



BOARD of CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES for the week of March 16-20, 2026

16
MAR 24 2026

WORK SESSION – 9 a.m.

The work session convened at 9 a.m., Monday, March 16, 2026. Present were Commissioners French, Johnson and Ozias and Administrator Mielke.

Items of discussion per the agenda published March 12 were:

- Calendar/Correspondence
- Resolution appointing members to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Resolution appointing members to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board
- Agreement amendment 1 with Administrative Office of the Courts for the Family Juvenile Court Improvement Plan
- Agreement with the Office of Crime Victim Advocacy for the Victim Witness DV Specific Grant
- Pre-application questionnaire with Northwest Straits Commission for Marine Resources Committee
- Annual certification for road fund expenditures for fish passage barrier removal and traffic law enforcement
- Notice to call for bids to be received no later than Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 10 a.m. regarding 2026 Hot Mix Asphalt Requirements
- Approval of agency/landowner acknowledgment of proposed scenic bikeway designation form
- Resolution appointing the members of the Board of Equalization as Hearing Examiners and the Board of County Commissioners as the Board of Equalization
- Resolution authorizing usage of funds obligated under section 603 "State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund" of the American Rescue Plan Act ARPA to pay eligible public safety personnel costs paid in 2026
- Discussion on proposed budget revisions to be considered on March 31
- Discussion of proposed supplemental appropriations to be considered on March 31
- Discussion of proposed debatable emergencies to be considered on March 31
- Review the "How Did We Do" reports comparing each month's actual performance

The meeting concluded at 11:13 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., Tuesday, March 17, 2026. Also present were Commissioners Johnson and Ozias and Administrator Mielke.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Heather Cantua, District III, commented on item 1d
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim, commented on items 1g, 1h, 1a
- Denise Lapio, Sequim, commented on item 1h

CONSENT AGENDA – Any Commissioner may remove items for discussion

1a Approval of vouchers for the week of March 9

The Following warrants and electronic payments are approved for payment:

Accounts Payable:	Total
Warrant numbers: 9950659 - 9950858	\$562,090.45
Electronic payments dates: n/a	\$0.00
Total Accounts Payable:	\$562,090.45

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1b Approval of payroll for a period ending February 28

The following voucher/warrants/electronic payments are approved for payment:

Payroll	Total
Warrant Numbers	
184824 – 185322, 9950782 – 9950805	\$1,462,744.61
Electronic Payment Date	
3/10/2026 – 3/13/2026	\$1,260,093.47
Total Payroll:	\$2,722,838.08

1c Approval of minutes for the week of March 9

1d Resolution adopting the Clallam County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (2026)

1e Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. regarding an Ordinance amending Clallam County Code Chapter 5.100 Consolidated Fee Schedule to add a new fee schedule Clallam Bay / Sekiu Fee Schedule 600-A

1f Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. regarding an Ordinance amending Clallam County Code Chapter 13.04, Clallam Bay / Sekiu Sewer System

1g Letter of support and landowner acknowledgement form for the Streamflow Restoration Grant for a Dungeness River Restoration Wetlands Feasibility Study

1h Letter of support for the Streamflow Restoration Grant for a point of diversion fish screen at the Highland Irrigation District on the Dungeness River

1i Resolution appointing the members of the Board of Equalization as Hearing Examiners and the Board of County Commissioners as the Board of Equalization

1j Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. regarding an Ordinance establishing an office of county coroner, addressing recruitment and appointment, adopting professional standards, and authorizing the discharge of duties

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

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- CRJ reported on Board of Natural Resources, timber sales
- CMO reported on Marine Resources Committee Meeting, Salish BHASO, house bills
- CMF reported on Clallam Bay / Sekiu Advisory Community Meeting

BUDGET

2a Notice that the following Budget Revisions will be considered for adoption on March 31:

Health & Human Services – Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS)

- (1 of 2) The budget is being revised to transfer FPHS revenue to Environmental Health Administration for one-time special projects, including staff overtime for document scanning, data entry, and evening/weekend community outreach/\$25,000
- (1 of 2) Funding is being transferred from FPHS unanticipated projects to the HHS Operations budget for hand wash stations at the fairgrounds, emergency water filtration systems, public health education materials for community events, and water fountain filtration at the 3rd Street building/\$75,344
- (1 of 2) FPHS revenue from unanticipated projects is being reallocated to fund an HHS Administration special project where employees working outside regular hours will scan paper documents and enter data digitally/\$5,000

