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COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington



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Amended
ORDINANCE NO. 91-122

ADOPTING A NEW SNOHOMISH COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2.06
CREATING AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD,
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS, AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES

BE IT ORDAINED: A new chapter 2.06, entitled
Agricultural Advisory Board, Agricultural Districts, and
Agricultural District Committees is hereby added to Title 2 of
the Snohomish County Code to read:

CHAPTER 2.06

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD, AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS,
AND AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT COMMITTEES

Sections:

- 2.06.010 Agricultural advisory board created.
- 2.06.020 Board membership.
- 2.06.030 Member terms.
- 2.06.040 Duties and responsibilities of the board.
- 2.06.050 Bylaws.
- 2.06.060 Board to be notified of actions which may affect agricultural lands and farming activities.
- 2.06.070 Joint meetings with council.
- 2.06.080 Agricultural districts created.
- 2.06.090 Agricultural district committees created.
- 2.06.100 Committee membership.
- 2.06.110 Purpose and responsibilities of committees.
- 2.06.120 Board to review committees.
- 2.06.130 Dissolution of committees.
- 2.06.140 Severability.

2.06.010 Agricultural advisory board created. An agricultural advisory board (board) is hereby created as an advisory body to the council, planning commission, hearing examiner and county staff. The overall, continuing mandate of the agricultural advisory board shall be to support and reinforce the agricultural preservation plan.

2.06.020 Board membership. The board shall consist of ten members appointed by the council pursuant to SCC 2.30. Board members shall consist of one person residing in each of the five agricultural districts created by this chapter; another member

shall be engaged in farming as a full-time occupation within the county but outside of the agricultural districts as defined in this chapter; two members shall be engaged in upland agricultural (as their primary source of income) within the county but outside of the agricultural districts as defined in this chapter; and the remaining two members shall be "at-large" members and shall have a direct interest in agricultural preservation within the county. A representative of the planning director shall act as an advisor and nonvoting member of the board.

2.06.030 Member terms. Terms shall be staggered on the following basis: Positions from agricultural districts 1, 3 and 5 and the member engaged in farming as a full time occupation outside of the agricultural districts (position 6) shall have an initial term of two years and terms of four years thereafter; positions from agricultural districts 2 and 4 and the two at-large positions (positions 7 and 8) shall have an initial term of four years and terms of four years thereafter. Terms shall be effective upon confirmation. A member shall not serve more than three consecutive terms on the board.

2.06.040 Duties and responsibilities of the board. The board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

(1) To provide input and recommendations to the council, planning commission, hearing examiner, and/or county staff on agricultural and related land resource and land use policy for the comprehensive plan prepared to meet county and state Growth Management Act requirements.

(2) To make recommendations to the council, planning commission, hearing examiner, or county staff concerning development which will impact agricultural activities and preservation in the districts;

(3) To make recommendations to the council, planning commission, hearing examiner, or county staff regarding drainage, flood protection, and diking plans and problems;

(4) To make recommendations to the council, planning commission, hearing examiner, and/or county staff regarding comprehensive plan agricultural designations when comprehensive plans are reviewed, to comment on other plan elements which will impact agriculture, and to initiate and comment on land use code amendments;

(5) To expand agricultural economic development opportunities in the county and make recommendations regarding markets, the development of agricultural facilities, processors, suppliers or other farming needs;

(6) To provide a forum for public input and problem solving for individual and groups of farmers on agricultural issues relating to land use regulation.

(7) To provide a clearinghouse to supply educational services for farmers regarding public programs (e.g., open space taxation) and for non-farmers regarding farm activities;

(8) To provide a forum for public input and discussion of regional, agency and state rule making and legislation affecting agricultural operation and preservation.

(9) To prepare for the council, not later than July 1 of each year, a review of the past year's actions, set annual goals for the board, and designate priority tasks.

(10) To prepare for the council, planning commission, hearing examiner, or county staff an annual and multiyear report containing analysis of and recommendations for implementation of the agricultural preservation plan. The report may include proposals for the following: comprehensive plan and zoning amendments, parcel and lot creation, annexation, and utility, public acquisition, or development actions.

(11) To appoint ad hoc or advisory committees to analyze issues and make recommendations to the board.

The recommendations made by the board in carrying out its duties and responsibilities shall be advisory only and shall not be binding upon the council, planning commission, hearing examiner or county staff.

