



**MEETING MINUTES
COUNTY COUNCIL
SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJC), WASHINGTON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025**

Legislative Hearing Room, 55 Second Street, Friday Harbor, WA

09:00 AM Call to Order & Flag Salute.

Council Chair McVeigh called the meeting to order at 09:00 AM. Present: Council Members Jane Fuller, Kari McVeigh, and Justin Paulsen, County Manager Jessica Hudson, and Clerk to the County Sally Rogers.

Excused Absences: None.

Approval of Agenda: No changes.

Chair McVeigh moved to approve the agenda, Council: All Ayes.

Approval of Minutes: Council Member Fuller approved the December 23, 2024 San Juan County Council meeting minutes.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to approve the Consent Agenda of Tuesday, February 11, 2025 as presented. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

New Employee Introductions:

- Mark Tompkins introduced; Mark Wilbur – Public Health Social Worker, Erin Schuldt – Public Heath Nurse III, and Larissa Nash – Health Program Specialist.
- Kyle Dodd introduced Anna Pierotti – Department of Community Development Records Specialist.

Public Access Time:

09:10 AM Discussion/Action: Letter of Support for OPAL Community Land Trust Pea Patch Community Campus, Councilmember Justin Paulsen.

Mr. Paulsen presented the letter, after discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen that the San Juan County Council sign the letter in support of the OPAL Community Land Trust's Pea Patch Community Campus project. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

09:15 AM Discussion/Action: Letter of Support for Friends of the Lopez Island Pool (FLIP), Councilmember Jane Fuller.

Ms. Fuller presented the letter, after discussion, Council took the following action:

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MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen that the San Juan County Council sign the letter in support of the Friends of the Lopez Island Pool (FLIP). All Ayes, Motion Carried.

09:20 AM Discussion/Action: Letter of Support to Legislative District 40 regarding a Historic Courthouse Grant, Greg Sawyer - Facilities Director.

Mr. Sawyer presented the letter, after discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen that the San Juan County Council sign the letter, as amended, requesting support of LD40 members for San Juan County's Historic Courthouse Grant. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

09:35 AM Discussion/Action: Letter of Support for Rock Island Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) application, Jessica Hudson- County Manager.

Ms. Hudson presented the letter, after discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen that the San Juan County Council sign the letter supporting Rock Island's BEAD grant application. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

09:45 AM Discussion/Action: Second touch and setting a public hearing for February 11, 2025, at 9 a.m., to consider adoption of a Resolution to Dispose of Surplus County Property by Public Auction, John Roach-Fleet Director.

Mr. Roach presented the resolution and answered Council's questions. After discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to set a public hearing for February 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., to consider approval of a Resolution to Dispose of Surplus County Property to by Public Auction. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

10:00 AM Discussion: Discussion of use of Emergency Rapid Response funding, Jessica Hudson - County Manager and Mark Tompkins - Director of Health and Community Services.

Ms. Hudson and Mr. Tompkins briefed Council and answered their questions.

10:45 AM Discussion/Action: First touch and setting a public hearing for February 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to consider adoption of a Resolution providing for the submission of a proposition to the qualified voters of San Juan County at a Special Election to be held on April 22, 2025, for the approval or rejection of the formation of a Metropolitan Park District on Lopez Island pursuant to RCW Chapter 35.61. Jennifer Poole, Kit Ledbetter, Brady Smith, Lopez Island Park and Rec Formation Committee.

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Ms. Poole, Mr. Ledbetter and Mr. Smith gave a presentation and answered Council's questions. After discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to set a public hearing for February 11, 2025, at 9:00 am to consider approval of a Resolution providing for the submission of a proposition to the qualified voters of San Juan County at a Special Election on April 22, 2025 for the approval or rejections of the formation of a Metropolitan Park District on Lopez Island, pursuant to RCW Chapter 35.61. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

11:15 AM Discussion: Legislative Priorities during the 2025 Session, Representative Alex Ramel.

Representative Alex Ramel joined the Council meeting via video conference to introduce himself and to discuss areas of interest to the Council for the Washington State 2025 Legislative Session.

11:30 AM Discussion/Action: First touch and to set a public hearing date for the meeting of February 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to consider a Resolution Authorizing a Multi-Year Lease of The Frazer Homestead Preserve Agricultural Area Property on San Juan Island for Agricultural Purposes. Lincoln Bormann - Land Bank Director and Erin Halcomb – Land Bank Steward.

First touch and to set a public hearing date for the meeting of February 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to consider a Resolution Authorizing a Multi-Year Lease of The Beaverton Marsh Preserve Agricultural Area Property on San Juan Island for Agricultural Purposes. Erin Halcomb – Land Bank Steward.

