



AUG 05 2025

BOARD of CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES for the week of July 28 – August 1, 2025

WORK SESSION – 9 a.m.

The work session convened at 9 a.m., Monday, July 28, 2025. Present were Commissioners Ozias, Johnson and French and Administrator Mielke.

Items of discussion per the agenda published July 16 were:

- Calendar/Correspondence
- Letter of support for the Port of Port Angeles 2025 Infrastructure Development Program application
- Briefing and call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 regarding an Ordinance amending CCC Chapter 5.100 Consolidated Fee Schedule for the Clerk of the Superior Court 115-A
- WSU Extension Clallam County Fair update
- Memorandum of understanding with North Olympic Healthcare Network to facilitate the medical and behavioral services for juvenile and adult individuals
- Agreement amendment 5 with Department of Health for Recreational Shellfish/Biotxin Programs
- Agreement with Port Angeles School District for developmental disabilities transition program services
- Agreement with Washington Initiative for Supported Employment to provide training and technical assistance to Washington State County Services for Working Age Adult Policy
- Resolution authorizing a change in the customer service hours for the Assessor's Office
- Agreement with Department of Ecology for solid waste planning and implementation
- Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. regarding amending an Ordinance repealing and replacing Chapter 27.08 of the Clallam County Code, Open Space
- Letter to the Washington Forest Practice Board regarding Non-Fish Perennial Stream
- Letter to Department of Ecology regarding the Rayonier Mill cleanup
- Briefing and next steps regarding Elections "For" and "Against" Committee form for the Coroner ballot measure
- Budget discussion – mid-size county comparisons

Meeting concluded at 11:30 a.m. and continued to a joint meeting with the Port of Port Angeles and Clallam County PUD at 1 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING – Joint meeting with the BOCC, Port of Port Angeles, and Clallam County PUD

Chair French called the special meeting to order at 1 p.m., Monday, July 28, 2025. Also present were Commissioners Johnson, Ozias and Administrator Mielke, Port of Port Angeles and Clallam County PUD.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- John Worthington, Sequim

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Group introductions
- B. Discussion of regional challenges and needs relating to infrastructure (power, roads, sewer, water)
- C. Discussion of infrastructure challenges and opportunities specific to the West End region
- D. Discussion of strategies and collaboration opportunities to address infrastructure challenges and gaps
- E. Discussion of economic development opportunities related to public infrastructure and utilities

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Kenneth Reandeau, Port Angeles, commented on barge, straits, Clallam Bay, water
- Rebecca Hancock, Clallam County, commented on water reliability
- Maureen McElravy Clallam County, commented on water, Department of Ecology, water laws and rights

Meeting concluded at 2:59 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., Tuesday, July 29, 2025. Also present were Commissioners Johnson and Ozias and Administrator Mielke.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CMO requested to remove item 1c off the consent agenda and move to Administration section

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt the agenda as modified, CMOs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Karin Cummins, Sequim, commented on item 1c, noise ordinance
- Cherri Kidd, Port Angeles, commented on item 1e
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on item 1d, 1e

CONSENT AGENDA

1a Approval of vouchers for the week of July 21

The Following warrants and electronic payments are approved for payment:

Accounts Payable:	Total
Warrant numbers: 9941732-9941864; 9941866-9941962	\$2,750,264.44
Electronic payments dates: n/a	\$0.00
Total Accounts Payable:	\$2,750,264.44

1b Approval of minutes for the week of July 21

~~1c Resolution appointing Troye Jarmuth, Rick Burns and Diane Chung to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board~~

1d Letter to the Washington Forest Practice Board regarding Non-Fish Perennial Stream

1e Letter to Department of Ecology regarding the Rayonier Mill cleanup

1f Request a call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. regarding a Resolution authorizing allocations of the Title III Funds for projects under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

ADMINISTRATION

1c Resolution appointing Troye Jarmuth, Rick Burns and Diane Chung to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve as modified, CMOs, mc

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- CMO reported on Trinity United Methodist Church safe parking, Clallam Conservation District rates and Charges, North Olympic Development Council Meeting
- CRJ reported on Economic Development Council Meeting, Clallam Conservation District rates and charges, North Olympic Land Trust
- CMF reported on Comprehensive Plan Meeting, Hipcamp

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

2a Agreement with Department of Ecology for solid waste planning and implementation

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

2b Agreement with Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts for the support of Family and Juvenile Court Improvement Plan

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

2c Agreement with Office of Crime Victims Advocacy for Victim Witness Assistance Grant Program

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

ADMINISTRATION

3a Approval of "For" and "Against" Committee appointments and form

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

BUDGET

4a Resolution for consideration to adopt the following budget reductions:

Juvenile Services - As of July 1, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners has directed the creation of a combined Clinical Services model to deliver medical and behavioral health care in the County's correctional facilities. The Juvenile Services budget has been reduced to reflect the shift of revenues and expenditures related to the HCA Reentry Demonstration Initiative and True Star programs (1 of 3)/\$1,726,000

Sheriff – Jail Medical - As of July 1, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners has directed the creation of a combined Clinical Services model to deliver medical and behavioral health care in the County's correctional facilities. The reduction within the Sheriff Jail Medical budget reflects the shift of revenues and expenditures for the HCA Reentry Demonstration Initiative and other Jail Medical programs (2 of 3)/\$1,898,369

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt, CMOs, mc

HEARING(S)

5a Consideration of resolution adopting the following debatable emergencies:

District Court II – Additional funding needed for legislative pay increase for Judicial Officers/\$3,650

Health & Human Services -Operations - Opioid settlement funds will cover six months (July to December 2025) of Harm Reduction Health Center supplies after a \$100,000 state budget cut. The money is already in the Health & Human Services Operations fund/\$50,000

- Mark Lane, CFO, provided a staff report

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to open the public hearing, CMOs, mc

- The following provided testimony:
 - John Worthington, Sequim

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to close the public hearing and adopt, CMOs, mc

5b 2025 Mid-Year Budget Status Review

- Mark Lane, Finance Department, provided a staff report
- Discussion was held regarding the 2025 Mid-year Budget Review

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to open the public hearing, CRJs, mc

- The following commented:
 - John Worthington, Sequim
 - Karin Cummins, Sequim
 - Jeff Tozzer, Sequim
 - Jacob Seeger, Port Angeles
 - Diana Henderson, Sequim
 - Denise Lapio, Sequim

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to close the public hearing, CMOs, mc

ACTION TAKEN: No action taken

BUDGET

4b Resolution for consideration to adopt the following budget revisions:

Notice that the following budget revisions will be considered for adoption on July 29:

Health & Human Services-Environmental Health - The HHS Environmental Health budget is being updated to reflect 2025 expenditures and upcoming activities, including septic repair incentives, a county-wide water systems mailing, and continued subcontracted water testing/\$37,514

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt, CMOs, mc

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- 4c Resolution for consideration to adopt the following supplemental appropriations:
- Sheriff-Clinical Services - Effective July 1, 2025, the Board of County Commissioners has approved the creation of a new Clinical Services department to deliver combined medical and behavioral health services in the County's correctional facilities. To fund this new department, budget lines are being reallocated from the existing Juvenile Services and Sheriff - Jail Medical budgets (3 of 3)/\$4,983,869
 - Sheriff-Operations – A budget modification to the Operation Stonegarden FY23 grant and the County's corresponding budget will result in additional funds being added to the Operations revenue line. These funds will be used by Patrol deputies for overtime patrols/\$45,000
 - Public Works-Clallam Bay-Seki Sewer - Opportunity Fund awarded for rehab and repair of the **Snob Hill sewage pump station** in the **Clallam Bay-Seki sewer system**, covering design, engineering, equipment, construction, and installation costs/\$470,000
 - Public Works-Bullman Beach Water System - Grant from WA State Department of Health to build a water treatment plant, buy water source property, and install meters and shutoff valves for the Bullman Beach Water System/\$403,219
 - Health & Human Services-Developmental Disabilities - Additional revenue from Department of Social and Health Services Developmental Disabilities will fund direct services for Clallam County residents with developmental disabilities/\$694,364

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt, CMOs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Peter Craig, Sequim, commented on Parks Board
- Diane Hood, Sequim, commented on animal issues (see attached)
- Jacob Seeger, Port Angeles, commented on the Clallam Conservation District, tax increase
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on vacant positions in the jail
- Karin Cummins, Sequim, commented on county ordinances, Clallam Conservation District, taxes
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on Clallam Conservation District, taxes
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim, commented on taking a walk, safety, Trinity United Methodist Church safe parking

The meeting concluded at 12:30 p.m. and continued to a special budget meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 1 p.m. regarding County budget discussion.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the special meeting to order at 1 p.m., Tuesday, July 29, 2025. Also present were Commissioners Johnson, Ozias and Administrator Mielke.

