



**MEETING MINUTES
COUNTY COUNCIL
SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJC), WASHINGTON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

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

09:00 AM Call to Order & Flag Salute.

Council Chair Paulsen called the meeting to order at 09:00 AM, Council Chair Paulsen appointed Council Member McVeigh to Chair this meeting. Present: Council Members Kari McVeigh, Jane Fuller and Justin Paulsen (via tele-conference), County Manager Jessica Hudson, and Clerk to the Council Sally Rogers.

Excused Absences: None.

Approval of Agenda: Approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes:

MOVED by Ms. McVeigh, seconded by Ms. Fuller to approve the San Juan County Council January 20, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. ALL AYES: MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Ms. McVeigh, seconded by Ms. Fuller to approve the Consent Agenda of Tuesday, February 10, 2026, as presented. ALL AYES: MOTION CARRIED.

New Employee Introductions:

Treasurer Rhonda Peterson introduced Karen Master – Financial Clerk II, Treasurer’s Office and Sawyer Henderson - Financial Clerk III, Treasurer’s Office.

Assessor John Kulseth introduced Megan Brittell – Statistical Analyst, Assessor’s Office.

Deputy Director Public Works Jesse Douglass-Seitz introduced John Schade- Project Manager, Public Works.

Public Comments: None.

09:07 AM New Business: Council Member Fuller discussed San Juan County’s participation in becoming members of the Public Ferry Coalition. Ms. Fuller will be attending a Public Ferry Coalition meeting today, 2/10/2026, at 12:00 p.m.

- County Manager offered to have discussion regarding Public Defense Bills ahead of today’s agenda item, 2026 Legislative discussion with Josh Weiss, Columbia Policy Advisors.

09:15 AM PUBLIC HEARINGS – PUBLIC TESTIMONY ACCEPTED

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- 50
51 1) To consider a Resolution Authorizing the Sale of a Deed of Interest in Well and Grant of Well
52 Easement at Tax Parcel No. 262412001000 on Orcas Island, Lincoln Bormann –
53 Director, Land Bank.
54

55 Present: Full Council, County Manager Jessica Hudson, and Clerk to the Council Sally Rogers.
56

57 Chair Paulsen opened the public hearing to consider adoption of the resolution. Mr. Bormann
58 presented the resolution and answered Council's questions.
59

60 Chair Paulsen opened public testimony. Public testimony offered by the following: None.
61

62 Chair Paulsen closed public testimony with the right to reopen. After discussion, Council
63 took the following action:
64

65 **MOVED by Ms. McVeigh, seconded by Ms. Fuller to approve a Resolution Authorizing the**
66 **Sale of a Deed of Interest in Well and Grant of Well Easement at Tax Parcel No. 262412001000**
67 **on Orcas Island. ALL AYES: MOTION CARRIED.**
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69

- 70 2) To consider an Ordinance Amending the Minimum Density in the Eastsound Village
71 Commercial Designation in San Juan County Code (SJCC) Chapter 18.30; Article VIII,
72 Eastsound Subarea Plan, Colin Maycock – Planner IV, Department of Community
73 Development.
74

75 Present: Full Council, County Manager Jessica Hudson, and Clerk to the Council Sally Rogers.
76

77 Chair Paulsen opened the public hearing to consider adoption of the ordinance. Mr. Maycock
78 presented the ordinance and answered Council's questions.
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80 Chair Paulsen opened public testimony. Public testimony offered by the following: None.
81

82 Chair Paulsen closed public testimony with the right to reopen. After discussion, Council
83 took the following action:
84

85 **MOVED by Ms. McVeigh, seconded by Ms. Fuller to adopt an Ordinance Amending the**
86 **Minimum Density in the Eastsound Village Commercial Designation in San Juan County**
87 **Code (SJCC) Chapter 18.30; Article VIII, Eastsound Subarea Plan. ALL AYES: MOTION**
88 **CARRIED.**
89

90 **09:23 AM** **Discussion/Action:** To consider a Resolution Providing for the Submissions to
91 the Voters of San Juan County a Proposition Authorizing the County to Increase
92 the County Regular Property Tax Levy in 2027 as Provided by RCW 84.55.050
93 and to Use the 2027 Levy Amount to Calculate Subsequent Year Levy Limits,
94 Jessica Hudson – County Manager.
95

96 Ms. Hudson presented the resolution and answered Council's questions. After discussion,

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Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. McVeigh, seconded by Ms. Fuller to adopt a Resolution Providing for the Submissions to the Voters of San Juan County a Proposition Authorizing the County to Increase the County Regular Property Tax Levy in 2027 as Provided by RCW 84.55.050 and to Use the 2027 Levy Amount to Calculate Subsequent Year Levy Limits. ALL AYES: MOTION CARRIED.

