

1 **14.02.070 Office of Hearing Examiner.**

2 (1) Office Created. The office of the Hearing Examiner is hereby created. The term
3 “Hearing Examiner” shall likewise include any pro tem Hearing Examiner. The Hearing
4 Examiner shall interpret, review and implement regulations as provided in this Chapter.

5 (2) Appointment and Term. The Board of County Commissioners shall appoint the
6 Hearing Examiner to serve in said office for terms to be determined by the Board.

7 (3) Removal from Office. The Hearing Examiner may be removed from office at any
8 time by an affirmative vote of 2 of the County Commissioners.

9 (4) Qualifications. The Hearing Examiner shall be appointed with regard to their
10 qualifications for the duties of the office which shall include, but not be limited to, persons
11 with appropriate educational experience such as in planning, public administration or law.
12 Persons appointed to these positions should have at least 3 years’ experience in land use
13 planning or administration.

14 (5) Duties of Pro Tem Hearing Examiner. The Pro Tem Hearing Examiner shall, in the
15 event of absence or the inability of the Hearing Examiner to act, have all the duties and
16 powers of the Hearing Examiner.

17 (6) Conflict of Interest. The Hearing Examiner shall not conduct or participate in any
18 hearing or decision in which the Hearing Examiner has a direct or indirect personal interest
19 which might influence or appear to influence or interfere with the decision-making process.
20 Any actual or potential conflict of interest shall be disclosed to the parties immediately upon
21 discovery of such conflict.

22 (7) Freedom From Improper Influence. No County official or any other person shall
23 attempt to interfere with, or improperly influence the Hearing Examiner in the performance of
24 his or her duties.

25 (8) Promulgation of Procedural Rules. The Hearing Examiner may, from time to time,
26 adopt such procedural rules as are reasonably necessary to carry out the duties and
27 responsibilities of the office, provided such rules shall not be in conflict with this Chapter, or
28 any other relevant provisions of the Skagit County Code. Such rules shall not take effect until
29 they have been reviewed and approved by the Board of County Commissioners. (Ord. 17938
30 Attch. F (part), 2000)

1 **14.02.080 Planning Commission.**

2 (1) The Skagit County Planning Commission, established by Ordinance 3078,
3 consists of 9 members appointed by the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners
4 and approved by a majority of the Board. The term of office on the Planning Commission
5 is 4 years. Any vacancies are to be filled from the same commissioner district as that of
6 the vacating member.

7 (2) Removal. After public hearing, any appointed member of the Planning
8 Commission may be removed by the Chairman of the Board, with the approval of the
9 Board, for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office.

10 (3) Organization. The Planning Commission shall elect a chairman and vice-
11 chairman from among its members, shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member
12 of the Commission, and shall adopt rules for transaction of business and shall keep a
13 public record of transactions, findings and determinations.

14 (4) Meetings. Not less than 1 regular meeting shall be held each month unless no
15 matters are pending on the Commission calendar.

16 (5) Powers and Duties. The Skagit County Zoning Ordinance hereby adopts by
17 reference the powers and duties of the Planning Commission as expressed in the Planning
18 Enabling Act, Chapter 36.70 RCW, as now exists or hereafter amended.

19 (6) Promulgation of Procedural Rules. The Planning Commission may, from time to
20 time, adopt such procedural rules as are reasonably necessary to carry out the duties and
21 responsibilities of the Planning Commission, provided such rules shall not be in conflict
22 with this Chapter, or any other relevant provisions of the Skagit County Code. Such rules
23 shall not take effect until they have been reviewed and approved by the Board of County
24 Commissioners. (Ord. 17938 Attch. F (part), 2000)