2.06.050 Bylaws. The board shall adopt bylaws which shall govern the board's internal operations and procedures.

2.06.060 Board to be notified of actions which may affect agricultural lands or farming activities. The board shall be notified by the hearing examiner, the executive, the council, and/or county staff when an action has been proposed which may affect agricultural lands or farming activities.

2.06.070 Joint meetings with council. At least once each year the council will meet jointly with the board to discuss agricultural policy issues and the function of the board.

2.06.080 Agricultural districts created. Five agricultural districts (districts) are hereby created with boundaries depicted in Figure 1 of the Agricultural Preservation Plan adopted by Ordinance 82-134. The district boundaries are generally described as follows:

District 1 - Skagit and lower Stillaguamish River basins including part of the south fork of the Stillaguamish southeast of Arlington designated agricultural in the agricultural preservation plan and designated agricultural lands on the Stanwood plateau.

District 2 - The north fork of the Stillaguamish northeast of Arlington to Range 8E.

District 3 - Farmland on the Marysville-Tulalip-Lakewood plateau which is designated as being of primary agricultural

significance including designated agricultural lands west of Granite Falls.

District 4 - Farmlands within the Snohomish River basin from the mouth of the Snohomish to west of Lords Hill including the Pilchuck River valley and the farming area between Snohomish and Monroe.

District 5 - Designated agricultural land within the Skykomish and Snoqualmie River valleys in Snohomish County.

The boundaries of the districts and agricultural land may be modified during the normal process of updating the Snohomish county comprehensive plan or subarea comprehensive plans.

The districts are not governmental entities and have no regulatory or taxing authority; rather, the districts are geographical areas of agricultural importance to the county.

2.06.090 Agricultural district committees created.
Five agricultural district committees (committees), one for each of the districts, are hereby created.

2.06.100 Committee membership. Each committee shall consist of three persons, two of whom shall be engaged in farming as a full-time occupation. At least two members shall reside within their respective districts. The third member shall reside in Snohomish county. Committee members should be selected who represent the diversity of geographic areas and farming types within their district. Committee member appointments shall be approved by the board.

2.06.110 Purpose and responsibilities of committees.
A principal purpose of the committees is to provide a communication forum on local agricultural issues. The committees may also review proposed county actions and development permits for activities or facilities that would potentially affect farming in their districts. The committees will provide input to the board concerning such specific proposals and general farming issues. The committees may also provide input to the board on the Snohomish county comprehensive plan, its subarea plans, and the agricultural preservation plan. Committee members may serve on board or council appointed committees as needed. Agricultural district committee members may serve as alternate board members, provided they are so designated by the council, and by a board member prior to a regular or special meeting.

2.06.120 Board to review committees. On February 1, 1992, and each two years thereafter, the board shall review the

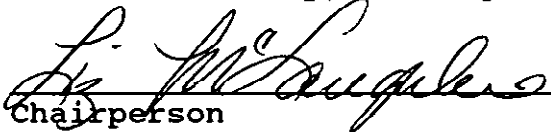
value of the committees and recommend to the council any modifications or consolidation into fewer districts.

2.06.130 Dissolution of committees. Pursuant to the requirement of SCC 2.03.090(1), the committees shall be dissolved three years from the effective date of this chapter unless such date of dissolution is extended by prior action of the council. Prior to such automatic dissolution, the board shall review the effectiveness and value of the committees and recommend to the council whether to continue, discontinue or modify the committees.

2.06.140 Severability. If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

PASSED this 4th day of September 1991.

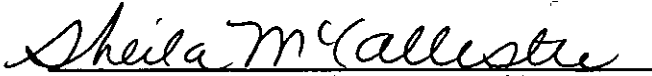
SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington


Chairperson

Approved as to Form:

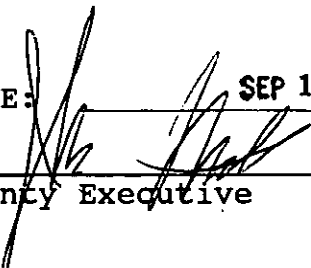
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

ATTEST:


Clerk of Council, *asst*

- () APPROVED
() VETOED
() EMERGENCY

DATE:  SEP 11 1991

 JOHN MARTINIS
Deputy Executive
County Executive

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