The meeting concluded at 3:35 p.m. and continued to a special budget meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 5 p.m. regarding County budget discussion.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the special meeting to order at 5 p.m., Tuesday, July 29, 2025. Also present were Commissioners Johnson, Ozias and Administrator Mielke.

The meeting concluded at 7:40 p.m. and continued to Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at 1 p.m. for a BOCC Special Meeting regarding public hearing on a Resolution for a Levy Lid Lift.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the special meeting to order at 1 p.m., Wednesday, July 30, 2025. Also present were Commissioners Johnson, Ozias and Administrator Mielke.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt the agenda as presented, CMOs, mc

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PUBLIC COMMENT

- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on conflict of interest with Commissioner Ozias, CERN, North Olympic Development Council
- Jacob Seeger, District III, commented on budget cuts, tax increase

HEARING(S)

- Public hearing to consider a Resolution regarding a Levy Lid Lift
 - ATM provided a staff report
 - Discussion was held regarding the Levy Lid Lift

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to open the public hearing, CMOs, mc

- The following provided testimony:
 - Kaj Ahlburg, Port Angeles (see attached)
 - John Worthington, Sequim
 - David Moody, Port Angeles
 - Jacob Seeger, Clallam County
 - Virginia Shogren, Sequim
 - Don Richards, Port Angeles
 - Anne Dee Reno, Port Angeles
 - Kenneth Reandeau, Port Angeles
- Written testimony was received from the following: Marguerite Glover, Shelley Taylor, George Joyner, Shannon Gaydeski, Steve and Karen Grice, Sue Forde, Kaj Ahlburg, Corrine Reed, Laurel Hargis, Judy Larson, Ellen Menshew, John Worthington, Ron Richards, Port Angeles Business Association, Rick Bart, Bobbie Piety (see attached)

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to close the public hearing, CRJs, mc

The meeting concluded at 3:27 p.m. and continued to Monday, August 4, 2025 at 9 a.m.

The special budget meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at 3 p.m. was cancelled.

The Board of Commissioners attended a WSAC Virtual Update, Joint meeting with Port of Port Angeles and Clallam PUD, Clallam Transit Retirement Party, Budget Meetings, Coffee with Collen, Levy Lid Lift Hearing, Board of Natural Resources Elections Meeting and Housing Solutions Committee meeting during the week of July 28, 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of August 2025

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Excused
Mike French, Chair
Randy Johnson
Randy Johnson
Mark Ozias
Mark Ozias

ATTEST:

Loni Gores
Loni Gores, MMC, Clerk of the Board



BOCC Regular Meeting 7-29-25

Public Comments

Diane

Public Comment
Diane Hood
BOCC 7/29/25

Diane Hood
192 Brigadoon Blvd.
Sequim, WA, 98382
dogma@olypen.com
360-683-4063

cc: Animal
Control
Sheriff

07/26/25

Clallam County Sheriff Brian King
Clallam County Sheriff's Office
223 E 4th Street
Suite 12
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015

Subject: Failure to Enforce Dangerous Dogs-County Codes

Clallam County Sheriff Brian King

I am writing this letter to request your help in a situation that has been ongoing for 4 years. I would like the county to enforce their dangerous dog codes so that I am able to go for a walk with my dog without being afraid of being attacked.

My dogs(I have owned 3 different dogs during this period) & I have been attacked by Jake(Springer Spaniel) that lives at 50 Moonlight Dr. Sequim, owned by Larry Belmont, over a 4 year period over 14 times.

I have 3 Sheriff Reports on the attacks by different officers.

The 1st-- Animal Control Officer-Tracy Kellas(5/23/22) told me that she would cite him if it happened again(She retired).
The 2nd-- officer-Deputy Estep(12/6/24) told me that there would be a penalty and possible sign on the property if it happened again
The 3rd--officer Deputy William Cortani Jr.(6/22/25) said he would have the new Animal Control Officer contact me and he would handle it.

On 7/8/25 --Deputy Ed Bauck (the new animal control officer) came to my house for a follow up. He told me that he was new and we would have to start all over again, as if the previous incidents had never happened. He also advised me that Larry told him that he lets Jake run loose between 8-9 a.m. which implied that I should not walk then. This is not right. Why am I am being penalized instead of the dog's owner. Plus the attacks happen at random hours of the day – the last few have been after 3pm
He also said it would be good if I had photos which would be impossible to take while fighting off the dog.

The last attack(6/22/25) there were 2 dogs attacking, both Larry's dog Jake and his friends big brown dog. This has happened 2 times late in the day when I am out walking. They both come lunging, barking, growling and snapping at us.

I have managed to fight Jake off each time he tries to attack my dog or me by yelling at him, stomping my foot and swinging my hiking pole at him. The one time that I did not see him coming, he bit my last dog- Toby in the rear(he was old and died of cancer a week later). So I know he would bite my dog if I did not fight him off.

The attacks generally take place either on the corner of Moonlight and Brigadoon, which is 2 doors from his property--- he runs across 2 large vacant lots to get to us. The other location is near our community well or in the street above the well, which is 6 doors from his home. the owner lets Jake run loose there and he will run up the drive and up the street after my dog and me.

I cannot walk in either direction from my home without the fear of being attacked.

Jakes owner told a group of neighbors in my presence that he always lets his dog chase wildlife. A neighbor and I saw Jake chase a deer one morning that fell on its front knees but managed to get away.

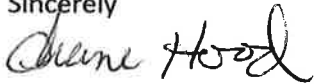
The County has several ordinances which this dog is breaking and I do not understand why they are not being enforced and that I am the one that has to keep defending myself. To go on a walk in my own neighborhood, I must always carry several defense items to try to protect my dog and myself.

If a small child or a visitor, who is unaware of this dog gets attacked, they could be badly injured or killed and I feel that the county would then be responsible for not even attempting to enforce the county ordinances.

The solution seems simple to me --the owner of the dog should keep him either on a leash or in and enclosed yard at all times.

These ongoing attacks have caused me a great deal of distress and anxiety, and I firmly believe it is in the public interest that this issue is dealt with appropriately to ensure such an event doesn't recur.
I would appreciate a timely response on this matter.

Sincerely



Diane Hood

CC: Clallam County Commissioners :

Mark Ozias

Mike French

Randy Johnson

Attorney Gerald Steel

Enclosures: Dangerous Dogs County Codes---6 pg.

Control of Dogs- Civil Violations 17.02.030 --2 pg.

List of Attacks by Jake

Locations of attacks

Subject: Attacks by Jake

Attacks by Jake ----owned by Larry Belmont --50 Moonlight
on my 3 dogs --- Teva, Toby & Conchis
2022 thru 2025 ---4 years

2022 -- Teva (died in 2022 --age 15)

Attacked 6- 7 times or more -thru-out the year mostly at the well area some while the owner let him run off leash and others while other neighbors walked him off leash

One time the owner had to try to get him under control by using his shock collar, over 3 times before he finally was able to stop him from returning and lunging at me and Teva

Jake has a shock collar and people keep telling me it must not be set high enough.

5-23-22--- I called and reported him and the owner-- Larry Belmont was contacted by Tracy Kellas --the animal control officer. She said that if I call again she would issue a citation.

