

**WHATCOM COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**



ERIKA LAUTENBACH, MPH, DIRECTOR
AMY HARLEY, MD, MPH, CO-HEALTH OFFICER
GREG THOMPSON, MD, MPH, CO-HEALTH OFFICER

RECEIVED

JAN 11 2022

**WHATCOM COUNTY
EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE**

To: Whatcom County Executive Satpal Sidhu
From: Ali Jensen, Whatcom County Health Department
Date: January 11, 2022
Subject: Whatcom County Health Department Recommendation for the Food System Committee

The Whatcom County Health Department recommends Rhys Hansen for the Whatcom Food Network position on the Food System Committee.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Ali Jensen
Program Specialist
Whatcom County Health Department

*Appoint
SS.*





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	Mx.
First Name	Rhys-Thorvald
Last Name	Hansen
Today's Date	1/10/2022
Street Address	1308 Sunset Drive
City	Point Roberts
Zip	98281
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	425-238-0832
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	mx.rhyshansen@gmail.com
1. Name of Board or Committee	Food System Committee
Food System Committee position:	Whatcom Food Network
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

[Resume Rhys-Thorvald-Hansen WFSC.pdf](#) – attached

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I have 12 years of experience in the food and farming industry in a wide variety of roles including farm labor, farmland access and conservation, retail and wholesale market-building, cooperatives, farmer education, business and technical assistance, farmer-chef relationships and more.

Please see my resume for detailed information.

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

I have served on Whatcom Food Network advisory committee since 2019, and have been attending alternate meetings of the Food Systems Committee meetings to keep the lines of communication clear between the two groups while WFN went through organizational shifts in 2021. For the work of the two groups to be effective and meaningful, cross-participation and coordination is necessary in achieving our shared goals. I am committed to a thriving and just food system in Whatcom County and know we have the people and resources to make this happen.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Gretchen Krampf 360-317-8220, Brook Brouwer 360-525-5954, Maressa Valliant 425-760-6604

Signature of applicant:

Rhys Thorvald Hansen

Place Signed / Submitted

Point Roberts WA

RHYS-THORVALD

HANSEN they/them/theirs

Point Roberts, WA | 425-238-0832 | mx.rhyshansen@gmail.com

12+ years of leadership in food production, retailing and distribution. Innovator of data-driven solutions that sustain financial growth and inform brand, marketing, and communication strategies to increase local food trade.

Key Accomplishments

- Developed successful operating systems for two startup co-op retail produce departments with a focus on strong team leadership and skills development, resulting in above industry standard growth
- Partnered with over thirty farmers to develop a new wholesale market and became the largest purchaser of local products in San Juan County
- Skilled community organizer who enjoy working with a wide variety of people and personalities
- Produced events attended by 700+ people in 2019 with high client and participant satisfaction indicated through survey data, testimonies, and repeat clients
- Developed a compassionate and collaborative management style through imperfect practice and a commitment to improvement as a supervisor, board officer, and/or community member

Experience

FREELANCE CONSULTING

October 2017- present | portfolio available at rhys.earth

- Relevant client & project highlights
 - **Adura Strategies** October 2021-present
 - Virtual event technical support
 - **Agrarian Trust** October 2021-present
 - Lead the advancement of Puget Sound Agrarian Commons for equitable and affordable farmland access in Puget Sound
 - Project manager responsible for a variety of internal and external communication projects
 - **IndigenEYEZ** June 2020-present
 - RESPECT 2020, 2021 | virtual teacher training for Indigenous cultural safety in Classrooms
 - ReconciliACTION | workshop supporting Settler and Indigenous Reconciliation
 - Weaving A Braid of Peers | workshop supporting Settler and Indigenous Reconciliation
 - kinSHIFT | workshop supporting Settler and Indigenous Reconciliation
 - Launched Mighty Networks for IndigenEYEZ/kinSHIFT
 - **Hollyhock Leadership Center** January 2019-March 2020, January 2022-present
 - Summer Gathering 2022 | 6-day international intergenerational wisdom event
 - Creating A Climate for Change 2019 | 5-day international climate conference
 - Climate Hope September 2019 | 4-day international climate and spirit retreat
 - **Northwest Agriculture Business Center** April-November 2021
 - Project manager for regional farmer business education cohort
 - **San Juan Islands Agricultural Guild** March 2017-November 2021
 - Eat Island Grown October 28, 2018 | Local food and farm tasting event on San Juan Island

