

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at the Douglas County Public Services Building, East Wenatchee, Washington. Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, and Commissioner Agnew are present. County Administrator Jordyn Giulio, Executive Assistant Megan Jay, and Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor James Mitchell are also present. Clerk of the Board Carlye Baity is excused.

**08:30 AM Pledge of Allegiance and Call to Order**

**Public Comments** – *No comments received.*

**Administrator, Jordyn Giulio**

1. East Wenatchee annexation petition parcels property tax discussion.
2. Wenatchi Landing updates.

**08:40 AM Executive Session**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Straub and Agnew, the Board Approves to move into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (i) regarding litigation for a period of 15 minutes. Legal Counsel, James Mitchell, is present. Other attendees: Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, Commissioner Agnew, Jordyn Giulio, Kazi Haque, and Megan Jay.

**08:58 AM Move back to regular session – no action was taken.**

**09:00 AM Undersheriff, Tyler Caille**

1. 2026 Budget overview discussion.
2. Staffing updates.
3. Sheriff Tyler Caille invited the board to Sheriff Morris' retirement celebration.
4. 2026 Vehicle purchase updates.

**09:17 AM Executive Session**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Straub and Agnew, the Board approves to move into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (i) regarding litigation for a period of 15 minutes. Legal Counsel, James Mitchell, is present. Other attendees: Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, Commissioner Agnew, Jordyn Giulio, Kazi Haque, and Megan Jay.

Executive session extended for a period of 5 minutes. Public was notified.

**9:36 AM Move back to regular session. No action was taken within the executive session.**

**09:37 AM Land Services Director, Kazi Haque**

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1. Comprehensive Plan Update.
2. UGA process discussion.

**09:40 AM Chief Financial Officer, Leah Hurd**

1. Reviewed and discussed the statement of expenditures/ revenue compared to budget.

**09:45 AM County Engineer Aaron Simmons and Transportation Administrative Assistant Erika Guerrero**

1. Pacific Office Automation Image Management Contract.
2. State of Washington Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) and Douglas County Grant Agreement for 5th St NE, N Kentucky Ave to N Lyle Ave.
3. WSDOT Title VI Accomplishments & Goals Report for January 2025 through December 2025.
4. The USDOT Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances DOT Order No. 1050.2A.
5. WSDOT Letter of Intent to Comply with WSDOT Title VI Plan.
6. Discussed the WSDOT route jurisdiction study for McNeil Canyon Road, estimated to be completed July 2025.
  - a. Recommendations from the state discussed within this study.
7. Discussed CDTC and Douglas County projects.

**10:20 AM Recess for a period of 10 minutes**

**10:30 AM Wenatchee Valley Fire Chief, Brian Brett**

1. Discussed Rimrock Meadows fire protection.
  - a. Potential of a new district and/or annexation to service the qualified area.
  - b. Chief Brett presented the Commissioners with a map of the associated areas for reference.
  - c. The Board of County Commissioners is in support of Chief Brett's recommendations. Commissioner Randy Angew will express this support to the parties involved.

**11:00 AM Douglas PUD General Manager, Gary Ivory, and Government Affairs Manager, Shiloh Burgess**

1. Discussed moratorium currently in place regarding large load service requests and customers.
  - a. Per the Douglas PUD members present in this meeting; the goal of this moratorium is to support smaller infrastructure growth, putting a pause on large load service request.
  - b. There is currently no end date for this moratorium.
  - c. Discussed county growth projects in relation to economic development in the future that would potentially be affected by this moratorium.

**11:35 AM Land Services Director, Kazi Haque**

1. Discussed today's meeting the Douglas County Land Services team attended with the Department of Commerce discussing the Comprehensive Plan update.
  - a. Swati Rastogi, Principal Planner, discussed UGA expansion.
    - i. Supporting documentation that is needed.
    - ii. Timing requirements.
      1. John Greenwood, consultant, was able to give a goal of February of 2026 for the next steps in the process to be complete.
2. Western Washington University inquired with Kazi Haque, Land Services Director, regarding potential internship opportunities in the future.
  - a. The Board expressed support.
3. Tanner Ackley, Principal Planner, gave an update regarding the Douglas County agricultural de-designation website that will go live this week with help of Paige Scott, Public Information Officer.