09:55 AM Discussion: Recap of San Juan County Support to Skagit County Flood Response, Brendan Cowan – Director, Department of Emergency Management and Erin Andrews – Communications Coordinator.

Mr. Cowan and Ms. Andrews provided the recap and answered Council's questions.

10:20 AM Discussion: 2026 Legislative Session Bills of Interest, Jessica Hudson – County Manager.

Ms. Hudson presented the bills of interest and answered Council's questions.

10:50 AM Discussion: Council discussion of Ferries during 2026 Legislative Session and Review of Draft Letter San Juan County Council Ferry and Marine Access-Council Areas of Emphasis, Chair Justin Paulsen.

Chair Paulsen reviewed the draft letter with Council, minor edits were finalized and the Council Clerk was directed to complete the letter, gather signatures and deliver the letter,

11:05 AM Discussion: Organizational Structure Overview Discussion, Jessica Hudson – County Manager.

Ms. Hudson presented the overview and answered Council's questions.

11:43 AM Clerk Update: Ms. Rogers: Upcoming meetings; March 2, 3, 23, 24, 2026.

Committee Appointment/Reappointments:

- Planning Commission: To appoint Luis Colasuonno for a 4- year term starting 2/10/2026 – 2/10/2030, SJI Position #4.
- Planning Commission: To appoint Steven Hudson for a 4- year term starting 2/10/2026 – 2/10/2030, SJI Position #5.
- Fair Board: To reappoint Terri Brown for a 3-year term starting 2/10/2026 – 12/31/2029, At Large, Position #8.
- Fair Board: To reappoint Josephine Bangs for a 3-year term starting 2/10/2026 – 12/31/2029, At Large, Position #8
- Clean Water Advisory Committee: To appoint Mark Prugar for a 4- year term starting 2/10/2026 – 2/10/2030, District 1, Position #1.

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- Land Bank Commission: To appoint Christopher Guidotti, for a 4-year term starting 2/10/2026 – 2/10/2030, at Large Position #4
- Land Bank Commission: To appoint Mary Gropp, for a 4-year term starting 2/10/2026 – 2/10/2030, at Large Position #5.

MOVED by Ms. McVeigh, seconded by Ms. Fuller to approve the committee appointment as read by the Clerk. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

11:46 AM New Business:

- Council Chair Paulsen discussed a proposed Resolution from a constituent from Orcas Island regarding Federal level funding to ICE and immigration issues. Council discussed that individual letters or statements to the Federal Government may be better suited.
- County Manager Hudson recommended a Special meeting be added for 2/23/2026, to appoint a Pro and Con committee to draft the language for the ballot item to place a levy on the ballot for the April Special Election. Council agreed to have a Special meeting on 2/23/2026.
- County Manager Hudson giving a heads up that staff have received communications from legislators regarding congressionally directed spending or Community Development spending. Ms. Hudson requested Council consider approval on two potential applications for funding: 1) Orcas Landing Project, 2) Sutton Transfer Station. No decision needs to be made today.

12:00 PM Discussion: 2026 Legislative Session Check In, Josh Weiss – Partner, Columbia Policy Advisors.

Mr. Weiss gave updates for the 2026 Legislative Session.

12: 25 PM Council Member Updates: none.

County Manager Update:

Ms. Hudson Attended the Town Council meeting.

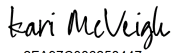
Chair Paulsen adjourned the meeting at 12:26 PM.

ADJOURN 12:26 PM

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Signed by:

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Kari McVeigh
District 1

Signed by:

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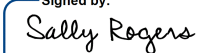
Justin Paulsen
District 2

Signed by:

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Jane Fuller
District 3

ATTEST: Clerk to the Council

By:  3/17/2026
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Sally Rogers Date:

Minutes approved by San Juan County Council on March 3, 2026.