Ms. Halcomb gave a presentation to Council and answered their questions. After discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to set public hearings for the Council meeting date of February 11, 2025, at 9:00am to consider a Resolution Authorizing a Multi-Year Lease of The Frazer Homestead Preserve Agricultural Area Property on San Juan Island for Agricultural Purposes, and a Resolution Authorizing a Multi-Year Lease of The Beaverton Marsh Preserve Agricultural Area Property on San Juan Island for Agricultural Purposes. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

11:40 AM Discussion: 1st touch, Recommendation from Law and Justice Council to add additional members. Amy Vira, Prosecuting Attorney.

Ms. Vira presented the recommendation to Council and answered their questions. Council gave to proceed with a draft ordinance for a 2nd touch, and for setting a public hearing at that time.

11:50 AM Recess

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12:50 PM New Business: Ms. Fuller brought forward for discussion what Council is contemplating during the Comp Plan and Growth Management updates for critical resources availability (concerns if there is enough water and energy/power.)

01:00 PM Discussion: Legislative Priorities during the 2025 Session, Senator Liz Lovelett and Representative Debra Lekanoff.

Representative Debra Lekanoff and Senator Liz Lovelett joined the Council meeting via video conference to introduce themselves and to discuss areas of interest to the Council for the Washington State 2025 Legislative Session.

01:30 PM New Business, continued: Ms. Hudson made a recommendation to Council to begin their upcoming Monday Council meeting, January 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. with an extended recess to give time to attend the EDC Ferry Forum meeting.

01:35 AM County Manager & Clerk Updates

Ms. Hudson: Briefed Council that updates from County Manager includes large meetings, initiatives or projects that happen since the last Council meeting.

Attended the following: Council retreat meetings, Exit Audit Conference review with the Auditor Warmenhoven, staff and the State Auditor, Town Council meeting, met with Friends of the San Juan, a jurisdiction in Washington regarding the 32-hour work week, and met with Whatcom County Coroner.

Ms. Rogers: Announced the upcoming Council meetings; January 27, February 10, 11, and 25.

Committee Appointments

- **Board of Equalization:** To consider an appointment for Mathew Laslo for a 3-year term starting 1/21/2025 to 1/21/2028.
- **Marine Resources Committee:** To consider an appointment for Charles Bookman (District 3) for a 4-year term starting 1/21/2025 to 1/21/2029.
- **Clean Water Advisory Committee:** To consider an appointment to Position 11 (District 3/Lopez Island) for Richard Locke for a 4-year term starting 1/21/2025 to 1/21/2029.

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to approve the slate of candidates for committee appointments as read by the Council Clerk. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

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01:45 PM Discussion/Action: Second touch, to set a public hearing date for the meeting of February 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., to consider approval of an Ordinance Regarding Vacation Rental Permits in Eastsound Village Commercial and Lopez Commercial Designations; Amending Land Use Tables Within SJCC 18.30.465, Mark Tompkins – Interim Director of Department of Community Development and Kyle Dodd – Interim Deputy Director of Department of Community Development.

Mr. Tompkins and Mr. Dodd gave a presentation and answered Council's questions. After discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to set a hearing on February 11, 2025, to consider approval of an Ordinance Regarding Vacation Rental Permits in Eastsound Village Commercial and Lopez Village Commercial Designations; Amending Land Use Tables Within SJCC 18.30.465 and SJCC 18.30.750. All Ayes, Motion Carried.

02:10 AM Council Updates

Ms. Fuller: Attended the following: Opening of the Galley Restaurant, Lopez Solid Waste Disposal District meeting, State Auditor Exit Conference. met with Lincoln Bormann, Land Bank Commission meeting, met with OPALCO, Rally for the Rec Campaign Town Hall meeting,

Mr. Paulsen: Attended the following: Agricultural Resources Committee meeting,

To attend: Swearing in the new Health Care District Commissioner on Orcas Island and working on the Fix Our Ferries process down in Olympia.

Ms. McVeigh: Attended the following: Parks and Rec Commission meeting.

In communication with the school superintendents to offer support from the County Council.

To attend: Reading to elementary students, San Juan Community Home Trust meeting.

02:25 PM Executive Session

- To discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)
- To evaluate the Performance of a Public Employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g)

Council Chair McVeigh announced that the Council would be holding an Executive Session, to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) and to evaluate the Performance of a Public Employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g), estimated to last 55 minutes in total to begin at 2:25 PM and end at 3:30 PM followed by adjournment.

[Present: Full Council County Manager Jessica Hudson, and Prosecuting Attorney Amy Vira.]

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Adjourn 3:30 PM

**COUNTY COUNCIL
SAN JUAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Signed by:



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Kari McVeigh
District 1

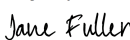
Signed by:



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Justin Paulsen
District 2

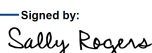
Signed by:



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Jane Fuller
District 3

ATTEST: Clerk to the Council

By:  2/25/2025
Sally Rogers Date:

Minutes approved by San Juan County Council on February 11, 2025.