**11:50 AM Executive Session**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Straub and Agnew, the Board approves to move into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (i) regarding litigation for a period of 15 minutes. Legal Counsel, James Mitchell, is present. Other attendees: Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, Commissioner Agnew, Jordyn Giulio, Tiana Rowland, and Megan Jay.

Executive session extended for a period of 25 minutes. Public was notified.

**12:30 PM Move back to regular session. No action was taken within the executive session.**

**12:30 PM Board Administrative Items**

- A. Kazi Haque presented the board with the "Duvall Growth Plan Faces Challenge After Disregarding New Housing Law" article by Ryan Packer, published October 17, 2025. The board discussed this article in relation to the practicality within Douglas County's areas.

With no further business, the Board of County Commissioners recessed at 12:35 PM to meet again on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at the at the Douglas County Courthouse, Waterville, Washington.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026**

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at the Douglas County Courthouse, Waterville, Washington. Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, and Commissioner Agnew are present. County Administrator Jordyn Giulio, Executive Assistant Megan Jay, and Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor James Mitchell are also present. Clerk of the Board Carlye Baity is excused.

**09:00 AM Pledge of Allegiance and Call to Order**

**Public Comments** – *Due to an audio issue with zoom, online public comment was not received at this time and was readdressed at 10:09 AM.*

**09:02 AM Public Hearing: Resolution TLS 26-07B (Ref: TLS 25-63A) to Consider Vacation of a Portion of S. Nevada Ave**

*The following is a summary of the public hearing and action taken by the Board of Commissioners. The summary is not intended to be a verbatim transcript. A recording of the hearing is available by contacting the Clerk of the Board.*

**Douglas County Commissioners Present:** *Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, and Commissioner Agnew.*

**Members of the Public join via zoom and in person** – *Brian Hager, Rhiannon Bowman, and Jim O'Dell.*

**Staff Present:** *Aaron Simmons, Todd Wilson, James Mitchell, Jordyn Giulio, and Megan Jay.*

**Staff Report:**

- A. A County Engineer's Report was provided to the board by Aaron Simmons, County Engineer. Aaron Simmons and Todd Wilson, GIS Coordinator, discussed the contents of the report with the board.
- B. Recommendation from both Aaron Simmons and Todd Wilson is to vacate the right-of-way; conditioned by the following:
  - a. Easements should be retained in accordance with RCW 36.87.140 for any existing public utilities located within the vacated rights-of-way.

**Public Comment:**

*No public comment provided.*

**Motion:**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Agnew and Straub, the board moves to approve Resolution TLS 26-07B.

**9:14 AM Public Hearing is closed.**

**09:15 AM Public Hearing: Resolution TLS 26-08B (Ref. TLS 25-64A) to Consider Vacation of Portion of County Road 96**

*The following is a summary of the public hearing and action taken by the Board of Commissioners. The summary is not intended to be a verbatim transcript. A recording of the hearing is available by contacting the Clerk of the Board.*

**Douglas County Commissioners Present:** *Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, and Commissioner Agnew.*

**Members of the Public join via zoom and in person –** *Brian Hager and Rhiannon Bowman.*

**Staff Present:** *Aaron Simmons, Todd Wilson, James Mitchell, Jordyn Giulio, and Megan Jay.*

**Staff Report:**

- A. A County Engineer's Report was provided to the board by Aaron Simmons, County Engineer. Aaron Simmons and Todd Wilson, GIS Coordinator, discussed the contents of the report with the board.
- B. Recommendation from both Aaron Simmons and Todd Wilson is to vacate the right-of-way; conditioned by the following:
  - a. Easements should be retained in accordance with RCW 36.87.140 for any existing public utilities located within the vacated rights-of-way.

**Public Comment:**

1. Brian Hager provided the board of commissioners with a written letter on January 26, 2026 at 01:34 PM. Within this letter, Brian commented on the proposed vacation of a portion of County Road 9.6, citing Douglas County Code 12.36 and RCW 36.87 regarding appraisal and fair market value requirements. He requested the Board delay consideration until the County Engineer's Report is publicly available and reviewed. He has asked the Board to consider appointing a hearing officer under RCW 36.87.060(2).
2. Brian Hager also attended this hearing via zoom and expressed opposition due to proximity to water access.
  - *Written Comment was received by Brain Hager on 1/26/26 and on file*

**Staff Discussion:**

- A. Todd Wilson, GIS Coordinator, and Aaron Simmons, County Engineer, confirmed the geographic location for Commissioners of this right of way in relation to the established dams. Historical changes in access and functional use of the right of way from 1890 to the present were discussed.
- B. Aaron Simmons, County Engineer, confirmed that this was vetted through Douglas County's Prosecuting office.