2023 -- Toby (died in 2024 week after last attack from cancer)

10-13-23 1:15pm--- tried to attack Toby in the dirt driveway behind 201 Brigadoon near corner lot

2024----Toby & Conchis

1-12-24 8:20 am --was snowing out and Toby was close to dying(cancer) and my deck door was frozen shut so I walked across the street and in the vacant lots across from me and Jake came running faster than I could pick up Toby and bit him in the rear- I yelled and screamed at him and Phyllis a neighbor who was letting him out for the owner finally got him to come. I could not find bite but toby was wearing jacket so may have bit that and he was too sick to examine closely . had to put him to sleep shortly after. I sent Phyllis an email stating why Jake should not be allowed to run loose.

12-6-24--4pm-- at the corner of Brigadoon and Moonlight --2 doors from Jakes home --he came running and barking and lunged at me and Conchis . I screamed at him and waved my stick and then a big brown dog came running also and finally the owner called them back

I called to report it and spoke to Deputy Estep who said he would contact the owner.

Case # 2024-21172

2025--Conchis(new rescue dog)

4-19-25 4:19pm --edge of the street and vacant lot near corner of Brigadoon & Moonlight tried to attack Conchis

6-22-25--after 3pm--same location --first Jake and then the brown dog came running at me barking and lunging at me and my dog

I called the police at 3:50 pm and spoke to Officer Cortani who said the new Animal Control Officer would contact me Monday

Locations where attacked by Jake----

The 2 vacant lots west of his house. the big lot next to his house and the lot on the corner of Moonlight & Brigadoon. I walk on the street next to the lots when walking.

Up the street from our community well which is located across from 260 Brigadoon Blvd . Which is 6 doors from his house. While I am walking on Brigadoon, he has come running out of the driveway to the well and up the street after me. Also in the driveway area to our community well.

In the lot where our community well is located. There is a pathway that goes to the rear of his house which is on the street below, and his owner lets him run loose in this area also.

Dangerous dogs County codes

<https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/504/Animal-Control>

<https://clallam.county.codes/CCC/17.03>

§ 17.03.010 Potentially dangerous dog – Reasons to declare.

An Animal Control Officer may declare as potentially dangerous any dog that:

- (1) Inflicts a bite on a human.
- (2) Inflicts a bite on a privately owned animal when the dog is off of its owner's property.
- (3) Chases or threatens a person or another animal upon the streets, sidewalks, any public grounds or upon private property other than the dog owner's in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack.
- (4) Has been declared potentially dangerous by any other governmental jurisdiction for violations of State statutes or local ordinances that meet the standards set forth in this section.
- (5) Chases, harries or harasses livestock or privately owned game animals while off the dog owner's property.

Except that dogs shall not be declared potentially dangerous if the threat, injury, or damage was sustained by a person who, at the time, was committing a willful trespass or other tort upon the premises occupied by the owner of the dog, or was tormenting, abusing, or assaulting the dog or has, in the past, been observed or reported to have tormented, abused, or assaulted the dog or was committing or attempting to commit a crime and the dog was on the property of its owner or was under the control of a responsible person.

§ 17.03.020 Dangerous dog – Reasons to declare.

An Animal Control Officer may declare as dangerous any dog that:

- (1) Has inflicted severe injury on a human being.
- (2) Has killed or inflicted severe injury to a privately owned animal while the dog is off of its owner's property.
- (3) Has been previously found to be potentially dangerous, the owner having received notice of such and the dog again bites, attacks, or endangers the safety of humans or privately owned animals.
- (4) Has been declared dangerous by any other governmental jurisdiction for violations of State statutes or local ordinances that meet the standards set forth in this section.

Except that dogs shall not be declared dangerous if the threat, injury, or damage was sustained by someone committing a willful trespass or other tort upon the premises occupied by the owner of the dog; was or has been observed tormenting, abusing, or assaulting the dog; or was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

§ 17.03.030 Declaration of dangerous or potentially dangerous dog – Notice, hearing and appeal.

(1) Whenever an Animal Control Officer finds any dog in violation and determines that said dog should be declared dangerous or potentially dangerous, the Officer shall prepare a notice declaring said dog to be a dangerous or potentially dangerous dog, and serve the notice as required for a summons on the owner of the dog; except that if the summons cannot be served it may be posted on the residence. The notice shall contain the following:

- (a) The name and address of the owner of the dog being declared potentially dangerous;
 - (b) The breed, color, sex, and license number (if known) of said dog;
 - (c) The facts upon which the determination of potentially dangerous dog is based;
 - (d) That the dog shall immediately be restrained as required in CCC [17.03.060](#) or [17.03.070](#);
 - (e) That the dog shall be registered within 10 days of receiving the notice unless a hearing is requested as provided for in subsection [\(1\)\(g\)](#) of this section;
 - (f) In the case of a potentially dangerous dog, that if there are future similar problems with the dog, the dog could be declared a dangerous dog pursuant to CCC [17.03.020](#), and required to be registered as provided for in CCC [17.03.050](#);
 - (g) That the notice constitutes a final determination that the dog is dangerous or potentially dangerous, unless the owner of the dog requests a hearing in writing to an appropriate District Court of Clallam County within 21 days of service of the notice.
- (2) In the event the owner of a dog requests a hearing as provided for in subsection [\(1\)\(g\)](#) of this section, a hearing shall be held within 30 days of the receipt of the request for hearing, unless it is continued for good cause. The District Court shall notify the owner of the date, time and place of the hearing, as well as the right to present evidence as to why the dog should not be declared dangerous or potentially dangerous. The hearing shall be informal and open to the public. At the hearing, the records of the responsible Animal Control Officer shall be admissible evidence as to whether the dog is a dangerous or potentially dangerous dog; the owner of the dog may require the officer compiling the record to be present at the hearing; the owner of the dog may present evidence and examine witnesses present; and the burden shall be on the Animal Control Officer/County to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the dog is a dangerous or potentially dangerous dog.
- (3) The District Court Judge shall notify, in writing, the owner of the dog of his/her decision within 10 days of the hearing. The District Court decision may be appealed as provided under the general laws of the State of Washington.
- (4) If the potentially dangerous or dangerous dog declaration is upheld the owner has 10 days from the notification date to comply with the registration requirements.
- (5) A finding that a dog is not a potentially dangerous or dangerous dog shall not prevent the Animal Control Officer from seeking to have the dog declared dangerous or potentially dangerous as the result of any subsequent action by the dog.

§ 17.03.040 Potentially dangerous dog – Registration, requirements, annual fee.

(1) The owner of a dog declared potentially dangerous shall register said dog and pay the initial registration fee as set forth in Chapter [5.100](#) CCC within 10 days of notification as provided for in CCC [17.03.030](#) as now or

hereafter amended. If the owner requests a hearing to the District Court within the 21-day period the owner shall not be required to pay such registration fee until after the Court makes a determination that said dog is potentially dangerous.

(2) The owner of a dog being declared potentially dangerous may be required by the Animal Control Authority to have the dog equipped with a microchip. Proof of microchipping and the microchip number shall be presented when licensing the dog.

(3) The owner of a dog declared potentially dangerous shall renew the registration annually and pay the renewal fee for the calendar year as set forth in Chapter [5.100](#) CCC.

(4) A dog license fee already paid by the owner, as set forth in Chapter [5.100](#) CCC, shall not be applied toward the cost of the initial registration; however, on the second and subsequent calendar years, the cost of renewal shall include licensing.

17.03.050 Dangerous dog – Certificate of registration, requirements.

(1) The owner of a dangerous dog must obtain a certificate of registration for such animal from the Animal Control Authority within 10 days of final determination of dangerous dog as provided in CCC [17.03.040](#). The certificate of registration shall be issued only if the owner of the dangerous dog presents sufficient proof of the following:

(a) A proper enclosure to confine a dangerous dog and posting of the premises with a brightly colored and clearly visible sign that displays a warning symbol that informs children of the presence of a dangerous dog.

(b) The owner of a dog being declared dangerous shall have the dog equipped with a microchip. Proof of microchipping and the microchip number shall be presented when licensing the dog.

(c) A surety bond issued by a surety insurer qualified under Chapter [48.28](#) RCW in a form acceptable to the Animal Control Authority in the sum of at least \$250,000, payable to any person injured by the dangerous dog; or a policy of liability insurance, such as homeowner's insurance, issued by an insurer qualified under RCW Title [48](#) in the amount of at least \$250,000, insuring the owner or keeper for any personal injuries inflicted by the dangerous dog.