- Bite of the San Juans October 27, 2019 | Local food and farm tasting event on San Juan Island
- Farm to Market Map, Every Meal Has A Story Campaign, more

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY- SAN JUAN COUNTY EXTENSION

San Juan Islands Agricultural Summit Coordinator | December 2017- December 2020

Summit Registrar & Steering Committee Member | December 2014-August 2017

- Collaborated with 8 community partner organizations to execute annual agricultural education gathering in San Juan County, leading on event logistics, materials, advertising, sponsorships and reporting
- February 2019 Summit received 4.5/5 rating from attendee evaluations, with 73% indicating they will change their business based on information gathered at the Summit
- Produced compelling materials to raise half the operating budget in sponsorships, 65% from repeat donors
- 2020 email marketing campaign averaged 37% open, 6.7% click through rates
- Supported virtualization for Master Gardeners Native and Spring Plant Sales , supported 4H programming at County Fair in-person in 2018 & online in 2020

ORCAS FOOD COOPERATIVE

Produce & Marketing Manager | May 2015- August 2017

Produce Manager | May 2014-May 2015

- Established new retail department in a startup cooperative business, surpassing projected department contribution by 50%, and growing sales to over \$500k in 3.5 years
- Mentored 4-6 direct reports in department operations and financial literacy to support employee empowerment, skills development and advancement
- Launched 3 community outreach programs generating over \$10,000 in donations for community partners

TACOMA FOOD COOPERATIVE

Produce Department Head | May 2012-February 2014

Produce Buyer | March-May 2012

Volunteer | February-March 2012

- Advanced from volunteer to department head in less than six months by demonstrating the ability to learn new skills quickly with minimal supervision or training
- Cultivated relationships with 8 farmers to introduce local produce purchasing at the co-op and drive sales
- Increased store department sales by 60% in 2 years through reducing waste, improving product quality and growing customer engagement through in-store demonstration and educational materials

TERRY'S BERRIES ORGANIC FARM & CSA

Farm Store Manager | March 2010-June 2011

Volunteer | February-March 2010

- Doubled farm stand sales year-over-year through operations system overhaul and improved customer service
- Designed and maintained new website, multiple social media platforms, and branding materials to drive sales

Engagement

WHATCOM YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Advisory Committee / 2020-present
Member at Large / 2020-2021
Community Stewardship Committee / 2021-present

SALMON NATION

Salmon Nation Network / 2020-present

SALISH SEA FOOD COOPERATIVE

Launch committee July 2021-present

ORCAS FOOD COOPERATIVE

Board of Directors / 2015 - 2018
Board Development Committee / 2015 - 2018
Strategic Planning Taskforce / 2016 - 2018

HILLTOP URBAN GARDENS

Advisory Committee / 2013-2014

PROCTOR FARMERS MARKET

Board of Directors / 2013-2014

WHATCOM FOOD NETWORK

Advisory Committee / 2019-2020
Coordinating Team / 2020-present

PUGET SOUND AGRARIAN COMMONS

Secretary / 2020-present

KWÍÁHT: CENTER FOR THE HISTORICAL ECOLOGY OF THE SALISH SEA

Board of Directors / 2016 - 2019
Treasurer / 2017 - 2019
Secretary / 2016 - 2017

THE MOUNTAINEERS

Steven's Lodge Operations Committee / 2006 - 2018
Registration & Group Bookings Officer / 2006 - 2018
Volunteer Lodge Staff / 2001 - 2006

Education & Professional Licenses

LICENSED WASHINGTON STATE REAL ESTATE BROKER

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT CONTINUING EDUCATION

Certificate in Digital Marketing Strategies

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

Anthropology, Religious Studies, French Language

OUT IN FRONT LGBTQ LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Graduate

SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

Tibetan & Himalayan Studies

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES TRINIDAD

Caribbean Culture, Music and Religion

Skills

Facilitation, mediation, strategic planning
Proficient in Adobe Indesign, Illustrator, & Fresco, Squarespace and WordPress web platforms
Public speaking, grant writing, social media marketing, qualitative research and analysis, Office Suite, GSuite, Adobe Suite, NationBuilder, Squarespace, Asana, Slack, and Zoom



Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

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Title	Mr.
First Name	Daniel
Last Name	Sulak
Today's Date	1/13/2022
Street Address	2404 Old Lakeway Dr
City	Bellingham
Zip	98229
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	3034950383
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	DANSULAK@GMAIL.COM
1. Name of Board or Committee	Marine Resource Committee
Marine Resource Committee Position:	Recreational Interest
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 1
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?	Yes
if yes, please list dates:	January, 2019 - present
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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	Dairy nutrient management inspector. I inspect dairies' manure management systems in order to help them stay in compliance with water quality protection rules.
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	I am currently on the committee and would like to continue working toward preserving and enhancing the marine resources of the county.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Signature of applicant:	Daniel J Sulak
Place Signed / Submitted	Bellingham, WA



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Title	<i>Field not completed.</i>
First Name	Kathryn
Last Name	Ketteridge
Today's Date	10/13/2019
Street Address	1504 24th Street
City	Bellingham
Zip	98225
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	360-319-8069
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	ketteridge.coastal@gmail.com
1. Name of Board or Committee	Marine Resource Committee
Marine Resource Committee Position:	Relevant Scientific Experience
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 1
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? Yes

If yes, please explain

I work for Anchor QEA, which has in the past done some work for Whatcom County. I do not personally do any work for Whatcom County at this time.

You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions

[Ketteridge Kathryn resume 8 3019.pdf](#) - attached

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I am a senior managing coastal engineer with Anchor QEA at present. I have about 20 years of experience in that field; working in academic, non-profit, and consulting environments. I have a B.S. in Civil Engineering and a M.E. and Ph.D. in Ocean Engineering. I am serving currently on the ASCE Sea Level Change Subcommittee and will be a primary author on the guidance document being developed by that group (geared towards resiliency design guidance for ports). I have been involved in marine focused research and projects on the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf Coasts, and have focused on the Puget Sound area for the last decade. I have been in Bellingham since 2008.

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

I am passionate about conserving and restoring the marine environment. Based on 20 years of experience working in the coastal science/engineering field, I have a practical understanding of how our marine resources are used and valued by governmental entities, industry, tribes, and the general public (and many others). These uses and values are often contrary to each other, and it is challenging to find the right balance to ensure that these resources will be around when my children are my age. My kids are now older (two off to college, one in high school), and I have more time to focus on giving back to my community. I value and admire the work conducted by the MRC, and feel that my technical background could be of value to the group. Thank you for your consideration.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

John Blum (retired) 360--220-0694
Jen Allen (Port of Bellingham) 360-920-6578
Paul Schlenger (ESA, SRFB Technical Review) 206-601-1405
Jessica Cote (Blue Coast Engineering) 425-218-4503

Signature of applicant:

Kathy Ketteridge

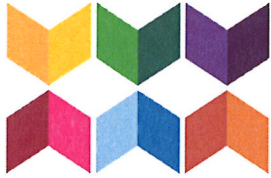
Place Signed / Submitted

Bellingham, WA

The only change to the application is that I now work for Blue Coast Engineering, a company where I am one of two owners. The scope of the work, and clients I work for, is the same as my work at anchor QEA. I have worked at Blue Coast as a principal from Feb 2020 to Present.

Regards
Kathy

1-13-22



whatcom county
library system

RECEIVED

NOV 29 2021

**WHATCOM COUNTY
EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE**

November 23, 2021

Mr. Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 108
Bellingham, WA 98225

*Reappoint Erika
SS.*

Dear Executive Sidhu:

At the November 16 Whatcom County Library System Board of Trustees meeting, the Board voted to recommend Erika Lautenbach for a second term in Position #1. We know you know her well as the Director of the Whatcom County Health Department. You might think that Erika would be “at capacity” dealing with the WCHD response to the ongoing pandemic, but Erika assures us that she is able to balance her work responsibilities with her volunteer duties as a WCLS trustee in her personal time. Apparently, library issues are a refreshing change from some of the other challenges she faces.

It has been invaluable to WCLS to have a strong connection with the Health Department throughout the pandemic. Erika has a sharp mind, an intense commitment to community, and a love of libraries. She asks great questions and provides insight into our budget process and policy decisions. The Board unanimously supports making this recommendation of her reappointment to you and the Whatcom County Council.

If approved, Erika’s second term on the WCLS Board of Trustees would run through January 31, 2027.

If you have any questions about this recommendation, please do not hesitate to call. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing the news of your appointment.