\*Mr. Hager was displaying distractive gestures during the hearing. Chairman requested video streaming to be discontinued to not further interrupt the meeting.

**Motion:**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Straub and Agnew, the board moves to approve Resolution TLS26-07B.

**09:32 AM Public Hearing is closed.**

**09:33 AM Public Comment**

A. R. Bowman requested to make a public comment. Due to audio technical issues via zoom, the individual offered to email the public comment to the Board of Commissioners.

**09:35 AM Transportation**

**County Engineer Aaron Simmons**

A. Discussed scheduling interviews for vacant Road Superintendent position.

**Motion:**

Commissioner Agnew made a motion to approve the following transportation items listed; Commissioner Straub seconded the motion and Commissioner Sutton concurred.

1. Pacific Office Automation Image Management Contract.
2. State of Washington Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) and Douglas County Grant Agreement for 5th St NE, N Kentucky Ave to N Lyle Ave.
3. WSDOT Title VI Accomplishments & Goals Report for January 2025 through December 2025.
4. The USDOT Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances DOT Order No. 1050.2A.
5. WSDOT Letter of Intent to Comply with WSDOT Title VI Plan.
6. DeAtley Crushing Company Contract with Douglas County.

**09:03 Executive Session**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Straub and Agnew, the Board approves to move into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (i) regarding litigation for a period of 10 minutes. Legal Counsel, James Mitchell, is present. Other attendees: Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, Commissioner Agnew, Jordyn Giulio, and Megan Jay.

Executive session extended for a period of 5 minutes. Public was notified.

**10:08 AM Move back to regular session. No action was taken within the executive session.**

**10:09 AM Public Comment**

1. The board received Rhiannon Bowman's written comment via email.
  - a. Rhiannon Bowman, a Rimrock Meadows property owner, expressed support for Fire Chief Brian Brett's recommendation to create a fire district for Rimrock Meadows. She stated that adequate fire protection is essential for community

safety and property protection and noted that she and her husband would not further invest in their property or in Douglas County without fire protection in place. She also expressed appreciation for positive interactions with County and State staff.

- b. The Board expressed agreement with the support for Fire Chief Brian Brett’s recommendation and provided an overview of the prior day’s meeting with the Fire Chief.
2. Brian Hager expressed concerns via Zoom chat regarding compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30). No further explanation provided.

**Consent Agenda:**

Commissioner Agnew made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Straub and Chair of the Board Commissioner Sutton concurred.

- 1. No minutes were presented for approval. No action was taken.
- 2. Approved Vouchers

		Check Numbers	Total Amount
1.	Vouchers	00395622-00395688	\$529,141.90

**10:14 AM Administrative**

**Personnel**

- A. Welcome letters to the three new deputies joining Douglas County.
  - a. Brennen Moody.
  - b. Josiah Norby.
  - c. Edgar Banuelos.

**Administrative Discussion:**

- A. Jennifer Talbot, Wenatchee Valley Dispute Resolution Executive Director, provided the Board with a link requesting support. Jordyn Giulio, Administrator, will use the link provided to follow up and verify how the County may show support to legislators for continued funding.
- B. Commissioner Straub informed the board that he received a call regarding the King Ranch issue and overreach of other agencies.
  - a. The King Ranch is in both Grant and Douglas Counties.
  - b. The party who called Commissioner Straub, is requesting support from the Douglas County Commissioners.
  - c. The Board of Commissioners would like to write a joint letter of support of the King Family and express concern for external agencies overreach.
- C. Confirmed with Leah, annual sales tax revenue of \$937,000 in the East Wenatchee annexation petition area. Jordyn submitted a public records request to the city of east Wenatchee.