(2) The owner of a dangerous dog shall pay an initial registration fee as set forth in Chapter [5.100](#) CCC and thereafter pay an annual registration fee for the calendar year as set forth in Chapter [5.100](#) CCC. A dog license fee already paid by the owner shall not be applied toward the cost of the initial registration; however, on the second and subsequent calendar years, the cost of registration shall include licensing.

(3) Any dangerous dog for which a certificate of registration or renewal has not been obtained by its owner is subject to being impounded by the Animal Control Authority.

(4) This section shall not apply to police dogs as defined in RCW [4.24.410](#).

(5) The owner of a dog declared dangerous shall have the dog neutered or spayed within 30 days post declaration or appeal of declaration of a dangerous dog. Owner must notify County of intent to appeal declaration of dangerous dog within 30 days of declaration.

17.03.060 Potentially dangerous dog – Proper restraint and enclosure.

(1) The owner of a potentially dangerous dog shall restrain his/her dog, as required herein, immediately upon being notified that said dog has been declared potentially dangerous by an Animal Control Officer, regardless of the owner's intent to request a hearing or file any appeal.

(2) A dog declared potentially dangerous shall be restrained as follows:

(a) While on the owner's property, a potentially dangerous dog shall be restrained by a fence, kennel or sufficiently strong chain, leash or other confinement suitable to prevent said dog from leaving the owner's property (radio, electronic, or invisible fencing is not considered suitable).

(b) The dog must be restrained in such a manner as to keep it clear of any area of implied or expressed consent.

(c) While off the owner's property, a potentially dangerous dog shall be under physical restraint of the owner or other responsible person.

(d) While restrained on the owner's property, a potentially dangerous dog shall be provided with food and water on a daily basis and a structure that provides protection from the elements.

§ 17.03.070 Dangerous dogs – Requirements for restraint and enclosure.

(1) While on the owner's property, a dangerous dog shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or structure, suitable to prevent the entry of children and designed to prevent the animal from escaping. Such pen or structure shall have secure sides, a secure top, a secure floor, and shall also provide protection from the elements for a dog.

(2) While outside the enclosure, a dangerous dog shall be muzzled and restrained by a substantial chain or leash and under physical restraint of the owner or other responsible person. The muzzle shall be made in a manner that will not cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration, but shall prevent it from biting any person or animal.

(3) The owner shall post the premises with a clearly visible warning sign that displays a brightly-colored and clearly visible warning symbol that informs children of the presence of a dangerous dog.

§ 17.03.080 Potentially dangerous or dangerous dog – Ownership.

(1) The owner of a potentially dangerous or dangerous dog shall not transfer ownership or move said dog without first notifying the Animal Control Authority and obtaining authorization and approval to do so. No dangerous dog shall be given, sold, adopted, or transferred to another person or organization within Clallam County except that the dangerous dog may be surrendered to a shelter. Prior to destroying any potentially dangerous or dangerous dog, the owner shall give notification to the Animal Control Authority, or shall provide proof of destruction within 48 hours of the death of the dog.

(2) Any person that brings a dog or animal into Clallam County that has been declared dangerous or potentially dangerous by another jurisdiction is required to register such dog or animal with the Animal Control Authority within 24 hours or on the first business day following bringing the animal into the County and further to comply with all requirements as set forth by the Animal Control Authority and this chapter.

§ 17.03.090 Potentially dangerous dog – Violations and penalties.

Violation of any section of this chapter shall be a misdemeanor.

(1) It shall be unlawful for the owner of a potentially dangerous dog to:

(a) Transfer ownership, move, or destroy said dog without complying with the provisions of CCC [17.03.080](#).

(b) Fail to provide proper restraint and/or enclosure for dogs declared potentially dangerous as defined in CCC [17.03.060](#).

(c) Fail to maintain registration and license for potentially dangerous dogs.

(2) Any potentially dangerous dog may be immediately confiscated by the Animal Control Authority under the following conditions:

(a) The dog is not validly registered under CCC [17.03.040](#).

(b) The owner fails to provide and maintain proper restraint.

(c) The owner transfers ownership, moves, or destroys the dog without complying with the provisions of CCC [17.03.080](#).

The Animal Control Authority must serve notice upon the dog owner in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, specifying the reason(s) for the confiscation of the potentially dangerous dog and informing them that they are responsible for all costs of confinement and that the dog may be destroyed in a humane and expeditious manner if the deficiencies are not corrected within 20 days.

17.03.100 Dangerous dog – Violations and penalties.

Violation of any section of this chapter shall be a misdemeanor.

(1) It is unlawful for the owner of any dangerous dog to:

(a) Fail to secure the liability insurance coverage or bond required hereunder.

(b) Fail to post a clearly visible sign that displays a brightly colored and clearly visible warning symbol that informs children of the presence of a dangerous dog.

(c) Fail to keep the dog inside the dwelling of the owner or inside a proper enclosure.

(d) Fail to keep dog under physical restraint of a responsible person and muzzled when outside the dwelling or enclosure.

(e) Transfer ownership, move, or destroy said dog without first complying with the provisions of CCC [17.03.080](#).

If the dog is determined to be dangerous, the owner must pay all costs of confinement and control.

(2) Any dangerous dog will be immediately confiscated by the Animal Control Authority under the following conditions:

(a) The dog is not validly registered under CCC [17.03.050](#).

(b) The owner does not secure the liability insurance coverage required under CCC [17.03.050\(1\)\(c\)](#).

(c) The dog is not maintained in the proper enclosure.

(d) The dog is outside the dwelling of the owner or outside the proper enclosure and not under physical restraint of the responsible person or not muzzled.

(3) If a dangerous dog has been confiscated as a result of subsection [\(2\)](#) of this section, the owner must pay the costs of confinement and control.

(4) The Animal Control Authority must serve notice upon the dog owner in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, specifying the reason(s) for the confiscation of the dangerous dog and informing them that they are responsible for all costs of confinement and that the dog will be destroyed in a humane and expeditious manner if the deficiencies are not corrected within 20 days.

(5) The Animal Control Authority shall destroy the confiscated dangerous dog in an expeditious and humane manner if any deficiencies required by this subsection are not corrected within 20 days of notification.

17.03.110 Provocation as a defense.

Proof that the injured person provoked the attack may be a complete defense to an action for damages.

17.03.120 List of potentially dangerous and dangerous dogs.

A list of potentially dangerous and dangerous dogs shall be maintained by the Animal Control Authority. The list shall be made available to the public for normal copying costs. The list shall include the general description of the dog and the address at which the dog is normally kept.

17.03.130 Inactive potentially dangerous dog.

If, after 24 months, no violations of this title or the Clallam County Code have occurred, the owner of a potentially dangerous dog may request review of the designation. The request shall be made in writing and submitted to the County Animal Control Authority.

Review and notification to the owner of the outcome will be made within 30 days of the written request.

Reclassification of a potentially dangerous dog means that it will no longer have to be restrained as required in CCC [17.03.060](#) nor will it have to be licensed per CCC [17.03.040](#). The requirements of CCC [17.03.080](#) still apply.

Any dog on the inactive potentially dangerous list that violates the reasons to declare a dog potentially dangerous will be immediately reclassified to potentially dangerous and may be reclassified to dangerous per CCC [17.03.020\(3\)](#).

