

Clallam County Official Local

Voters' Pamphlet

November 8, 2016 General Election



Historical Rayonier #4 locomotive, Port Angeles

Published by the Clallam County Auditor's Office

Message from the Auditor

Dear Clallam County Voters,

Welcome to the 2016 General Election Local Voters' Pamphlet. The purpose of this pamphlet is to provide information about Clallam County candidates and measures on the General Election ballot.

Ballots will be mailed to Clallam County voters on October 19. If your name, address or signature has changed since you last voted, please update your information by contacting us at (360) 417-2221 or jmaxion@co.clallam.wa.us.

Our Elections Department will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 8, to assist voters and answer questions. Election results will be posted to our website at www.clallam.net/elections soon after voting closes that evening. Printouts of results will also be available at our office.

Participation by informed voters is crucial for the electoral process. It is inspiring to see voters taking the time to exercise their right to vote and let their voices be heard.

Sincerely,



Shoona Riggs, Clallam County Auditor

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Cover Photo: This historical Rayonier #4 locomotive that once served the company's Western Clallam County logging operations is displayed along East Lauridsen Boulevard in Port Angeles. Photograph ©2015, 2015_DJ Bassett. All rights reserved.

How to Register to Vote

- **Online** at www.vote.wa.gov
- **In person** at the Auditor's Office in the Clallam County Courthouse, 223 E. 4th St., Suite 1, Port Angeles, WA
- Complete a **mail-in** registration form, available at public libraries, city halls, post offices, school district offices, and the Auditor's Office
- When you renew your driver's license

Registration Deadline

October 31 - Last day for new Washington state voters to register (must register in person at the Auditor's Office)

Questions?

Contact Clallam County Voter Registration

Phone: (360) 417-2221

Email: jmaxion@co.clallam.wa.us

Need a Replacement Ballot?

Contact Clallam County Elections if your ballot is damaged, lost, or you never received it. A replacement ballot may be mailed to you, or you may pick one up in person at the Auditor's Office any time until voting closes at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day (Tuesday, November 8, 2016).

FAQ: Why isn't the county commissioner race on my ballot?

Voters approved a Clallam County Home Rule Charter amendment change last year requiring each Clallam County Commissioner to be nominated and elected solely by the voters of his/her represented district. This replaced a provision allowing each commissioner to be elected by a countywide majority during the General Election.

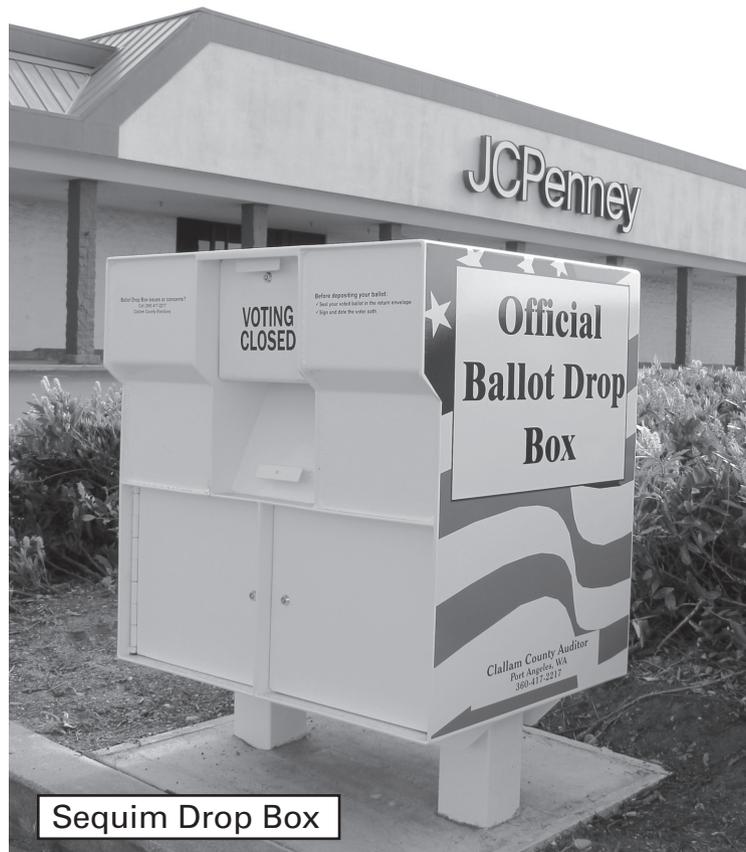
As such, only voters residing in Commissioner District 2 will have this year's County Commissioner race on their ballot. The following precincts are located in that district: 101-107, 201, 205, 209, 210, 216, 220, 232, 249, 250, 251, 253 and 266. *Your precinct number can be found in the upper right on the front of your ballot.*

