



APR 14 2026

BOARD of CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES for the week of April 6-10, 2026

WORK SESSION – 9 a.m.

The work session convened at 9 a.m., Monday, April 6, 2026. Present were Commissioners French, Johnson and Ozias and Administrator Mielke.

Items of discussion per the agenda published March 31 were:

- Calendar/Correspondence
- Contract amendment 10 with Department of Health for the consolidated contract programs – WIC, Swimming Beach Programs, Maternal & Child Health Block Grant and Sanitary Survey
- Resolution altering voting precinct boundary lines for annexations
- Resolution authorizing an expenditure from the Affordable Housing Sales and Use Fund for the approved 2024 Affordable Housing Tax Funding application – Peninsula Housing Authority
- Open County position review
- Agreement amendment 3 with Department of Ecology for the Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir Project
- Land purchase agreement with Olympic Timber LLC for Bullman Beach well site
- Request for Shadow Mountain final plat 12-month extension\
- Streamkeepers update
- Clallam Conservation District update
- Discussion regarding a response to the Bureau of Indian Affairs regarding lands transfer
- Discussion regarding the transfer of the Dungeness Wildlife Refuge and the Protection Island Wildlife Refuge to the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe

The meeting concluded at 11:26 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., Tuesday, April 7, 2026. Also present were Commissioner Ozias and Administrator Mielke. Commissioner Johnson was excused.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: CMOm to adopt the agenda as modified, CMFs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Teresa Miller, Sequim, commented on item 1d
- Mark Curtis, Sequim, commented on having no vouchers for the week
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on item 1d, reports and presentation
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on item 1d

CONSENT AGENDA – Any Commissioner may remove items for discussion

1a Approval of payroll for a period ending March 15

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

Payroll	Total
Warrant Numbers	
185324 – 185647, 9951398	\$765,543.42
Electronic Payment Date	
3/16/2026 – 3/26/2026	\$658,901.91
Total Payroll:	\$1,424,445.33

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- 1b Approval of special payroll for a period ending March 31

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

Payroll	Total
Warrant Numbers	
185323	\$7,771.91
Electronic Payment Date	
n/a	\$0
Total Payroll:	\$7,771.91

- 1c Approval of minutes for the week of March 30

- 1d Letter of support for 10,000 Years Institute's Pulling Together in Restoration Project

- 1e Resolution appointing Beverly Turner Burton to the Marine Resources Committee

- 1f Purchase order with Carousel Industries for the Avaya phone system annual renewal

- 1g Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. regarding an Ordinance amending Clallam County Code Chapter 5.100 Consolidated Fee Schedule – Fees for the Clerk of the Superior Court 115-A

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to approve the consent agenda as presented, CMFs, mc

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- CMO reported on Sequim-Shiso Friendship Garden Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, department staff meeting, Hood Canal Bridge closures, Community Wildfire Protection Plan, pet care trailers
- CMF reported on Mental Health Court Graduation,

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

- 2a Agreement with Department of Ecology for the Clallam County Marine Resources Committee

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to approve, CMFs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Teresa Miller, Sequim, commented on Mental Health Court Graduation
- Jim Bower, Sequim, commented on the Clallam Conservation District presentation, wildfire
- Ron Richards, Port Angeles, commented on trust land transfers, wetland issues
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on trust land transfers, harm reduction
- Charles Creed, Clallam County, commented on doing business, honoring agreements, sobriety
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on tribal rights
- Karin Cummins, Sequim, commented on noise ordinance, Jamestown Tribe taking care of the spit, property search page
- Unknown name, commented on Mental Health Court Graduation, harm reduction, letter his wife wrote
- Kathleen Keen, Sequim, commented on trust land transfers, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (see attached)
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on Coffee with Colleen, Charter Review recommendation, Department of Community Development, Elwha public lands (see attached)
- Mark Curtis, Sequim, commented on Bureau of Indian Affairs responses, trust land transfers
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim, commented on Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge, Protection Island Wildlife Refuge, Commissioner Ozias receiving email from Ron Allen – Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe letter of support, Bureau of Indian Affairs letters, BOCC mission statement
- Joe Schmitt, Clallam County, commented on trust land transfers, Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge, Jamestown Tribe, commercial forester
- Diana Morales Henderson, Clallam County, commented on trust land transfers, Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge

The meeting concluded at 11:05 a.m. and continued until Monday, April 13, 2026 at 9 a.m.