<https://clallam.county.codes/CCC/17.02.030>

17.02.030 Control of dogs – Civil violations.

The following dog control regulations are designed to protect public health and safety and welfare of dogs. The owner of a dog is strictly liable to control his/her dog as required herein. This means that the penalty for violation of these regulations is imposed without regard to any wrongful intention of the violator. The violation of subsection [1] of this section is a Class 1 civil infraction. It is unlawful for the owner of a dog to fail to prevent said dog from:

- (1) Inflicting a bite on a human or animal (except poultry, rabbits, and cats that are allowed to roam off their owner's property). Any such bite may result in a declaration of the dog being potentially dangerous pursuant to Chapter 17.03 CCC;
- (2) Running at large;
- (3) Not being under control while off the owner's property;
- (4) Entering any place where food is stored, prepared, served or sold to the public, or any public building or hall. This section shall not apply to any dog serving the blind or deaf; or to dogs used by armored car services, private security companies, or law enforcement agencies;
- (5) Being accessible to other dogs, while in heat, for purposes other than controlled or planned breeding;
- (6) Chasing, running after or jumping at vehicles using public roadways;
- (7) Snapping, growling, snarling, barking in a threatening manner, or jumping upon, chasing or otherwise threatening persons while the dog is not restrained and is off the property of the owner;
- (8) Howling, yelping, whining, barking, or making other noises in such a manner as to disturb any person or groups of persons to an unreasonable degree except that working dogs as defined in CCC 17.01.034 are exempted. The following examples constitute prima facie evidence of disturbing a person or group to an unreasonable degree; provided, however, these examples are not exclusive:
 - (a) Two or more complaints from different complainants within a 24 hour period;
 - (b) Barking, howling, yelping, or whining for more than one hour;
 - (c) Prolonged barking between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.;
- (9) Entering upon another person's property without the authorization of that person;
- (10) Being kept, harbored or maintained and known to have a contagious disease unless under the treatment of a licensed veterinarian;

(11) Running in packs while off the owner's property;

(12) Damaging or destroying the property of another person, including destroying wildlife that has purposefully been attracted to the person's property;

(13) Being staked, tethered or kept on public property;

(14) Entering another's property and injuring or killing any poultry or rabbits that are housed in an adequate enclosure, or cats that are on their owner's property.

BOCC

Public Hearing July 30, 2025

Levy Lid Lift

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC HEARING

• Public hearing to consider a Resolution regarding a Levy Lid Lift

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	KAJ AHLBURG	Kaj Ahlburg	4513 Mount Pleasant Road Port Angeles, WA 98362
2	DAVID MOODY	David Moody	161 N Bagley CK Rd Port Angeles 98362
3	Jacob Seegers		Dist. 3
4	Virginia Shogren	Cyril P. Shogren	961 W Oak Ct. Sequim
5	Ben Richards	Ben Richards	124 Township Line Rd
6	Nina Richards	Nina Richards	124 Township Line Rd
7	ANNE DE KROM	Anne De Krom	396 Gehre Rd
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Kaj Ahlburg
4513 Mount Pleasant Road
Port Angeles, WA 98362
(360) 565-1146
ahlburgkaj@gmail.com

Public Hearing
Kaj Ahlburg
7/30/25

Public comment on proposed Levy Lid Lift

Dear County Commissioners,

You are proposing to increase the County Property Tax from \$0.7598 per \$1,000 of assessed value to \$1.05, an increase of over 38%. I oppose such an increase for the following reasons.

People already are overtaxed. Just this year we saw the largest Washington State tax increase in history. The Clallam Conservation District wants to impose a new \$275,000 per year tax. You have been discussing increasing the sales tax by another \$1,800,000 per year. Another tax increase is not what this county, where employment, housing affordability and poverty level numbers are already trending in the wrong direction, needs.

Total Clallam County property tax revenues increase by more than 1% annually, because of new construction. 2020 to 2024 Clallam County tax revenue increased by 24.7% and total revenue (excluding COVID payments) by 29.9%, while inflation was 21.2%. The 2020 to 2024 Clallam County population increase was about 1.1%. County tax revenues have been more than keeping up with inflation plus population growth.

According to the county forecast presented on July 29, total county revenue will increase by 13.2% from 2024 to 2028. The Congressional Budget Office predicts total inflation for this period to be 8.6%. Thus, the forecasted increase in total revenue continues to exceed expected inflation by more than expected population increase.

The best way to get increased property tax revenues is by creating an economic climate that stimulates new construction. Increasing property taxes and further decreasing the affordability of housing in Clallam County is not the way to do so. There already are people on fixed incomes who had to move out of the county because they could not afford rising property taxes. Increasing property taxes at a faster pace than currently will just accelerate that trend.

You should try to find the funds for essential county functions within the current revenue structure as you have successfully done in the past, and look to hold down payroll increases to close to the level of inflation and trim expenditures on non-essential items as necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Kaj Ahlburg

BOCC

Public Hearing July 30, 2025

Levy Lid Lift

Written testimony

Gores, Loni

From: Marg <marg@sequim.com>
Sent: Friday, July 18, 2025 2:17 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Special meeting for the Levy Lid Lift Resolution

Hi, Loni! This is not a comment. It's a question. I know everyone is really busy on Friday, so I don't expect an answer today.

[https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/ 07302025-1629](https://www.clallamcountywa.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/07302025-1629)

But, what is the Resolution for? A particular levy that needs a lid lift?

Or, a general Resolution about what to do with Levy Lid Lift voting?

Thank you! I hope you will have a good weekend!

Marguerite

marg@sequim.com

360-461-3365

103 Pond Lane

Sequim WA 98382

Gores, Loni

From: Shelley Taylor <shelley@overthemoon.me>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 9:42 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Proposed Levy Lid Lift increasing property taxes

I wish this statement to be included in the public record for comment on this proposed increase in our property taxes.

I am a senior citizen. My husband is also a senior citizen...as well as a Vietnam Veteran.

Obviously, we are on fixed incomes.

Where will we move to once we can't pay these outrageous increases?

I wonder what the costs are to the county/state when property taxes aren't paid. What are the costs of eviction? Surely it is more cost effective to assess seniors and veterans an amount they can live with than for resources to be spent when these homeowners become delinquent.

WHEN will those who continually ask for more and more property taxes give us a predictable tax on property????? Our state constitution talks about fairness. Not having predictability for such a large liability is surely unfair. Our assessed value should be frozen from the time we became senior citizens.

Where is your compassion?

Shelley and Greg Taylor
Port Angeles

Gores, Loni

From: G M Joyner <gmjoyner53@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 26, 2025 11:13 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Proposed property tax increase

You don't often get email from gmjoyner53@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I am asking you to pass along, to the County Commissioners, my opinion regarding the proposed 38% property tax increase. Tell them to vote no on any increase. They are in a financial bind of their own making due to misplaced priorities. Essential government services should be fully funded, not tax dollars going to free housing and free dope kits for bums. Why do we need a county poet laureate, for that matter? They are trying to do too much.

George Joyner
Sequim

Gores, Loni

From: Shannon Gaydeski <yellowfinns@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 26, 2025 12:42 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: BOCC: Levy Lid Lift comment

[You don't often get email from yellowfinns@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

To the Clallam County Commissioners:

Please do not approve the proposed Levy Lid Lift resolution. A 38% property tax increase on top of recent increases in assessed values is unsustainable for the economically challenged residents of Clallam County. Housing costs and availability are already out of reach for many essential workers, especially in the west end of the county, where teachers commute over an hour each way in order to procure affordable housing, and medical personnel advertise on Facebook searching for a room to rent when they cannot find affordable units advertised for rent. Approving such a drastic property tax increase would further burden a population already under stress from housing costs.

Thank you,
Shannon Gaydeski
506 Conley Rd
Beaver, WA 98305

Gores, Loni

From: Karen Grice <grice4373@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 26, 2025 12:57 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Increased taxes

[You don't often get email from grice4373@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

We do not support a 38 % tax increase or the hiring of a Water Resource Specialist at this time. We are in an inflationary time that has been difficult on household budgets. We are not Seattle, we are a county of mostly retirees, lower middle income people serving the public in the tourist industry, and poor people. It is outrageous that this would even be a consideration!

Steve and Karen Grice
1304 Forest Trail
Port Angeles, WA. 98362
Sent from my iPhone

Gores, Loni

From: Karen Grice <grice4373@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 26, 2025 2:03 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Increased taxes

[You don't often get email from grice4373@comcast.net. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

We do not support a 38 % tax increase or the hiring of a Water Resource Specialist at this time. We are in an inflationary time that has been difficult on household budgets. We are not Seattle, we are a county of mostly retirees, lower middle income people serving the public in the tourist industry, and poor people. It is outrageous that this would even be a consideration!

