



**MEETING MINUTES
COUNTY COUNCIL
SAN JUAN COUNTY (SJC), WASHINGTON
TUESDAY, JULY 15, 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 Kari McVeigh, Jane Fuller and Justin Paulsen, 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 Mr. Paulsen, seconded by Ms. McVeigh to approve the San Juan County Council June 3, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. Vote 2:0:0 (Ms. Fuller excused absence on 6/3/2025) Motion Carried.

MOVED by Mr. Paulsen, seconded by Ms. Fuller to approve the San Juan County Council June 9, 10, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. ALL AYES: MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

MOVED by Mr. Paulsen, seconded by Ms. Fuller to approve the Consent Agenda of Tuesday, July 15, 2025, as presented. ALL AYES: MOTION CARRIED.

New Employee Introductions:

- District Court Administrator Mellissa Derksema introduced Paige Evans -District Court, Legal Specialist II – Records Clerk,
- Director of Public Works Colin Huntemer introduced Jesse Douglas-Seitz – Public Works, Deputy Director

Public Comments: Magali Cota, Matthew Allen, and Kendra Lamb provided comments to Council.

09:20 AM PUBLIC HEARING – PUBLIC TESTIMONY ACCEPTED

To consider a Resolution Calling for an Election to Form a Lopez Island Park and Recreation District, Sally Rogers – Clerk to the Council

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

Chair McVeigh opened the public hearing to consider adoption of the Resolution. Ms. Rogers presented the resolution and answered Council's questions.

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Chair McVeigh opened public testimony. Public testimony offered by the following: Brady Smith.

Chair McVeigh closed public testimony with the right to reopen. After discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to adopt Resolution Calling for an Election to Form a Lopez Island Park and Recreation District. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

09:30 AM Discussion: Cultural Access Program Update and Materials Review, Brandon Andrews – Director, Parks and Fair Department.

Mr. Andrews gave a presentation and updates for discussion and answered Council’s questions.

10:30 AM Discussion: Roche Harbor Master Plan amendment, Sophia Cassam – Planner III, Department of Community Development.

Ms. Cassam presented the proposed amendment to Council and answered their questions.

10:50 AM Discussion/Action: 2nd touch, Pea Patch Supplemental Funding Request, Ryan Page – Housing Coordinator, Department of Health and Community Services.

Mr. Page presented the funding request and answered Council’s questions. After discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to approve supplemental funding for OPAL Community Lant Trust’s project Cottages at the Pea Patch in the amount of \$800,000, and to authorize staff to draft a conditional funding commitment letter. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

11:00 AM Discussion/Action: 1st touch, Boundary Line Modification County/OPALCO Decatur Property, Jeff Sharp- Deputy County Engineer, Department of Public Works.

Mr. Sharp presented the draft resolutions: 1) for disposal of County property by direct sale on Decatur Island to OPALCO, and 2) to accept a right of way easement dedication from OPALCO for Decatur Head Dr. and Armitage Rd. After discussion, Mr. Sharp answered Council questions and was given direction to proceed with a 2nd touch.

11:15 AM Discussion: Property Acquisition for Decatur Island Marine Facility, Colin Huntemer- Director, Department of Public Works.

Mr. Huntemer presented the purchase and sale agreement for the acquisition and gave presentation regarding the property. Council had discussion and Mr. Huntemer answered Council’s questions.

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94 **11:40 AM** Discussion: Budgeting Philosophy and Priorities, Molly Foote – Budget Analyst,
95 Auditors Office.

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97 Ms. Foote and Auditor Natasha Warmenhoven gave a presentation and answered Council's
98 questions.

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100 **12:15 PM** Discussion/Action: 1st Touch 2025 Second Budget Amendment, and to set
101 public hearing for August 19, 2025, at 9:15 a.m., to consider two ordinances;

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- 103 • Ordinance Revising the San Juan County 2025 Budget for Emergency
104 Appropriations; Amending Ordinances 16-2023, 20-2024, 06-2025, 07-2025
105 and 08-2025,
- 106 • Ordinance Revising the San Juan County 2025 Budget for Supplemental
107 Appropriations; Amending Ordinances 16-2023, 20-2024, 06-2025, 07-2025,
108 08-2025 and ___-2025, Molly Foote – Budget Analyst, Auditors Office.

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110 Ms. Foote gave a presentation, presented the ordinances and answered Council's
111 questions. After discussion, Council took the following action:

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113 **MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to set public hearing for August 19, 2025,**
114 **at 9:15 a.m., to consider two ordinances; an Ordinance Revising the San Juan County**
115 **2025 Budget for Emergency Appropriations; Amending Ordinances 16-2023, 20-2024, 06-**
116 **2025, 07-2025 and 08-2025, and an Ordinance Revising the San Juan County 2025 Budget**
117 **for Supplemental Appropriations; Amending Ordinances 16-2023, 20-2024, 06-2025, 07-**
118 **2025, 08-2025 and ___-2025. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

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120 **12:30 PM** **Recess**

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122 **01:00 PM** Discussion: Status Update on Language Access Plan Development, Erin
123 Andrews- Communications Coordinator and Kyra Jahanfar – Program
124 Coordinator, Department of Health & Community Services.

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126 Ms. Andrews and Ms. Jahanfar presented the update and answered Council's questions. After
127 discussion, Council gave direction to proceed with plan development, to include phone
128 interpretation in the plan and come back to a future Council meeting with an update.

