned up).

¹⁴ *Fla. Star*, 491 U.S. at 536–37.

Moreover, the public has an interest in who said what on issues of public concern. A speaker's identity—whether they are, for example, a subject-matter expert, a government employee, or someone with a personal or financial stake in the matter—may affect how their comment is received. While the First Amendment generally bars the government from forcing anonymous speakers to reveal their identities,¹⁵ it also protects the right of individuals—including officials speaking in their personal capacities—to refer to a speaker's identity, especially if it is already public.

The First Amendment protects Tozzer's Substack post, which he published in his personal capacity, not on behalf of the CRC. The post plainly addressed matters of public concern, including government transparency and the propriety of holding public meetings on tribal lands. Johnston's comments about this issue were themselves a matter of public concern—speech to which others were free to respond.

Citizens who speak out on public matters invite scrutiny and cannot rely on the government to restrict others' speech in response. That is especially true where, as here, the speaker is herself a public official. Tozzer's commentary included criticism of Johnston in her role as a school board member. His right to identify Johnston and comment on her public role is not diminished by her decision to speak at a Commission meeting; it is affirmed by it. As the Supreme Court has warned, "[c]riticism of those responsible for government operations must be free, lest criticism of government itself be penalized."¹⁶ That the CRC's proposed policy is a direct response to core political speech only compounds the constitutional harm.

While the stated intent of the proposal is to encourage public participation, the Commission "may not restrict the speech of some elements of our society in order to enhance the relative voice of others."¹⁷ Any mention of a commenter's name—not just by commissioners, but by any person with a public platform—could lead to criticism or hostile reactions. But it is not the government's role to manage the tone of public discourse or insulate speakers from criticism.¹⁸

¹⁵ *McIntyre v. Ohio Elections Comm'n*, 514 U.S. 334 (1995).

¹⁶ *Rosenblatt v. Baer*; *N.Y. Times Co. v. Sullivan*, 376 U.S. 254, 270 (1964) (The First Amendment reflects "a profound national commitment to the principle that debate on public issues should be uninhibited, robust, and wide-open, and . . . may well include vehement, caustic, and sometimes unpleasantly sharp attacks on government and public officials.").

¹⁷ *Moody v. NetChoice, LLC*, 603 U.S. 707, 742 (2024) (cleaned up). "On the spectrum of dangers to free expression, there are few greater than allowing the government to change the speech of private actors in order to achieve its own conception of speech nirvana." *Id.* at 741–42.

¹⁸ There also is no credible argument that Tozzer's Substack post, or the negative comments under it about Johnston, constitutes unlawful harassment or falls within any of the narrow, well-defined First Amendment exceptions. Criticism, even if pointed or unpleasant, is not harassment. *See Snyder*, 562 U.S. at 448 ("As a Nation we have chosen . . . to protect even hurtful speech on public issues to ensure that we do not stifle public debate.").

The CRC has constitutionally sound ways to encourage public participation, such as making clear that commenters are not required to provide their names or other identifying information.¹⁹ But it cannot resort to censorship.

Based on the foregoing, FIRE calls on the CRC to reject any proposal that would prohibit commissioners speaking in their personal capacities from identifying public commenters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Terr', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Aaron Terr
Director of Public Advocacy

¹⁹ Our understanding is that while the CRC asks commenters to state their name, those who decline are still permitted to speak.

Gores, Loni

From: Holy, Christy
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2025 9:30 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Cc: Walde, Cathy
Subject: Agenda for Clallam Bay-Sekiu Lions Club Town Hall 4.29.25
Attachments: Clallam Bay-Sekiu Lions Club Town Hall Agenda for 4.29.25.docx

Thanks, Loni!
Christy Holy

CRC Town Hall – Clallam Bay/Sekiu Lions Club

90 Bogachiel Street, Clallam Bay, 6-8 pm

April 29, 2025

- **Welcoming and Introductions –**
 - **Recognition of other Elected Officials Attending**
 - **Appreciation to Lions Club for the use of their facility**
 - **Building Safety & Meeting Protocols**
 - **Introduction of CRC Chair & Town Hall Outreach Committee**
- **Format and procedures for tonight's Town Hall**
 - **Handout listing CRC Priorities received from the Public and CRC Commissioners**
 - **Timeline/Calendar; items to the ballot or recommendations to the BOCC**
- **Overview of the Charter**
- **Open Discussion – Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes subject to the Commission's concurrence. Speakers generally will be heard in the order they signed up. All comments must be made from the podium and any individual making comments shall first state their name and district for the official record. The Commissioners will attempt to answer the speaker's questions at the meeting but may have to seek assistance from other resources but will follow-up with the speaker if they leave their contact information.**
- **The Commissioners reserve the right to remove anyone from Crescent Grange for any reason.**
- **Closing Comments**