Steve and Karen Grice
1304 Forest Trail
Port Angeles, WA. 98362
Sent from my iPhone

Gores, Loni

From: Sue Forde <sue98382@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 27, 2025 7:50 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: RE: Public hearing input for July 30, 2025 re: tax increase
Attachments: Letter to BOCC re property tax increase, 7.27.2025.pdf

You don't often get email from sue98382@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Loni,

Please deliver this comment to the County Commissioners, and place in the record as my public comment regarding the proposed property tax increase rate. Comment is below my signature here, and also attached as a pdf document.

Please confirm receipt.

Thank you.

Sue Forde, concerned citizen and voter
P. O. Box 3457
Sequim, WA 98382

Public Comment on Proposed Levy Lid Lift

Dear County Commissioners,

I am opposed to the increase of county property tax from \$0.7598 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to \$1.05. This is an incredible increase of 38%! I am against the tax increase for the following reasons:

1. County taxpayers are already overtaxed. We have seen our property taxes and other costs of living here rise to the point where individuals on fixed or low/medium income have relocated to other areas. This tax, on top of the largest tax increases in the history of Washington state, does not take into consideration the tough times the people of Clallam County are already enduring from ever increasing taxes.
2. Based on current tax revenues flowing into the county, and taking into account taxes generated from new construction, we've seen property tax revenue increase by almost 25% over the last four years, while inflation runs lower than that percentage. Revenues are equal to or greater than the funds being spent at this point.
3. The ability for middle-class income families to buy a home in Clallam County has become almost impossible with an average price of \$500,000-plus. When more and more taxes are added to the cost of a home, it becomes even more difficult, and increased taxes also mean higher rates of rent for tenants, when rentals are also often out of reach for the low income worker.

4. It's better to lower taxes and encourage families to stay in Clallam County rather than leaving as we've seen many do so far. **Most families live within a budget based on their limited income; the county should follow that same principle. Live within your means – and that means, cut nonessential expenses.**

Please consider the people who live here, and work here, and are trying to raise a family here, and the lifelong residents who want to stay here. instead of growing county government, start to look at ways of limit it to that which government is supposed to do – protect individual rights.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sue Forde

Sue Forde
P. O. Box 3457
Sequim WA 98382

July 27, 2025

TO: Clallam County Board of County Commissioners
VIA EMAIL

Public Comment on Proposed Levy Lid Lift

Dear County Commissioners,

I am opposed to the increase of county property tax from \$0.7598 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to \$1.05. This is an incredible increase of 38%! I am against the tax increase for the following reasons:

1. County taxpayers are already overtaxed. We have seen our property taxes and other costs of living here rise to the point where individuals on fixed or low/medium income have relocated to other areas. This tax, on top of the largest tax increases in the history of Washington state, does not take into consideration the tough times the people of Clallam County are already enduring from ever increasing taxes.
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3. The ability for middle-class income families to buy a home in Clallam County has become almost impossible with an average price of \$500,000-plus. When more and more taxes are added to the cost of a home, it becomes even more difficult, and increased taxes also mean higher rates of rent for tenants, when rentals are also often out of reach for the low income worker.
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Please consider the people who live here, and work here, and are trying to raise a family here, and the lifelong residents who want to stay here. Instead of growing county government, start to look at ways of limit it to that which government is supposed to do – protect individual rights.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sue Forde

Gores, Loni

From: Turner, Rebecca
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 1:29 PM
To: ahlburgkaj@gmail.com; Gores, Loni; Mielke, Todd; Lane, Mark
Subject: Re: Question regarding levy lid lift meetings

Hi Kaj,

Thank you for your interest in our upcoming meetings. We have several meetings tomorrow & Wednesday. Here are my brief summaries of the planned topics:

- Tuesday 10:30am Hearing
 - Mid Year Review - how we are tracking against our 2025 budget, and where do we think we'll end 2025
- Tuesday 1pm
 - 3-Year Projection - building upon where we think we'll end 2025, and what we project the next 3 years will look like, assuming no major changes in services/revenues
- Tuesday 5pm
 - Expenditure & Revenue Options - building upon our last 2 budget season cuts, options for cutting expenditures to 'live within our means' and options of potential revenue increases
- Wednesday 1 pm (with possible extension starting at 3pm)
 - Levy Lift Hearing - the Board will consider whether to place any option on the November ballot

All of these meetings will include staff presentations, questions/answers with the Board, and 30 minutes for public questions/answers period. We expect the question/answer periods to build upon each other, not be restricted to the topic they immediately follow.

These meetings are all open to the public, in-person & online, and will be recorded & published on our website:
<https://clallamcowa.portal.civicclerk.com/>

Thanks!

Rebecca Turner, CPA, MBA

Deputy Chief Financial Officer
Clallam County
223 E 4th Street, Suite 15
Port Angeles, WA 98362
P: (360) 417-2224
E: rebecca.turner@clallamcountywa.gov

From: ahlburgkaj@gmail.com <ahlburgkaj@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 10:51 AM
To: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>; Mielke, Todd <Todd.Mielke@clallamcountywa.gov>; Lane, Mark <mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov>; Turner, Rebecca <Rebecca.Turner@clallamcountywa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question regarding levy lid lift meetings

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

Thank you.

From: Gores, Loni

Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 10:13 AM

To: ahlburgkaj@gmail.com; Mielke, Todd <Todd.Mielke@clallamcountywa.gov>; Lane, Mark <mark.lane@clallamcountywa.gov>; Turner, Rebecca <Rebecca.Turner@clallamcountywa.gov>

Subject: RE: Question regarding levy lid lift meetings

Kaj Ahlburg,

I've added Administrator Mielke and Finance Department to this email to answer your question below.

"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: ahlburgkaj@gmail.com <ahlburgkaj@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 9:51 AM

To: Gores, Loni <loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov>

Subject: Question regarding levy lid lift meetings

I am planning to attend the meeting on Wednesday at 1 pm about the proposed property levy lid lift. Can you tell me, or where can I find out, whether the two presentations on the same subject on Tuesday are largely the same as that on Wednesday preceding the public comment part of the meeting, or if different information will be presented on Tuesday that will not be presented on Wednesday? Thank you very much.

Regards,

Kaj Ahlburg

4513 Mount Pleasant Road

Port Angeles, WA 98362

(360) 565-1146

ahlburgkaj@gmail.com

Gores, Loni

From: Corrine Reed <corrinereed1078@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 7:10 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Objection to Fiscal Irresponsibility and Proposed Tax Increase – CRC & BOCC

Subject: Objection to Fiscal Irresponsibility and Proposed Tax Increase – CRC & BOCC

To: loni.gores@clallamcountywa.gov

Please forward to: Charter Review Commission (CRC) and Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)

Dear Members of the CRC and BOCC,

I am writing as a concerned citizen and taxpayer of Clallam County to express my strong objection to the Charter Review Commission's advancement of a permanent "Water Resources Specialist" position and the Board of County Commissioners' proposed 38.2% property tax increase.

These actions demonstrate a deeply troubling lack of fiscal transparency, accountability, and responsible governance.

1. Misrepresentation of Budget Reserves as Surplus

During the CRC's July 14 meeting, Commissioner Ron Richards claimed that the County had a \$14 million "surplus." This statement materially misled the commission and the public, as it was later corrected by County Administrator Todd Mielke—only after the vote had occurred.

According to RCW 42.30.110, open public meetings must allow for transparency and the public's right to meaningful participation. The CRC's refusal to allow Mielke to clarify budgetary facts before voting raises serious concerns under the Washington Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).

Additionally, the use of false or misleading fiscal information to support charter amendments may violate the intent of RCW 36.70A.040, which calls for fiscally responsible planning and coordination across government agencies.

2. Permanent Spending Without Budget Viability

The CRC's amendment would embed a non-mandated, salaried position into the County Charter—making it permanent regardless of future budget conditions. This is reckless and fiscally unsustainable, especially in light of Clallam County's recent layoffs, budget cuts, and inability to fund even core services.

