



Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title *Field not completed.*

First Name Chantel

Last Name Welch

Today's Date 9/25/2023

Street Address

[REDACTED]

City Ferndale

Zip 98248

Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

Primary Telephone

[REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone

[REDACTED]

Email Address cwelch@farmland.org

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee Agricultural Advisory Committee

Agricultural Advisory Committee Position: Agricultural Programs Expertise

2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying? Yes

3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 5
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	No
8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions	Welch_C Resume_AFTcurrent.pdf
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	I am currently the PNW Project Manager for the American Farmland Trust (AFT), working closely with farmers and ranchers across the ID/OR/WA region, including on-farm projects here in Whatcom county. My work includes grant oversight, project creation based on information gathered from local producers, implementation of those projects, and region-wide projects addressing issues that cross county lines such as water resilience. Prior to AFT I spent several years working at the food system level in a tri-county region of Oregon, and three years working with rice farmers in Madagascar. Going further back I spent my childhood raising animals for 4-H, haying fields, and immersing myself in small-scale food production. I have a master's degree in international development with a focus on agriculture and natural resource management.
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	I feel strongly that agriculture is a necessary part of any community's core. When done well, the industry provides food security, ecosystem services, employment opportunities, supports a greater agricultural economy (supply and repair shops, etc.) and more. I would be happy to share my skills and knowledge with the Agricultural Advisory Committee, and to play a role in connecting our community with federal funding, local resources, etc.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Addie Candib [REDACTED], Katrina Van Dis [REDACTED]

Appointment Requirements I understand and agree

Signature of applicant: Chantel Welch

Place Signed / Submitted Ferndale, WA