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130 **01:25 PM** Discussion: Public Safety Grant Program, Jessica Hudson- County Manager and
131 Tillery Williams- Deputy County Manager.

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133 Ms. Hudson and Mr. Williams gave a presentation with preliminary information regarding the
134 grant application for funding the program and answered Council's questions. Sheriff Peter was
135 invited to speak. Council gave direction for staff to move forward and return to a future Council
136 meeting(s).

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138 **01:55 PM** Discussion: WSU Extension Forestry update, Kevin Zobrist- Professor, Extension
139 Forestry.

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Mr. Zobrist gave a presentation and answered Council’s questions. Mr. Zobrist invited Ron and Janet Ames to speak and share their experience of their participation in the WSU Extension Forest Stewardship Coached Planning courses offered to landowners.

02:30 PM Discussion/Action: Acceptance of Blakely School Trust Land Deed, Lincoln Bormann – Conservation Land Bank Director.

Mr. Bormann presented a Resolution to Accept a Deed for Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Property on Blakely Island and answered Council’s questions. After discussion, Council took the following action:

MOVED by Ms. Fuller, seconded by Mr. Paulsen to approve a Resolution to accept a deed for Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Property on Blakely Island. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

02:35 PM Discussion: Pilot Marine Transportation Foot Passenger Program Review, Mark Tompkins – Director, Department of Health & Community Services and Jessica Hudson – County Manager.

Mr. Tompkins and Ms. Hudson gave a presentation and answered Council’s questions.

03:05 PM New Business: County Manager Jessica Hudson has two new business items that Council would like to discuss:

- 1) Opportunity for Council to discuss immigration enforcement on the island; the Council received many phone calls over the past weekend regarding recent ICE activity, what authority Council has, Council’s interest in a press release in coordination with the Sheriff’s Office.
- 2) Discussion for the event and follow-up for the Lummi/Haida ceremony event, Council Member Paulsen shared his participation in the ceremony, naming of what was formerly Haida Point, and receipt of a wooden box from the Lummi to San Juan County Council to hold for a future meeting.

03:20 PM Council, County Manager, and Clerk Updates:

Ms. Fuller: Attended the following: Participated in the Lopez Island 4th of July Parade, Civil Service Commission meeting, National Association of Counties (NACo) webinar, meeting preparation with Aiden for Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC), a transportation roundtable meeting with Environmental Stewardship, Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) meeting, and Marine Resources Committee (MRC) meeting.

Mr. Paulsen: Attended the following: Behavior Health Administrative Services Organization (BHASO) meeting, Ferry Advisory Meeting (FAC), and spent the 4th of July in Okanogan County and shared with Council the transportation system used.

Ms. McVeigh: Attended the following: Two Northwest Workforce Council meetings (one meeting was

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187 cancelled due to lack of quorum), Economic and environmental Cross-border meeting, and National
188 Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference.

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190 **Ms. Hudson:** Attended the following: Town Council meeting, Governor’s meeting on Orcas.

191
192 Has hired a Department of Community Development Director, Sev Jones, starting on September 10,
193 2025.

194
195 Is Ms. Hudson’s 1-Year Anniversary with the County.

196
197 **Ms. Rogers:** Upcoming meetings; August 4,5, 19, September 8, 2025.

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199 **Committee Appointment/Reappointments**

200
201 Climate and Sustainability Advisory Committee, to appoint the following:

- 202
- 203 • John Pierre van Dongen – District 2, Position 9, for a 4-year term, starting 7-15-2025 to 7-15-
204 2029.
 - 205 • Andy Hiester – District 2, Position 6, for a 3-year term, starting 7-15-2025 to 7-15-2028.
 - 206 • Anastasia Jespersen – District 3, Position 7, for a 3-year term, starting 7-1-2025 to 7-15-
207 2028.

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209 **MOVED by Mr. Paulsen, seconded by Ms. Fuller to approve the committee appointments**
210 **and reappointments as read by the Council Clerk. All Ayes, Motion Carried**

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212 **03:45 PM Executive Session:**

- 213
- 214 • To discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation pursuant to RCW
215 42.30.110(1)(i),
 - 216 • To discuss matters pertaining to collective bargaining pursuant to RCW
217 42.30.140(4)(b) (CLOSED SESSION.)

218
219 Council Chair McVeigh announced that the Council would be holding an Executive Session,
220 to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and
221 to discuss matters pertaining to collective bargaining pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b)
222 (CLOSED SESSION) estimated 45 minutes in total to begin at 3:45 PM and end at 4:30 PM
223 followed by adjournment.

224
225 [Present: Full Council, County Manager Jessica Hudson, Deputy County Manager Tillery
226 Williams, Interim Director Department of Community Development Mark Tompkins, Interim
227 Deputy Director Department of Community Development Kyle Dodd, Director of Public Works
228 Colin Huntmer, Director of Human Resources Matthew Bullock, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Jon
229 Cain, and Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Mason Wiley.]

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231 **ADJOURN 4:30 PM**

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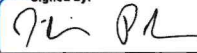
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**COUNTY COUNCIL
SAN JUAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

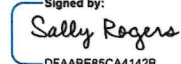
Signed by:

Kari McVeigh
District 1

Signed by:

Justin Paulsen
District 2


Jane Fuller
District 3

ATTEST: Clerk to the Council

By:  12/30/2025
Sally Rogers Date:

Minutes approved by San Juan County Council on August 19, 2025.