As stated in RCW 36.40.040, no expenditure may be made or liability incurred beyond the amount set in the adopted budget. By proposing a charter-level mandate without guaranteed budgetary capacity, the CRC risks violating this statutory limit.

3. Unjustified Tax Burden on Citizens

The BOCC's proposal to increase the general property tax levy from \$0.7598 to \$1.05 per \$1,000 of assessed value—a staggering 38.2% increase—is punitive to taxpayers during a time of inflation and economic instability.

According to RCW 84.55.010, levy increases are generally limited to 1% annually unless explicitly approved by voters. Even if this increase goes to the ballot, it is being done without commensurate reductions in wasteful or duplicative spending.

Before imposing such a heavy burden on working families, I urge the BOCC to:

Conduct an independent, line-by-line budget audit

Freeze all non-essential hiring and new program creation

Eliminate or restructure non-mandated positions and projects

4. Violation of Public Trust

Together, these decisions appear to prioritize political agendas over responsible stewardship of public funds. Taxpayers should not be expected to subsidize poor planning and governance.

I formally request:

The CRC withdraw or delay the Water Resources Specialist amendment until full financial review and public disclosure is complete

The BOCC suspend its proposed property tax levy increase until a comprehensive audit and performance-based budget review is conducted

Public meetings be conducted in full compliance with RCW 42.30, ensuring accurate information is available before any vote

Failure to act in a fiscally responsible manner may result in legal challenges or citizen-led efforts to reverse these harmful decisions.

Please confirm that this message will be added to the official record for both the CRC's July 28 vote and the BOCC's July 30 hearing.

Respectfully,

Corrine Reed
Sequim, Washington

Gores, Loni

From: Laurel Hargis <laurelhargis19@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 8:21 AM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: Comment on levy lid lift

To commissioners Ozias, Johnson and French:

I am strongly in favor of the proposed levy lid lift.

I see little choice in the matter—it is a matter of common sense/reality, and in the best interest of the citizens who rely on services provided to us by the County.

Thank you.

Laurel Hargis, resident of Port Angeles

Gores, Loni

From: larjdyng@olypen.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 12:10 PM
To: Gores, Loni
Subject: BOC 7-30-25 Public Hearing RE: Levy Lift Lid(LLL) Resolution

FOR: Attention/Record regarding Clallam County Board of Commissioners'
LLL Resolution

FROM: Judy Larson, 1070 W Palo Verde Loop, Sequim, WA

I am unable to attend today, but note for your attention and the record, my public comment/concerns which include:

Eastern Clallam County(CC) already has had a big ask for a LLL by FD#3, City of Sequim has already set a big increase for its water & sewer services, other areas of the County have had BIG ASKS and we all have looming concerns about increasing inflation - unlikely to be matched by timely salary or benefit increases.

Recent legislation permits multiple year LLL duration and increased rates for levies tied to future unknown cost indices.

A review of the demographic data for CC verifies how so many of our residents have less income than the WA average.

CC BOC needs to stay within a budget that can be covered by the RCW

84.55 UP TO 1% increase annually and allow its public to determine on a yearly basis how our county provides what services are needed and can be delivered through proper budget management.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gores, Loni

From: Ellen Menshew <menshewmom@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 10:27 AM
To: Johnson, Randy; French, Mike; Ozias, Mark
Subject: Levy Lid and UNMASK ICE

Good morning Commissioners,

I'm unable to attend your special meeting today to provide public comment so I'm writing in favor of your proposed resolution for levy lift. I believe the voters in Clallam County are keenly aware of the financial difficulties facing counties across our country as a result of the current Trump Administration. I will also do everything I can to promote support of this levy on the November ballot.

I'd also like to again request your support in posting a public notice at the county courthouse requiring anyone purporting to be acting as federal officers, or ICE agents, to be unmasked and to identify themselves before entering the premises. They should also be required to provide a valid, executable warrant for anyone they are attempting to arrest. You can rely on enforcement by calling on the Clallam County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) for their support. These types of intimidation tactics are instilling fear and resulting in innocent people being taken into custody. Incidents have occurred here in our own state. They are being initiated by masked, private bounty hunters; not by official law enforcement officers! It's not a matter of *if this will happen here*, it is a matter of when. Standing up to these thugs has been effective in halting false detainment efforts. I urge you to stand up, take action, and send a message: "Not here! Not in Clallam County. We won't allow it!"

I appreciate your continued service to all the residents of Clallam County and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ellen Menshew
Clallam County resident

Gores, Loni

From: john worthington <worthingtonjw2u@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2025 11:41 AM
To: Johnson, Randy; French, Mike; Ozias, Mark; loni.gores@clallamcounty.wa.gov
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT ON RAISING LEVY LID

Dear Commissioners,

Hello,

I strongly oppose any new taxes on local homeowners. Our Commissioners have yet to take sufficient action to safeguard Clallam County's revenues from global and tribal interests. Resorting to taxing property owners would be a crippling measure, that should only be done after exhausting efforts to obtain other revenue sources. My County has resisted all suggestions to this point and have steamrolled ahead with an unfair and non stop assault on property owners.

Additionally, the recent legislative assault on property owners has already inflicted significant hardship on property, leaving property owners at risk. Raising the levy lid now would be akin to bayonetting wounded soldiers at Antietam. The Commissioners have refused to pare down government to provide core services and have resorted to cruel and unnecessary financial punishment..

Moreover, there are documented conflicts of interest involving the County Commissioners concerning international policies aimed at building capacity for the global economy and restoring justice for local tribes. These issues should be left to the voters to decide, rather than unimaginative and lazy Commissioners, with conflicts of interests, making unilateral decisions.

Lastly, the County's involvement in the 2021 SERN workshop indicates a targeted effort against property owners in the Dungeness Valley, with a property buy-back program. This new burden for local property owners will pave the way for opportunistic vultures like Ron Allen, Craig Smith and Tony Corrado, and enable them to swoop in on financially strained homeowners.

Please say no to serving up an entire community to these opportunistic vultures with international and tribal goals.

I urge you to say no to any new property taxes.

Sincerely,

John Worthington

Gores, Loni

From: Ron Richards <ronaldrichards@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 11:04 PM
To: Mielke, Todd; Johnson, Randy; French, Mike; Ozias, Mark
Subject: Levy Lid Lift

Clallam County Commissioners and the Clallam County Administrator:

I support the proposed resolution calling for a general fund levy lid lift.

When I first heard of this proposal, I checked what this would mean to me by looking at what my wife and I had paid for this levy over the last 20 years. I discovered that this tax had increased in those 20 years from \$434.99 to \$448.51. Yes, just a \$13.52 increase in 20 years. One cannot run a county with that small a general fund tax increase.

I also checked other people's taxes to make sure that we weren't alone in this situation. Here's what I found for the last five years for randomly selected parcels where no improvements were made over that time frame:

Geographic ID	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
530204290200000	\$108.35	\$110.60	\$105.37	\$101.98	\$103.82
1328172101250000	\$91.14	\$84.23	\$79.00	\$77.34	\$85.93
630000164980000	\$123.98	\$130.53	\$136.93	\$134.15	\$135.82
330207505000000	\$162.88	\$161.76	\$160.83	\$160.54	\$161.35
530342490100000	\$234.24	\$243.58	\$256.70	\$254.17	\$232.50

Again, one cannot run a county with that small of a general fund tax increase, in fact a decrease for four of these five parcels.

While I can name a whole lot of areas in which Clallam County has made mistakes and wasted a lot of money over the past five to ten years, perfection is not anyone's ball game. People, private companies, and governments all make mistakes and waste money. And the opportunity for mistakes and wasted money to occur again increases in situations where people and organizations are maxed out in workloads and minimized in necessary supplies, equipment and machinery. I see this situation existing in Clallam County government and it needs to be corrected.

Although I believe the current expense fund balance is more than is necessary, and that significant improvements to staffing levels and necessary supplies, equipment and machinery may be made by drawing down that fund, the longer the county waits to bring the current expense fund levy up to date, the more difficult it will be to balance the budget once the current expense fund balance is reduced to a more reasonable level (which I believe is much closer to the 16.7% figure recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association and is a figure at which many counties in Washington operate).