BOARD of CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES for the week of April 6-10, 2026

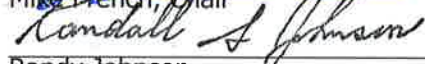
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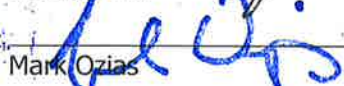
The Board of Commissioners attended a WSAC Virtual Updated, BOCC Town Hall Meeting, Feiro Marine Life Center Groundbreaking Ceremony, KONP Radio Show, KSQM Radio Show and Coffee with Colleen during the week of April 6, 2026.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of April 2026

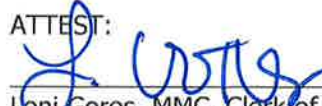
BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Mike French, Chair


Randy Johnson


Mark Ozias

ATTEST:


Loni Gores, MMC, Clerk of the Board

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

ATM Administrator Todd Mielke
CMO Commissioner Mark Ozias
CRJ Commissioner Randy Johnson
CMF Commissioner Mike French

m moved
mc motion carried
s seconded



Public Comment
Kathleen Keen
4/7/26

Clallam Commissioner Meeting Public Comment 4/7/26

I am opposed to relinquishing any public property, or management thereof, to the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Corporation. The Dungeness area and Protection Island are protected property and we want to preserve it in perpetuity for ALL people and wildlife, not for a separate sovereign nation's corporate agenda.

The S'Klallam Tribe claims this land "since time immemorial". This history is challenged by members of the Chimacum Tribe, they claim the S'Klallam came from Canada and made war on the Chimacum and other local tribes. We see proof of the Chimacum heritage dating back to the 1500's and understand that many of their people were killed off by aggressors of other tribes. We cannot find the S'Klallam history dating back that far.

We have heard of the S'Klallam tribe's plans to acquire most of the land in Sequim and those goals conflict with our private property rights. Each time the tribe removes property from the tax rolls in Clallam County our private property is then assessed the difference. Over time this practice devalues our properties because the tax burden is too great.

Per capita the S'Klallam Indians in Sequim are likely the most wealthy tribe in the nation. Although they do not report population or income we generally know the actual population is in the low 200's and their estimated annual income is estimated to be 86 million dollars. Yet they claim they are overburdened, underserved and vulnerable on their DNR application. Why add to their burdens by giving them more land?

Protection Island was private property, sectioned and sold to private owners but in the early 1970's it was designated as a Wildlife Bird Reserve and all those people were evicted off the island. They were required to remove all building materials and transport it to the mainland for disposal. That was just over 50 years ago so none of them are here to speak about how their property rights were dismissed. Was the plan to give it to the tribe all along?

Now we hear the S'Klallam tribe's plan to build roads on Protection Island this summer. Why do the wildlife and birds need roads built? Birds fly and animals don't need roads so there must be another agenda but we don't know what it is. We do know of the generous campaign contributions to those candidates who support the tribal agenda. We should all want to explore this completely before making any awards or proclamations.

The S'Klallam tribe has been exceptionally successful in getting both federal and state grants and using it to gain more and more property. With our tax dollars! We are alarmed at their influence with our elections. With the fraud and corruption we are seeing all over the country with other government programs such as child/elder care, Medicare, elections etc. I respectfully request placing a hold on tribal or land related awards until we can thoroughly examine these issues.

Kathleen Keen Sequim, Washington

Public comment
Ed Bowen
4/7/26

Legislation: S 1513 (Cantwell) and HB 2388 (Randall)

A bill that has passed the House that needs to be amended to dispose of a portion of the lands acquired by the Federal government through the 1992 Elwha River Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act (PL 102-495), to the State of Washington and Clallam County.