Clallam County Ballot Drop Boxes

- Ballot drop boxes are available 24 hours a day to return voted ballots, beginning 20 days prior to the election
- Ballot drop boxes **close promptly at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day**
- Ballot drop boxes **require no postage**

Drop Box Locations

- **Port Angeles:** County Courthouse, 223 E. 4th St. (three drop boxes)
 - Courthouse circular drive
 - Courthouse sidewalk, across from disabled parking
 - Inside the Auditor's Office (only available Mon-Fri, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
- **Sequim:** Sequim Village Shopping Center in the JCPenney's parking lot (Look for the banner, located above the large white drop box)
- **Forks:** District Court II lobby, 502 E. Division St.



Sequim Drop Box

Contact Clallam County Elections

Phone: (360) 417-2217

Fax: (360) 417-2312

Email: khugoniot@co.clallam.wa.us

Online: www.clallam.net/elections

www.facebook.com/ClallamCountyAuditor

Location and Mailing Address:

223 E. 4th St., Suite 1, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Clallam County Home Rule Charter
Amendment No. 1

VACANCIES IN PUBLIC OFFICE

The Clallam County Charter Review Commission proposes an amendment to the Clallam County Home Rule Charter, concerning vacancies in public offices. This amendment would require the charter to use the same language as state law when referencing vacant offices that are nonpartisan or previously held by an official that did not state a preference for a political party. Should this amendment be:

- Approved
 Rejected

The Clallam County Auditor is not responsible for the content of statements or arguments (WAC 434-381-180).

Explanatory Statement

The Clallam County Home Rule Charter prescribes the process that the Board of County Commissioners must use to fill vacancies in public office. See Home Rule Charter, art. VII, section 7.50. The proposed amendment would require the charter provision to use the same language as state law when referencing vacant offices that are nonpartisan or previously held by an official that did not state a preference for a political party. Specifically, the amendment would replace references to an “independent candidate” with a candidate that “States No Party Preference” or holds “nonpartisan office”.

Statement prepared by: Brian Wendt, Clallam County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Argument For Amendment No. 1

Housekeeping Amendment to update language to conform to state election law.

State election law has replaced “independent” with “States No Party preference.” Our County Auditor has requested that we make this county charter technical change in order to be consistent with state law.

Argument prepared by: Ted Miller, Charter Review Commission member, 2014-2015

Contact: lawyerted@msn.com

Argument Against Amendment No. 1

No information submitted.

Clallam County Home Rule Charter
Amendment No. 2

EMPLOYEE APPEALS OF DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

The Clallam County Charter Review Commission proposes an amendment to the Clallam County Home Rule Charter, concerning a county employee's right to a public disciplinary hearing. This amendment would require an employee contesting a suspension or dismissal from county employment to choose (1) a hearing prescribed by county policies, or (2) a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners as allowed by charter; thereby, eliminating the ability to pursue both. Should this amendment be:

- [] Approved
[] Rejected

The Clallam County Auditor is not responsible for the content of statements or arguments (WAC 434-381-180).

Explanatory Statement

The Clallam County Home Rule Charter affords county employees the right to request a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners to contest any suspension or dismissal from county employment. See Home Rule Charter, art. X, section 10.40. This is in addition to a separate grievance process set forth within the county's administrative policies and procedures. The proposed amendment would require employees challenging any suspension or dismissal from county employment to choose between (1) a hearing prescribed by county personnel policies, or (2) a public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners under the charter. In other words, county employees would only be able to contest a suspension or dismissal through one of the two available appellate processes, not both.

Statement prepared by: Brian Wendt, Clallam County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Argument For Amendment No. 2

Proposed Charter Amendment No. 2 clarifies the appeal process for a suspended or discharged County employee. The amendment would require the employee to choose between the County's appeal system as outlined within the County's personnel policies; or, to appeal their discharge to the County Commissioners by requesting a public hearing before the Board of Commissioners. As currently written, the Charter may provide for two such appeal processes resulting in additional costs, and legal confusion, to all involved. The proposed amendment clarifies that only one appeal process may be chosen by the suspended or discharged employee. If the public hearing process in the Charter is chosen, the employee must request that option within 15 days of their suspension or discharge. Also, because that hearing is a public hearing, the issues of confidentiality may be waived by the parties in order to ensure a fair, open hearing. If the majority of the Commissioners determine that the suspended or discharged employee was let go without sufficient cause, the employee is reinstated into their prior position. The amendment ensures only one appeal option is utilized, thereby saving both the employee and the county time and money in adjudicating an employee dispute. Please vote yes on Proposed Charter Amendment No. 2.