Sincerely,

Christine Perkins
Executive Director

The Power of Sharing

5205 Northwest Drive Bellingham, Washington 98226 | (360) 305-3600 | wcls.org



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Title	<i>Field not completed.</i>
First Name	Erika
Last Name	Lautenbach
Today's Date	11/7/2021
Street Address	244 Chuckanut Point Rd
City	Bellingham
Zip	98229
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	12068513117
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	ELautenb@co.whatcom.wa.us
1. Name of Board or Committee	Rural Library Board
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 3
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?

Yes

If yes, please list dates:

2017 - present

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

[Erika Lautenbach resume.docx](#) - attached

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

Director, Whatcom County Health Department; Master's in Public Health

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

I have enjoyed my time serving on the library board and wish to continue to do so.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Christine Perkins: 360.594.2142

Signature of applicant:

Erika Lautenbach

Place Signed / Submitted

Bellingham, WA

ERIKA LAUTENBACH, MPH

244 Chuckanut Point Rd, Bellingham, WA 98229 ♦ ellautenbach@gmail.com ♦ (206) 851-3117

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

- ◆ Collaborative leader with more than fifteen years of experience in driving organizational excellence, policy, advocacy, communications, community partnerships, and strategic decision-making.
- ◆ Long-term strategic thinker with focus on improving health outcomes, engaging community and staff in decision-making, balancing cost and population benefit, developing and measuring performance metrics, and innovating to lead the public health field.
- ◆ Experienced team and organizational leader, recognizing strengths in staff, building organizational culture through heart and humility, and creating workforce development and succession planning initiatives.

WORK HISTORY

Director 2020-present

Whatcom County Health Department – Bellingham, WA

- ◆ Lead the COVID-19 response as Incident Commander and oversee all planning, logistics, operations, and financial aspects of the crisis response for Whatcom County.
- ◆ Set the cultural, strategic and operational direction for the department and its approximately 150 employees.

American Public Health Association/Brookings Institute Congressional Fellow 2019

United States Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee – Washington, DC

- ◆ Provided technical and health expertise, bill negotiation strategy and recommendations, and research in developing health-related bills drafted by committee members.
- ◆ Drafted and negotiated bills including vaccine safety, family violence and child abuse prevention, youth smoking and vaping regulations, chronic and acute disease prevention, obesity prevention, public health data modernization, and social and nutrition programs for seniors.
- ◆ Met with stakeholders, Washington State constituents and advocacy groups, and Senate personal staff on topics before the committee; developed an expertise in understanding the health organizations and providers, emerging public health issues and their both federal and local response opportunities, payment structures and challenges, and Senate priorities and funding options for public health programs.

Assistant Director 2016 to 2019

Whatcom County Health Department – Bellingham, WA

- ◆ Responsible for shifting department-wide culture toward innovating, increasing staff partnerships with other county departments and public health departments, demonstrating mutual respect, and building trust

between senior leaders and staff. This included working with a consultant to develop curriculum on organizational development and leadership for managers and supervisors, developing agendas and group discussions among managers on performance management and strategic planning, and re-writing job descriptions to include public health competencies, department values and behavioral expectations.

- ◆ Provided strategic direction, financial oversight, and leadership and mentoring for the 100 member staff and five division managers; directly supervised nine staff and supervisors in a division of 30, with influence on and accountability to all staff and managers.
- ◆ Oversaw budget, policy, financial systems and contracts, assessment/epidemiology, informatics and information/data management, strategic planning and implementation, quality improvement/performance management, public health emergency preparedness and response, national public health accreditation, health planning/community engagement, clerical/administrative support, and workforce development/leadership development.
- ◆ Led staffing and organizational chart changes within the department, Community Health Improvement program and planning team, workforce development strategies such as the mentoring program, and served as the department's liaison and contact for risk management, HIPAA, capital projects planning and facilities management, human resources requests, and website/communications initiatives.

Pacific Northwest Government and Community Relations Manager

2013 to 2016

Recology – Seattle, WA

- ◆ Joined region just following the acquisition of the local affiliate, and served as the cultural and organizational lead on merging the two companies. Directly led a team of 18, with indirect oversight of all 300+ employees in the region.
- ◆ Led all external strategies for the Pacific Northwest region for the \$1 billion California-based waste recovery and diversion company, including corporate giving, new business development, policy and advocacy, brand identity, education and outreach, and retail and artist in residence programs. Served as regional liaison for corporate board members.
- ◆ Served on the leadership team to review operations and budgets for the four affiliates in the Portland, Seattle, Western Oregon, and Ashland markets, and developed growth strategies, capital plans, and operating efficiencies to maximize employee owner shares. Traveled to San Francisco monthly to brief senior corporate leadership on organizational and cultural challenges and organizational shifts and recommendations.
- ◆ Developed relationships with community leaders, elected officials, non-profits and others to establish Recology as an 'anchor' institution, and represented the company on statewide and local industry boards and on panels at national and regional conferences.