Non-Departmental – Opportunity Fund

- The budget revision provides funding for the City of Forks' Industrial Park Manufacturing Building Improvements and Electrical Upgrades, including a \$260,000 loan (up to 4.5% interest over 20 years with a 5-year deferral) and a \$675,000 grant/\$935,000
- This revision corrects the budget to reflect Opportunity Fund support for the Clallam Bay–Sekiu Sewer Pipe Replacement Project as a **working capital loan instead of a transfer**/\$1,000,000

Public Works – Clallam Bay–Sekiu Sewer Capital Replacement

- This revision corrects the budget to reflect Opportunity Fund support for the Clallam Bay–Sekiu Sewer Pipe Replacement Project as a working capital loan instead of a transfer/\$1,000,000

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- This revision corrects the budget to reflect Opportunity Fund support for the Clallam Bay–Sekiu Sewer Pipe Replacement Project as a working capital loan instead of a transfer/\$1,000,000

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to issue notice, CM0s, mc

- 2b Notice that the following Supplemental Appropriations will be considered for adoption on March 31:
- Sheriff – Operations Stonegarden – The Operation Stonegarden FY24 Grant funds night vision goggle repairs and flotation devices, with expenses and reimbursement moved from the 2025 to the 2026 budget/\$19,630
- Health & Human Services – Environmental Health – (2 of 2) The budget is being revised to transfer Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) revenue to Environmental Health Administration for one-time special projects, including staff overtime for document scanning, data entry, and evening/weekend community outreach/\$25,000
- Health & Human Services - Operations – (2 of 2) Funding is being transferred from Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) unanticipated projects to the HHS Operations budget for hand wash stations at the fairgrounds, emergency water filtration systems, public health education materials for community events, and water fountain filtration at the 3rd Street building/\$75,344
- Health & Human Services - Administration – (2 of 2) Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) revenue from unanticipated projects is being reallocated to fund an HHS Administration special project where employees working outside regular hours will scan paper documents and enter data digitally/\$5,000

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to issue notice, CM0s, mc

- 2c Resolution calling for a hearing to be held March 31 at 10:30 a.m. to consider adopting the for the following Debatable Emergencies:
- Sheriff – Operations
- The Sheriff's Office handles over two-thirds of the County's public records requests, which are increasingly complex due to audio and video files that require review and redaction. The Public Records Officer recommends adopting tested AI software to streamline this process/\$9,252
 - Funding is needed for the repair of two patrol vehicles damaged in collisions. ER&R coordinated the work through multiple vendors at a total cost of \$9,235, and all repairs are complete/\$9,235
- Sheriff - Jail
- The jail kitchen's walk-in refrigerator, installed in 2007 and past its expected lifespan, requires frequent repairs. Replacement is recommended at an estimated cost of \$65,000 through a Washington State Department of Enterprise Services contract/\$65,000
 - The 2026 budget must be updated to include increased salary and benefit costs from the newly ratified Corrections Deputies' labor contract effective March 1, 2026, including cost-of-living and benefit changes and a pay adjustment for Corrections Sergeants to maintain the required pay differential/\$309,437
- Sheriff – Clinical Services - The 2026 budget must be updated to include increased salary and benefit costs from the newly ratified Corrections Deputies' labor contract effective March 1, 2026, affecting Sheriff Clinical Services, which includes a Corrections Deputy position/\$14,381
- Sheriff – Animal Control - The 2026 budget must be updated to include increased salary and benefit costs from the newly ratified Corrections Deputies' labor contract effective March 1, 2026, affecting Sheriff Animal Control, which includes a Corrections Deputy position/\$16,356
- Public Works – Carlsborg Sewer Capital Repair/Replacement - Funding is needed to cover the difference between the \$85,711 budgeted estimate from June 2025 and the \$97,037.26 actual cost billed in the February 2026 true-up invoice under the Carlsborg Sewer–City of Sequim Interlocal Agreement/\$11,326

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt, CM0s, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on item 1d, Elwha forest plans (see attached)
- Kim Butler, Port Angeles, commented on item walk-in fridge maintenance

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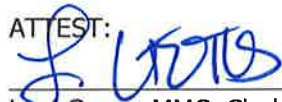
- Theresa Miller, Sequim, commented on reports and presentations, investments, schools
- Denise Lapio, Sequim, commented on house bills, No Kings
- Joe Schmidt, Joyce, commented on Marine Resource Committee, Revenue Advisory Committee, timber
- Mark Curtis, Sequim, commented on Department of Natural Resources, Board of Natural Resources
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on Commissioners incivility
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim, commented on water filtration stations
- Kenneth Reandeau, Port Angeles, commented on Department of Natural Resources projections, leadership, Federal Government

The meeting concluded at 11:25 a.m. and continued until Monday, March 23, 2026 at 9 a.m.