- a. Dan will also reach out to his peers to see if he can obtain more information relating to this topic.
- b. The amount represents about 24% of the retail category of sales tax for 2025. 3.8M total retail sales tax collection.
- D. Jordyn gave kudos to the following two staff members who have been asked to speak at different conferences in 2026:
  - a. Jennifer Lange, regarding the success of bridge painting.
  - b. Aaron Simmons, regarding the Wenatchee landing project.
- E. Discussed unsatisfactory drafts of grant application from an external consultant.
  - a. Staff recommended terminating the relationship with this consultant due to factual errors within the documentation. Nexxus Consulting will be contacted first to notify of this decision and steps going forward.
  - b. The Board of Commissioners agrees with staff's recommendation.
- F. James Michel, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor, gave kudos to Kylee Foster, Accounting Manager, for her explanation of the Douglas County accounting process to an external party.
- G. Discussed current audit and the scheduled 1/29/2026 exit interview.
- H. Discussed Douglas County Flock System.
  - a. Douglas County's is currently disabled due to concerns with public records compliance.
  - b. Process of public records requests in relation to the Flock System.
  - c. Potential abuse of systems and consequences for potential abuse.
  - d. Per Commissioner Sutton's request, Jame Mitchell, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor, will provide an update on Monday.
- I. Reviewed D&Ds provided to the board by Jordyn Giulio, Administrator.
  - a. Discussed Nexus feedback regarding grant.
  - b. Jordyn will follow up with Carolyn Morley, Fair Manager, regarding the Fair's America250 celebration.
  - c. Desert Canyon PRD Agreement.
    - i. Preliminary analysis has been performed.
    - ii. Potential compliance issue in relation to the GMA and zoning.
    - iii. Douglas County staff are currently working on their report and analysis.
- J. Upcoming in Legislature – HB 6026. General Discussion.

**11:13 AM Executive Session**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Straub and Agnew, the Board approves to move into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) regarding performance of a public employee for a period of 10 minutes. Legal Counsel, James Mitchell, is present. Other attendees: Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, Commissioner Agnew, Jordyn Giulio, and Megan Jay.

Executive session extended for a period of 5 minutes. Public was notified.

Executive session extended for a period of 2 minutes. Public was notified.

**11:30 AM Move back to regular session. No action was taken within the executive session.**

**11:30 AM Administrative Action Items:**

Commissioner Agnew made a motion to approve the following administrative items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Straub and Chair of the Board Commissioner Sutton concurred.

1. Payroll Change, Loreva Preuss Deputy Prosecuting Attorney.
  - a. Effective 02/01/2026.
2. Out of State Travel Authorization, Jennifer Lange, John Pease, Andy Stibal.
3. Commissioner Sutton and Agnew's January 2026 Payroll Attestation.
4. Declaration of Canvassing Board Authority.

**Administrative Discussion:**

1. National Planning conference.
  - a. The Board is in agreement; our teams will wait for agenda to come out to determine value of Board attending.
2. Reviewed D&Ds provided to the board by Jordyn Giulio, Administrator.
  - a. The Commissioners will take road tours of Area 2 and 3 in the spring.
  - b. Solid Waste capacity related to graffiti abatement, including the potential need for budget amendment or use of external services.
    - i. The board directed staff to evaluate the use of small works contracts for graffiti abatement on public rights-of-way and public property, assess effectiveness, and report back prior to considering private property. Budget caps will be addressed following that determination.
  - c. There is a ribbon cutting delay at Moderate Risk Waste. Tentatively rescheduled for March 2026. Formal invitation to follow.
3. Commissioner Sutton instructed Jordyn Giulio, Administrator, to request that Brock Hoenes be invited to next week's session to discuss current projects and WDVF status in Douglas County.

**11:53 AM Executive Session**

Upon motion and seconded by Commissioners Straub and Agnew, the Board approves to move into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) regarding performance of a public employee for a period of 15 minutes. Legal Counsel, James Mitchell, is present. Other attendees: Commissioner Straub, Commissioner Sutton, Commissioner Agnew, and Jordyn Giulio.

Executive Session extended by a period of 5 minutes. Public was notified.

Executive session extended until 12:15 PM. Public was notified.

**12:15 PM Move back to regular session. No action was taken.**

With no further business, the Board of County Commissioners recessed at 12:15 PM to meet again on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at the Douglas County Courthouse, Waterville, Washington.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

There were no appointments scheduled; no session was held.

The minutes are hereby read and approved.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Sutton Chair

  
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Randy Agnew Vice-Chair

  
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Marc S. Straub Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
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Carlye Baity Clerk of the Board