Argument prepared by: Rod Fleck and Sue Forde, Charter Review Commission members, 2014-2015

Contact: rodfleck@olympen.com
sueforde.clallamcharter@gmail.com

Argument Against Amendment No. 2

No information submitted.

**Why isn't the county
commissioner
race on my ballot?**

See page 95 for more information.



Ron Richards

(Prefers Democratic Party)

Elected Experience: Clallam County Commissioner (1977-1981)

Other Professional Experience: Founded Western Gas Resources, Inc., and served as its corporate attorney, contracts administration manager, director of international business development; former Board Member, Colorado Oil and Gas Association; Was chemical engineer at Shell Oil and Dow Chemical; partnered with Apogee Scientific to develop leading natural gas leak detection system; former Clallam County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney; currently a commercial fisherman (Washington, Alaska); Licensed Attorney, Professional Engineer

Education: Law Degree, Denver University; BS Chemical Engineering, WSU; Richland High School

Community Service: Save the Olympic Peninsula Chair; PPF Board Member; Former NOLT Board Member, Youth Track, Basketball, and T-Ball Coach

Statement: Ron Richards is a tireless advocate for good government. He will focus on providing government services at reasonable costs, balancing budgets, creating well-paying jobs with sustainable economic development, addressing mental health and substance abuse issues, solving water supply issues, planning for climate change, and preventing the inappropriate use of our National Park and Forest as an electronic warfare range.

Ron will ensure that public interest guides government action by listening to and encouraging public comment, appointing well-balanced advisory boards, and avoiding conflicts of interest.

Ron will be an outstanding County Commissioner because of his exceptional business, legal and government experience. From founding a large natural gas company to operating his own commercial fishing vessel, Ron has successfully run big and small businesses. Ron gained extensive experience in municipal, corporate and contract law as a private attorney and as a Clallam County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney. As a Clallam County Commissioner he played a major role in adopting fiscally responsible budgets, building the main Courthouse addition, and passing ordinances implementing the County Charter.

Ron will help our county implement strategies for a prosperous and environmentally sound economy through his positive, can-do attitude that welcomes change and new ideas.

Contact: (360) 457-1787; ronrichardsforclallamcounty@gmail.com; www.ronrichardsforclallamcounty.com



Randy Johnson

(States No Party Preference)

Elected Experience: None.

Other Professional Experience: 31 years as president of Green Crow, a family owned Clallam County-headquartered forestry, aggregate, and real estate business. Former board member of Makah Forestry, Swain's General Store. Former president, Washington Forest Protection Association. Former director, Forest Products/Farming/Mineral Resources of ITT.

Education: BS University of the South, MBA Harvard.

Community Service: Chairman, Clallam County EDC, past president PA Chamber, YMCA Board member/Treasurer, 15 years fast pitch coach, soccer coach. Longtime supporter of Forterra, Humane Society, Clallam County Junior Livestock Auction, 4H, Food Bank(s), Land Trust(s), Pacific Education Institute, Peninsula Trails Coalition, American Legion, Peninsula College Foundation.

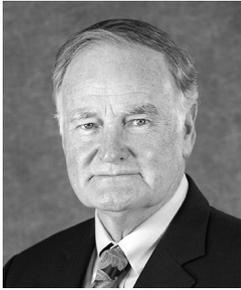
Statement: I see a serious need for more unity in our community, and an absolute need for all of us to work together. Collaboration is the key to resolving pressing issues to the benefit of everyone in Clallam County. I will bring proven collaborative leadership skills to meet this challenge. I believe the top issues facing us are:

Ensuring that county government works together with other organizations on jobs and job creation. Cooperative relationships should include the Port of Port Angeles, city governments, Clallam PUD and other elected governmental agencies, plus business associations, Peninsula College and other groups. Fiscally sound management of the Clallam County budget (with a focus on zero-based budgeting) to ensure it meets the needs of residents.

Ensuring infrastructure is in place that helps businesses and the community's quality of life. Two recent examples of this include the Carlsberg sewer project and the aid given to reopen the SARC facility in Sequim.

Support for and appreciation of veterans' needs. Facilitating the ability of Clallam County to receive its rightful share of revenue from state trust lands.

Contact: (360) 417-3655
randyj@greencrow.com
www.randy4countycommissioner.com



Will Purser

(Nonpartisan)

Unopposed

Elected Experience: Clallam PUD Commissioner from 2001 to present. Elected to Energy Northwest Executive Board 2009 to present.

Other Professional Experience: Over 28 years of business & engineering management experience in the energy industry. Well-versed in power generation technologies, equitable rates setting, environmental issues, water & waste regulations & technologies. Before retirement, he was a registered professional engineer in California, Colorado, & Texas as well as a Charter Engineer in Australia.

