

# Board of Health Record Of the Proceedings – Skagit County, Washington

Date: June 10, 2025

The Skagit County Board of Health met in regular session on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, with Chair Peter Browning, Commissioner Lisa Janicki, and Commissioner Ron Wesen present.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Browning called the proceedings to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. AGENDA:

a) Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Janicki to approve the Record of the Proceedings for April 15, 2025, April 21, 2025 and May 29, 2025. Commissioner Wesen seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

1. Board of Health Record of the Proceedings for April 15, 2025. **(Approved)**
2. Board of Health Record of the Proceedings for April 21, 2025. **(Approved)**
3. Board of Health Record of the Proceedings for May 29, 2025. **(Approved)**

b) Public Health Director Remarks

Public Health Director Keith Higman discussed the primary functions of the Board of Health and developing policy around On-Site Sewage Code revisions.

c) Presentation on SCC 12.05 OSS Code Revisions, Q & A

Environmental Health Specialist Charese Gainor provided a PowerPoint presentation. She said that on-site regulations start with the Washington State Department of Health (WADOH) and that Washington Administrative Code Chapter 246-272A was the basis for all septic systems in Washington state. WADOH began the rule revision process in 2018 and adoption occurred on January 10, 2024. She noted that the WADOH adoption set in motion that all local health jurisdictions needed to review local regulations and she reviewed the timeline.

Ms. Gainor shared that proposed revisions included permitting software, adoption of current practices, clarification and definitions, new requirements, and additional detail. She reviewed operational permits, highest seasonal water table data, the difference between a variance and waiver, proposed new requirements, soil evaluation test pits, and homeowner installation education.

Environmental Health Manager Britt Pfaff-Dunton shared that next steps included a public comment period, review of public comments received, public hearing, followed by possible action to adopt.

To provide public comment:

Email: [septic@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:septic@co.skagit.wa.us) with subject line of "Proposed OSS Code Comment"

Mail or hand deliver to: 301 Valley Mall Way, Suite 110, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Verbally in office, over the phone, or at the public hearing scheduled to take place on July 28, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

For questions, contact Charese Gainor or Britt Pfaff-Dunton at Skagit County Public Health: (360) 416-1500 or [septic@co.skagit.wa.us](mailto:septic@co.skagit.wa.us)

Further discussion was held regarding outreach, process clarifications, and the distinction between a variance and waiver.

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Link to PowerPoint presentation:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/CountyCommissioners/Documents/AgendaPackets/06092025.zip>

d) [Resolution to Schedule Public Hearing](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wesen to approve a Resolution to call for a public hearing to consider testimony regarding revisions to Skagit County Code 12.05, On-Site Sewage Systems on July 28, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. **(Resolution No. R20250135)** Commissioner Janicki seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

e) Health Officer Update

None provided.

f) [Public Comment](#)

None provided.

III. [ADJOURNMENT:](#)

Chair Browning adjourned the proceedings at 11:24 a.m.

\*Note, to obtain an audio or video recording of this meeting; please contact the Skagit County Commissioners' office

**BOARD OF HEALTH  
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Browning, Chair

ATTEST:

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Lisa Janicki, Commissioner

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Clerk of the Board  
Skagit County Board of Health

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Ron Wesen, Commissioner