To help convince the people that this increase is justified I would suggest stressing the following points:

1. How little this levy has increased over the past years, and in fact has decreased for many people.
2. That the first year 38% increase in this levy does not mean a 38% increase in property taxes. I have heard many comments on the Internet that this levy would increase one's total property tax payments by 38%. Instead, this levy would mean an increase of around \$10 to \$20 dollars a month for most people. And for those who would have to pay more, they could probably afford to pay more.

I do have a concern that the proposed resolution does not state the levy rate beyond the first year of the levy lid lift, but that appears to be what is required by state law. It would seem to me much better if the county could just specify the rate of the levy for each year in dollars per \$1,000.00 assessed property values than specifying a formula that requires looking up data and performing a mathematical calculation. That would make the actual tax increase more apparent to anyone wishing to comment on this resolution and it would make raising the tax rate to the

maximum rate allowed much easier. Such a change would enable a proposed levy lid lift intended to reach the maximum to read as follows:

“1. To provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of essential public services as described above and to maintain adequate reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services, the County shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, levy beginning in the following years and collect beginning in the following years, pursuant to RCW 84.52.043, a general tax on taxable property within the County for County-General purposes, at the following rates per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits for the following years:

Levy Beginning in 2025 and Collect Beginning in 2026	Rate: \$1.05
Levy Beginning in 2026 and Collect Beginning in 2027	Rate: \$1.20
Levy Beginning in 2027 and Collect Beginning in 2028	Rate: \$1.35
Levy Beginning in 2028 and Collect Beginning in 2029	Rate: \$1.50
Levy Beginning in 2029 and Collect Beginning in 2030	Rate: \$1.65
Levy Beginning in 2030 and Collect Beginning in 2031	Rate: \$1.80”

And to not to disappoint any of you by not finding a nit-picky point to complain about . . . The 1st Resolved is more on the order of a Finding. It should be moved to Finding number 7, and Finding number 7 should be finding number 8.

Sincerely,

Ron Richards

Gores, Loni

From: Kelly Johnson <kellyjohnson@olypen.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 2:04 PM
To: Johnson, Randy; Ozias, Mark; French, Mike
Cc: Mielke, Todd; 'Kaj Ahlburg'
Subject: Public Comment on Proposed Levy Lid Lift - Letter Attached
Attachments: 4149_001.pdf

Dear County Commissioners,

On behalf of the Port Angeles Business Association, please find attached our formal letter containing thoughtful public comment regarding the proposed levy lid lift. We respectfully submit it for your careful consideration and review.

We appreciate your attention to community input as you evaluate this important measure.

Sincerely,

Kelly Johnson

President, Port Angeles Business Association

PH# 360-477-5876



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July 29th, 2025

Public comment on proposed Levy Lid Lift

Dear County Commissioners,

Please find following the comments from the Port Angeles Business Association on the proposed levy lid lift. We understand that you are proposing to increase the County Property Tax from \$0.7598 per \$1,000 of assessed value to \$1.05, an increase of over 38%. We oppose such an increase for the following reasons.

People already are overtaxed. Just this year we saw the largest Washington State tax increase in history. The Clallam Conservation District wants to impose a new \$275,000 per year tax. You have been discussing increasing the sales tax by another \$1,800,000 per year. Another tax increase is not what this county, where employment, housing affordability and poverty level numbers are already trending in the wrong direction, needs.

Total Clallam County property tax revenues increase by more than 1% annually because of new construction. 2020 to 2024 Clallam County property tax revenue increased by 24.7% and total revenue (excluding COVID payments) by 29.9%, while inflation was 21.2%. From 2020 to 2024 Clallam County population increase was about 1.1%. County tax revenues are more than keeping up with inflation plus population growth.

The best way to get increased property tax revenues is by creating an economic climate that stimulates new construction. Increasing property taxes and further decreasing the affordability of housing in Clallam County is not the way to do so. There already are people on fixed incomes who had to move out of the county because they could not afford the rising property taxes. Increasing property taxes at a faster pace than currently will just accelerate that trend.

We recommend that you try to find the funds for essential county functions within the current revenue structure as you have successfully done in the past and look to trim expenditures on non-essential items as necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kelly Johnson'.

Kelly Johnson

President, Port Angeles Business Association

Gores, Loni

From: Rick Bart <rick.bart@live.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2025 11:21 AM
To: Johnson, Randy
Subject: Property Taxes

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

Randy,

A few short years ago the school district asked for a special excess levy on top of what they already had citing the existing was due to fall off, it fell, and the very next election it was back on the ballot (and passed) . Fire districts suffered and our property taxes continued to increase at the peril of these public services and ourselves. Our mortgage just went up another \$300.00/ mo. not for assessment. The governor has just signed in another property tax increase and we're in disbelief the county wants another hike. Please add my wife and I to the list of those in opposition.

In addition to the property taxes continued increases I am a LEOFF I retiree who, IF the state is fluid, might get a COLA but there is no provision as with other plans, for an adjustment inflation. That money should have been given back to private management. We'll be taxed out of our home and my wife will have nothing when I'm gone.

We are so disappointed in the priorities of the state. Please help keep this County's in order and fight against this.

Rick BART
Snohomish County Sheriff, emeritus

Gores, Loni

From: Bobbie <bobbiep89@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 28, 2025 2:51 PM
To: Johnson, Randy; Ozias, Mark; French, Mike
Subject: Property tax increase

Some people who received this message don't often get email from bobbiep89@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Commissioners,

I strongly oppose a 38% increase in my property taxes, which continue to rise each year. Why does the government need to constantly grow? When is enough, enough? Stop feeding pizza and providing drug paraphernalia to drug addicts. Stop all your unnecessary spending, and you will be able to live within your means, same as the rest of us. I can't tell Social Security, "Please increase my monthly checks because my county cannot stop increasing their spending". I have to live within my means and so should you. Creating a "water steward" is yet another example of unnecessary spending.

We, the people of Clallam County, are already taxed to our limits.

Thank you for your consideration,

Bobbie Piety, Sequim, WA

BOCC Mail Correspondences Received from other Jurisdictions



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Olympic Region
7407 31st Ave NE, Lacey
P.O. Box 47440
Olympia, WA 98504-7440
360-357-2600 / Fax 360-357-2601
TTY: 1-800-833-6388
www.wsdot.wa.gov

July 24, 2025

Board of Clallam County Commissioners
223 East 4th Street, Suite 4
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing in response to your June 23 letter concerning the chip seal on State Route 110. Our Materials Engineer conducted a thorough review and identified several locations where aggregate shedding has occurred.

The cause of the shedding is twofold. First, the aggregate did not adhere to the seal coat in some locations where pavement repair was done and in areas where we suspect there is water intrusion. The shedding is prominent in locations where the centerline rumble strips were ground out and replaced with hot mix asphalt. Second, the profile of SR 110 is uneven in many places and there is evidence that snowplow operations removed some of the aggregate. This has occurred on other chip seal routes where the roadway profile undulates. Correcting the roadway profile is something we would like to do, but we are not funded at a level that allows for profile corrections.

We reapply chip seals on average every seven years to seal cracks and other minor irregularities in the wearing surface on the roadway. Aggregate shedding affects the ride smoothness, which is frustrating, but the sealcoat is intact. Some shedding and flushing after chip seals occurs periodically and particularly in coastal areas where the weather conditions make chip sealing challenging. That said, the aggregate shedding on SR 110 is greater than we've seen on recent chip seal operations.

Our review indicates that the shedding has stopped and is not likely to continue. Given that the sealcoat is intact and providing the necessary preservation, we plan to hire a contractor to fog seal the areas exhibiting the highest shedding (MP 8 to 11.1) to ensure the seal integrity. We've also

identified an area at MP 3.1 where maintenance crews will conduct pre-leveling activities in an effort to smooth out the ride.

We will continue to monitor the affected sections of SR 110 and will evaluate programming a corrective chip seal sooner than the typical seven-year cycle.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions, please contact my office at (360)-357-2658.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Roark", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steve Roark, P.E.
Olympic Region Administrator

Delivery via email only

SR:cb