

Notice: Important events, issues, from Whatcom Chapter, CAPR Dec 11 2018

Period: Dec 11 to 14

One important Essb 6091 (“Hirst Fix law”) and Wria 1 (water resource planning & regulation) meeting this week (more meetings in early January):

Wed Dec 12, Plan Unit meets 2 pm to 4 pm, Bldg Ind. Assn; agenda w/ address attached to sending email, along with summaries past 2 mtgs.

There are still major disagreements between several “non-gov’t” caucuses and the gov’t/environmental caucuses on some of the latter group’s proposals re new exempt wells: metering, lower daily withdrawal limits, and fee increases. These “solutions” are questionable when there’s still **no quantitative data** showing that neither few, nor many, exempt wells are significantly impacting stream flows and/or salmon habitat in Whatcom County/Wria 1. See agenda topics 4 & 5.

Also, see Whatcom Capr’s newest report, # 9, attached to the email. The participants are struggling to find some consensus on such issues. The Essb 6091 items are due Feb 1 2019. To get an idea of the serious differences of opinion between very knowledgeable participants, see the attached 3 p Dec. 7 email thread between Perry Eskridge, Land Use Caucus, and Gary Stoyka, County Public Works.

No more county cncl mtgs this year; next mtg: Tues. Jan 8.

Co Plan Commission hearing Dec 13 on “code scrub”; agenda:

<https://wa-whatcomcounty.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/2132018-2333> <https://wa-whatcomcounty.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/38355/Code-Scrub-Packet>

Important! There are several **vacancies on important county commissions, committees**...These boards are a good way to influence plans and rules, and get started in the political process.

Please consider these three (there are more; see link below)

County Planning Commission, 2 Vacancies – 4 year terms – current members eligible to re-apply; must be a resident of County Council District 2, or 3. Council-appointed; Council District Map:

<http://documents.co.whatcom.wa.us/weblink8/100/doc/3892979/Electronic.aspx>

Agricultural Advisory Committee, 2 Vacancies - agricultural producer and ag products consumer; assists with numerous policies and tasks relating to protecting and enhancing the long-term viability of agriculture. Executive-appointed.

Development Standards Technical Advisory Committee (Tac) - 5 Vacancies – 3 current members are eligible to reapply. Applicants must have professional expertise that relates to public works development standards. Executive-appointed.

County Appeals Board - 4 Vacancies – 3 current members eligible to reapply. Applicants must be a member of one of the construction trades (building, structural, architectural, plumbing, engineering, or mechanical). This Board receives and rules on appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the building official and/or fire marshal relative to the application and interpretation of the building construction and maintenance codes. Board members meet on an as-needed basis and serve three year terms. Executive-appointed. .

There are more. Applications can be completed online, or are available in the Council and Executive's Office; they are **due by 10:00 a.m. on January 8, 2019.**

More info: <http://www.whatcomcounty.us/1585/Current-Vacancies>

Next Whatcom Capr board mtg: January 4?

Questions, comments? contact Roger Almskaar, President, 360 739 1184