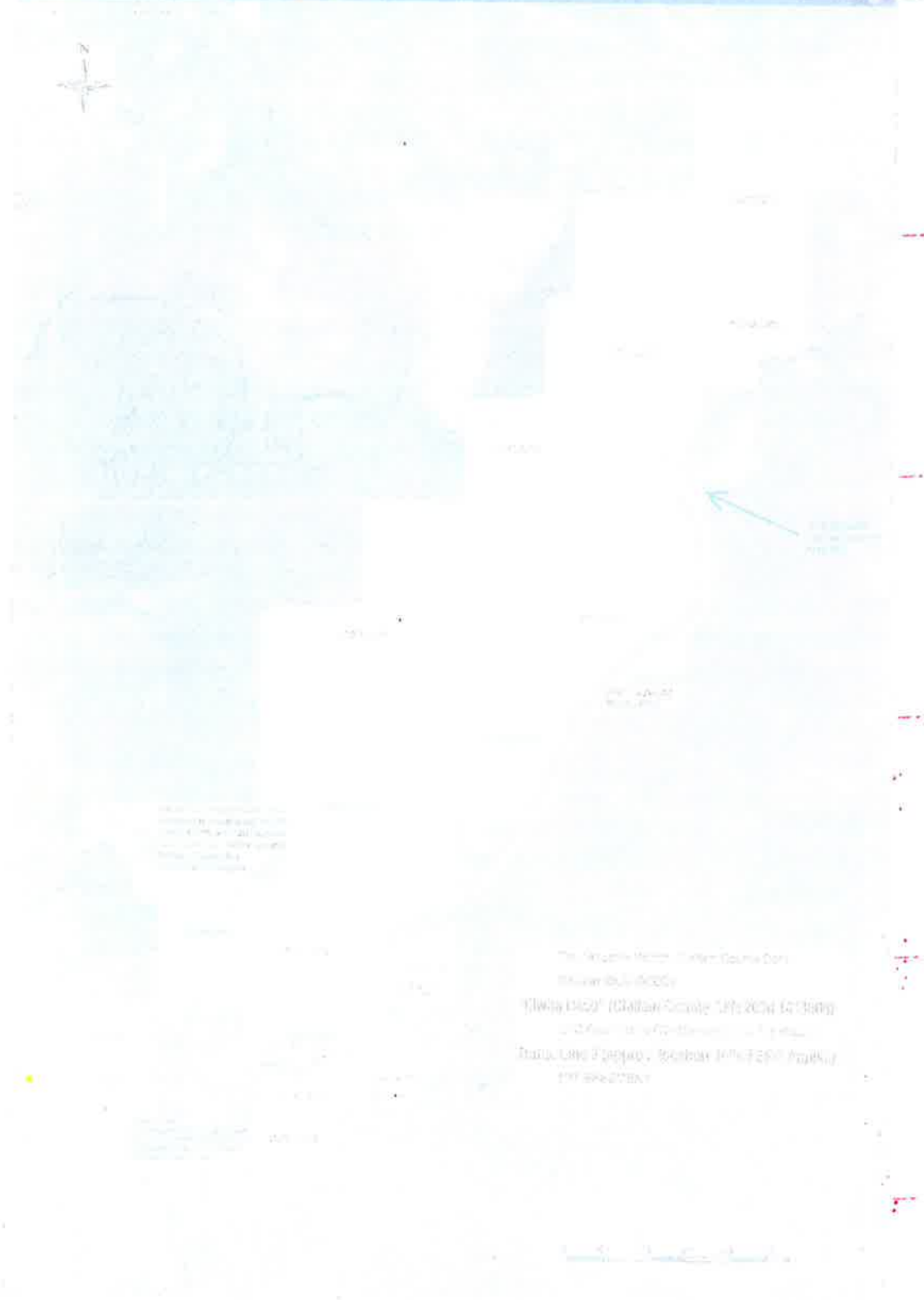
Current bill as written provides all acreage transferred to the Lower Elwha Tribe with no consideration for the interest of the State or its sub agent Clallam County. Of the acreage designated in the proposed acts, an estimated 450 acres would be of the best interest to transfer to State and county for the purpose of:

- State Highway 101 bridge crossing of the Elwha River, Washington State Department of Transportation, currently is an easement and should be fee simple transferred.
- Recreation, loss of campgrounds on Federal lands in the basin; supplement a potential county park on county lands surrounded by said acreage, a previous boat launch that with additional acreage transferred could accommodate a campground and provide public access to the waters of the state prioritized by the state's shoreline management act.
- As determined in the 1992 act's FEIS Record of Decision, such disposal allows for upland timberland management. County transfer lands adjacent that have a fiduciary responsibility to provide revenues to the county and taxing districts can recover some of their operable acres from intrusive deferments that have reduced revenues with no foreseeable improvement; the option to produce revenue off these lands or project such deferment burdens as ESA for unoccupied habitat.
- The estimated amount is also an effort to preclude multi-jurisdictional checkerboard for other aspects of the disposal, access to state trust lands, a reliable landscape for maintaining the state highway adjacent, and that total loss of state jurisdiction and obligations to the people of the county and state.

It has been 32 years since the provisions of the act called for the disposal of the Elwha Project Lands to 4 interested parties; the National Park Service expressed no interest, the National Wildlife Refuge expressed no interest, the State of Washington was derelict in responding to having an interest in those same 32 years, Clallam County has an interest. We invested 29.5 million dollars to acquire private property in the action to remove the two dams resulting from the act

Please engage Clallam County Commissioners to amend this legislation for due consideration of the interest that exist.

Ed Bowen
Clallam County Tax Payer



United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

WWW.ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

Clallam County
has an interest in
the Elwha Project
Lands (S1513 or HB2388)

Bocce

United States Senate

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