The Board of Commissioners attended a Department of Natural Resources Meeting, Revenue Advisory Committee meeting, Board of Equalization Meeting, Board of Health Meeting, Coffee with Colleen and Clallam Transit Meeting during the week of March 16, 2026.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of March 2026

ATTEST:

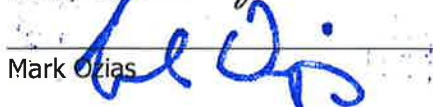


Lori Gores, MMC, Clerk of the Board

BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Mike French, Chair


Randy Johnson
Mark Ozias



**NATURAL
RESOURCES**

RESTORE RECREATION FUNDING

Ed Bowen
3/17/26

**REDUCTIONS IN RECREATION MAINTENANCE RESOURCES ARE
CREATING AN UNSAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR HIKERS, BIKERS,
CAMPERS, AND OTHER RECREATORS.**



**Recreation
investments support
1,300 miles of trails**

**More than 200
recreation sites**

**80 free
campgrounds**

3.1 million acres

**20 million visits
annually**

**237,000 jobs across
WA**



**CONSERVATION CORPS AND RECREATION LANDS
MAINTENANCE FUNDING** have been crucial resources in helping
the Washington Department of Natural Resources address resource
dumping, public use, storm damage, and site safety across millions of
acres of public lands.

**RECREATION MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS
FUNDING** was reduced by more than \$7 million in the 2025
legislative session; a more than **20% funding cut**. The Governor's
proposed 2026 operating budget includes additional M&O reductions
of \$750,000 per year. The 2025 funding cuts included legislative
appropriation used to purchase time from the Washington
Conservation Corps (WCC) and other corps programs. These young
adult crews accounted for **nearly half of the total field capacity**
available to DNR for trail and campground maintenance. DNR's very
limited field staff have been left to try to keep up without the support
of our corps partners.

AT CURRENT STAFFING LEVELS, DNR Recreation has 60 field
staff across the state; meaning there is only **one staff person** per
every **21.6 miles** of trail, **50,000 acres**, or **333,000 visitors** to DNR-
managed lands. Further cuts will continue to be detrimental to the
program and recreation access across Washington.

IMPACTS OF CONTINUED CUTS TO RECREATION MAINTENANCE FUNDING

- **DNR campgrounds and recreation sites are at risk of closure** due to eliminated funding for WA Conservation Corps Crews to support reopening.
- Reductions in access will impact user experiences.
- **Unsafe trail conditions**, including storm damage and illegal trash dumping, will not be addressed due to staff capacity.
- Trailheads and bathrooms will see more use and less ability to address daily use and cleaning.
- Increasing **backlog of maintenance**, which will become increasingly difficult and expensive to address with time.



Recreation maintenance funding allows for safe, accessible, and meaningful outdoor opportunities for recreators across Washington

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

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POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF BUDGET REDUCTIONS

RECREATION SITE	COUNTY/LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT	LEVEL OF IMPACT
29 Pines Campground	Kittitas County, 13 th LD	Late opening, reduced services
Ahtanum Campground	Yakima County, 15 th LD	Late opening
Anderson Lake Campground (Tahoma State Forest)	Lewis County, 20 th and 2 nd LD	Full closure
Bear Creek Campground	Clallam County, 24 th LD	Full closure
Bradley Trails ORV Area	Wahkiakum County, 19 th LD	Full closure
Chopaka Lake and Cold Spring Campgrounds	Okanagan County, 7 th LD	Potential for full closure
Dougan Creek Campground	Skamania County, 17 th LD	Full closure
Dragoon Creek Campground	Spokane County, 6 th LD	Full closure
Green Mountain State Forest ORV Trails	Kitsap County, 35 th and 36 th LD	Seasonal closure
Harry Osborne State Forest	Skagit County, 39 th LD	Seasonal closures
Hoh-Oxbow Campground	Jefferson County, 24 th LD	Full closure
Island Camp Campground	Yakima County, accessed from Klickitat County, 14 th LD	Full closure
Lyre River Campground	Clallam County, 24 th LD	Full closure
North Mountain Trails and Skills Park	Snohomish County, 39 th LD	Service reductions
Reiter Foothills State Forest	Snohomish County, 12 th LD	Partial closures
Skookum Creek Campground	Pend Oreille County, 7 th LD	Full closure
Snoqualmie area sites	King County, 5 th LD	Seasonal bathroom closures
Tunerville Campground	Pacific County, 19 th LD	Full closure
Winston Creek Campground	Lewis County, 20 th LD	Full closure