Education: Undergraduate and graduate engineering degrees and numerous continuing education courses in management, law, finance, and administration.

Community Service: Past service Rotary Club, Boys & Girls Club, Meals On Wheels, Sequim Museum.

Statement: Commissioner Purser believes strongly in utilities owned and controlled by the community and that public education and participation are essential to assure that the PUD continues to meet customer needs. He has applied his business and technical experience to bring the best value and service to PUD customers by assuring low rates, cost/benefit analysis of expenditures, improving programs for the elderly, disabled and economically disadvantaged, pursuing reliable cost-effective local renewable energy resources.

Will has advocated for continuous improvement of PUD services as an investment in the future of Clallam County by balancing needs and budget restraints. He is a Vietnam Era Veteran, who attended undergraduate school on the GI Bill. Will has worked to address issues such as climate change without adversely effecting public life style or economic well being.

Contact: (360) 582-9432
wepm3@me.com

Hospital District No. 1
Proposition No. 1

INCREASING THE NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Commissioners for the Clallam County Public Hospital District No. 1 (doing business as Forks Community Hospital) adopted Resolution No. 2016-502, concerning a proposition to increase the number of commissioners. If approved, this proposition would increase the number of commissioners serving on the Board of Commissioners for Clallam County Public Hospital District No. 1 from three (3) to five (5) as allowed by state law. Should this proposition be approved?

- Yes
 No

Argument For Proposition No. 1

No information submitted.

Argument Against Proposition No. 1

No information submitted.

The Clallam County Auditor is not responsible for the content of statements or arguments (WAC 434-381-180).

Explanatory Statement

Clallam County Public Hospital District No. 1 (the "District") was formed in 1947, and has been governed by a three-member Board of Commissioners. The District has changed since 1947. Washington law (Chapter 70.44 RCW) allows expansion to five Board members with voter approval. This ballot requests that approval. The Board is charged with oversight of the District and delivery of care, including Forks Community Hospital and its clinics and programs. The Board believes passage of this measure will allow the District to be better governed and have greater representation in the community.

Given the complex nature of healthcare, constant attention must be paid to District facilities, the provision of appropriate services, the development of strategic partnerships and sound finances for the District. The Board believes expansion of the Board to five members will support these responsibilities and add a broader mix of skills and leadership styles for the Board.

Statement prepared by: Brian Werst, Hospital District No. 1 Attorney

City of Sequim

Advisory Proposition No. 1

FIREWORKS BAN

The Sequim City Council has called for an advisory vote on banning the discharge of fireworks. Shall the discharge of fireworks be prohibited within the City of Sequim at all times of the year with the exception of properly licensed and permitted public displays?

Should this ban be enacted?

Yes

No

The Clallam County Auditor is not responsible for the content of statements or arguments (WAC 434-381-180).

Explanatory Statement

Under state law it is legal to discharge consumer fireworks in conjunction with the Fourth of July and New Year's holidays. State law also allows persons licensed by the state and city to sell fireworks during those times. A city may regulate the sale and discharge of fireworks, including a ban of these activities, but any change cannot be effective until one year after its adoption.

This is a non-binding advisory measure to give voters the opportunity to express their position on whether the discharge of fireworks should continue to be allowed within Sequim's city limits. A "yes" vote supports banning the discharge of all fireworks in Sequim, except for public displays. A "no" vote supports leaving the law as it is.

While the City Council will consider the election results in formulating its fireworks policy, the results will not change the law.

Statement prepared by: Kristina Nelson-Gross, Sequim City Attorney

Argument For Advisory Proposition No. 1

Fireworks, as popularly enjoyed, are both dangerous and disturbing in a densely populated environment such as in the City of Sequim. There is an inherent risk from fire, personal injury, and property damage to neighbors. In addition, the noise from many fireworks is severely traumatic to many nearby sensitive individuals and pets. As well as veterans with PTSD.

At the same time legal fireworks used with proper care and supervision can be discharged with relative safety in less densely populated, rural areas. For this reason, fireworks will continue to be legally sold in Sequim, since 80%-90% of sales are to persons living outside the city limits. And persons living in Sequim only need to visit a friend outside the city to use them.

In order to enforce the ban, the discharge of *all* fireworks within the city needs to be prohibited. If there is only a partial ban it will be difficult or impossible for police to determine whether already discharged fireworks are on the banned list.

Please vote *yes* to ban the discharge of fireworks within the City of Sequim. If approved by the voters and ratified by the city council, the ban will go into effect in 2018.

Argument prepared by: Larry Allen, Stella Allen, and John Butler

Contact: Larryallen2@wavecable.com

Argument Against Advisory Proposition No. 1

No information submitted.