

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Mark McCauley, County Administrator

DATE: August 29, 2024

SUBJECT: HEARING re: To Consider Dissolving Drainage District No. 1, aka Chimacum Creek Drainage District

STATEMENT OF ISSUE: The Board of County Commissioners approved a hearing notice scheduling a hearing for Friday, August 29, 2024 on the matter considering dissolving Drainage District No. 1 aka Chimacum Drainage District. The hearing notice was published in the legal paper of record three consecutive weeks; August 14, 21 and 28, 2024 per statute.

The Jefferson County Auditor indicated that the Chimacum Drainage District appears to have met a number of the criteria in RCW 36.96.010 required to be declared inactive:

- (3) "Inactive" means that a special purpose district is characterized by any of the following criteria:
- (a) Has not carried out any of the special purposes or functions for which it was formed within the preceding consecutive five-year period;
 - (b) No election has been held for the purpose of electing a member of the governing body within the preceding consecutive seven-year period or, in those instances where members of the governing body are appointed and not elected, where no member of the governing body has been appointed within the preceding seven-year period; or
 - (c) The special purpose district has been determined to be unauditably by the state auditor;

The Auditor's notice also indicated that the Commissioners should consider declaring the district "inactive and Dissolved." To do this, a public hearing is needed to be held to determine if the district has in fact met the criteria for being declared inactive and further to decide whether to dissolve the district.

ANALYSIS: Commissioner Eisenhour and Administrator McCauley have continued engaging with key stakeholders regarding the district to determine what course of action to recommend to the Board during the public hearing. There are several options to consider. Among those are:

- Take no action – declare the district inactive and do not dissolve it
- Declare it inactive and dissolve it
- Reactivate the district in its current form
- Change the purpose of the district perhaps adding irrigation and/or watershed improvement to its mission

Reactivation and changing the purpose would require substantial interest by residents of the district and would require a public vote to elect officers and impose a property tax assessment on residents.

Dissolving the district presents a host of issues such as the disposition of easements between the district and landowners in the district.

FISCAL IMPACT: This request has no fiscal impact other than the cost of publishing the hearing notice three times which is minor.

RECOMMENDATION: Consider information presented and decide how to proceed with the Drainage District No. 1 aka Chimacum Creek Drainage District.

REVIEWED BY:


Mark McCauley, County Administrator

8/20/24
Date

STATE OF WASHINGTON
County of Jefferson

In the Matter of Establishing a }
New Department in the General Fund for }
Human Resources }

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the Human Resources budget and actual revenue and expenditures are included in the County Administrator Department 001-059, Civil Service Department 001-062, Non-Departmental 001-270; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resources department has grown to three employees to support our County employees; and

WHEREAS, the budget and actual expenditures should be identified separately to accurately reflect the Human Resources and provide transparency,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Jefferson County hereby establishes a new department in the General Fund, Department 065 – Human Resources, with the Human Resources Manager managing the Department.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2024 in Port Townsend, Washington.

SEAL:

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

Kate Dean, Chair

Heidi Eisenhour, Member

Carolyn Gallaway
Clerk of the Board

Greg Brotherton, Member