

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
September 10, 2020**

Public Hearing and Work Session

1

1 **Call to Order**

2 The virtual meeting was called to order by Whatcom County Planning Commission  
3 Chair, Kelvin Barton at 6:31 p.m.

4 **Roll Call**

5 **Present:** Kelvin Barton, Robert Bartel, Atul Deshmane, Jim Hansen, Kimberley Lund,  
6 Dominic Mocerri, Jon Maberry, Natalie McClendon

7 **Absent:** Stephen Jackson

8 **Staff Present:** Matt Aamot, Joshua Fleischmann, Mark Personius, Ashley Ubil

9 **Department Update**

10 Mark Personius, Director of Planning and Development Services (PDS), outlined the  
11 schedule of items for the next few Planning Commission meetings. He announced that  
12 the Fire Marshal issued a stage two burn ban, banning all recreational fires in Whatcom  
13 County. The Department of Natural Resources elevated the fire danger from high to  
14 very high.

15 On September 15th, Matt Aamot, Senior Planner in PDS, will brief the County Council  
16 on Planning Commission recommendations for the Cherry Point amendments and  
17 findings.

18 **Open Session Public Comment**

19 There was no public comment.

20 **Commissioner Comments**

21 Commissioner Maberry disclosed that he reached out to Tony Kelstrup and Randy  
22 VerMulm.

23 **Countywide Planning Policies - Review and Evaluation (buildable lands)  
24 Program**

25 Matt Aamot provided background information related to the proposed Countywide  
26 Planning Policies and City/County Planner Group recommendations, and then  
27 responded to commissioners' questions.

28 **Public Hearing**

29 **Timestamp: 26:26**

30 Jacquelyn Styrna provided public comment. With no one else from the public wishing  
31 to speak, the public hearing closed at 7:00 p.m.

32 **Work Session**

33 **Timestamp: 30:50**

34 **Commissioner Mocerri moved** to remove "other than adjusting urban growth areas"  
35 from item 6 on Exhibit A.

36 **Commissioner Maberry seconded.**

37 Commissioners discussed the motion.

38 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Barton, Maberry, Mocerri; Nays-Bartel, Deshmane, Hansen,  
39 Lund, McClendon; (Ayes-3; Nays-5; Abstain-0). The motion failed.**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
September 10, 2020**

Public Hearing and Work Session

2

1 **Timestamp: 42:08**

2 **Commissioner McClendon moved** to remove "other than adjusting urban growth  
3 areas" from item 6 on Exhibit A, and add "before considering adjusting urban growth  
4 areas" after "inconsistencies."

5 **Commissioner Mocerri seconded.**

6 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Bartel, Barton, Deshmane, Lund, Maberry, McClendon,**  
7 **Mocerri; Abstain-Hansen; (Ayes-7; Nays-0; Abstain-1). The motion carried.**

8 **Timestamp: 46:59**

9 **Commissioner McClendon moved** to recommend for adoption the Findings of Fact  
10 and Exhibit A amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies.

11 **Commissioner Lund seconded.**

12 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Bartel, Barton, Deshmane, Hansen, Lund, Maberry,**  
13 **McClendon, Mocerri; (Ayes-8; Nays-0; Abstain-0). The motion carried.**

14 **2018 Open Space Land Applications**

15 **Timestamp: 48:53**

16 Joshua Fleischmann, Open Space Land Administrator in PDS, gave a PowerPoint  
17 presentation to provide background information on the Open Space Taxation Act and  
18 two applications to classify land as open space. Neither property scored high enough  
19 for staff to recommend approval of the open space classification.

20 **Public Hearing**

21 **Timestamp: 1:05:33**

22 The public hearing opened. No one wished to speak on the issue, and the Chair closed  
23 the public hearing.

24 **Timestamp: 1:10:33**

25 **Commissioner McClendon moved** to recommend denial of both applications.

26 **Commissioner Barton seconded.**

27 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes-Bartel, Barton, Deshmane, Hansen, Lund, Maberry,**  
28 **McClendon, Mocerri; (Ayes-8; Nays-0; Abstain-0). The motion carried.**

29 **Adjournment**

30 The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

31 Minutes prepared by Tammy Axlund.

32 WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ATTEST:

33

34

35

36

37

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelvin Barton, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy Axlund, Secretary