Integration Consultant

2013

Public Health - Seattle & King County – Seattle, WA

- ◆ Reporting up to Department Director, led a multidisciplinary team of staff to determine if the 1600 staff public health department and 400 staff human services department could improve service delivery and increase efficiencies by merging or partially merging.
- ◆ Through a collaborative process, identified impacts to staff, stakeholders, and patients of their 10 FQHC locations, as well as provided cost modeling and determining labor, legal, contractual, and funding issues associated with various organizational options.
- ◆ Provided options and recommendations to County Council and County Executive in a written report and presentation.

Interim Executive Officer, Regional Outreach Specialist

2010 to 2012

US Department Of Health And Human Services (HHS) – Seattle, WA

- ◆ Communicated with state, tribal and local leaders and policy makers regarding federal policies, grants, and initiatives relating to the Affordable Care Act. Provided guidance to Washington DC staff about Region X (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska) and how to better articulate policies and collaborate with statewide and local health organizations.
- ◆ Led coordination of all external affairs for four-state region among divisions within HHS. Served as a liaison and technical expert on the Affordable Care Act to all stakeholders and government officials in four-state region. Provided training and presentations to stakeholders regarding the elements of the law that affected them.
- ◆ Coordinated all office public appearances, media responses, meetings with stakeholders and policy makers, and communication and marketing materials to ensure consistent and appropriate messaging. Presented on panels at conference for health and human services professionals.

Chief Of Staff, Senior Policy Advisor

2004 to 2010

King County Councilmember Julia Patterson – Seattle, WA

- ◆ During Councilmember's two-year term as Chair of Council and 100+ staff, led department-wide human resources, IT, and administrative staff, as well as the policy agenda and policy staff, and relationships with the Executive and senior department staff. Oversaw policy and communications staff, created work plans, goals, budgets, and managed workflow and strategic messaging of policy, communication, and stakeholder and constituent relations.
- ◆ Led regional health initiatives such as the development of a partnership with a large FQHC (HealthPoint) to build a school-based health clinic in SeaTac, development and policy-making for the successful Veterans and Human Services levy ballot measure, and served as a stakeholder and technical expert liaison regarding significant actions taken by the King County Board of Health.
- ◆ Created project plans for more than 100 strategic and policy processes such as managing and maintaining tighter controls for county contracts, providing workforce development opportunities for staff,

strengthening human resources oversight of inappropriate or unethical staff behavior, and ensuring planning and evaluation were part of policy processes.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Organizational Studies/Communication

Michigan State University - East Lansing, MI

Master of Public Health

University of Washington - Seattle, WA

AFFILIATIONS

Current Board Member, Whatcom County Library System

Current Board Member, Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials

Former Board Member, Allied Arts of Whatcom County

Former Board Member, Blue Skies for Children of Whatcom and Skagit Counties

Former Board Member, Community Psychiatric Clinic

Former Board Member, Domestic Abuse Women's Network



Memorandum

TO: SATPAL SIDHU, COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FROM: Elizabeth Witowski, Veterans Specialist
Health Department

DATE: January 13, 2022

RE: Veterans Advisory Board (VAB) Member Recommendation

I, along with current Veterans Advisory Board (VAB) members, would like to recommend the following candidates for re-appointment to the board:

- Andrea Vance
- Wes Weston
- Al Jensen

In addition, we would like to recommend Mr. Joseph Shepard for a first-time appointment.
Thank you for your consideration.





Appoint
JS,

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Title	Mr.
First Name	Allan
Last Name	Jensen
Today's Date	11/12/2021
Street Address	7168 Ashley Court
City	Ferndale
Zip	98248
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	3603845419
Secondary Telephone	3607391269
Email Address	asjen@comcast.net
1. Name of Board or Committee	Veteran's Advisory Board
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?	Yes
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	Yes
If yes, please list dates:	2018 - 2021
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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	Safety Director Bellingham Technical College Retired - Bellingham Police Detective Commander, American Legion Post 7 Bellingham Vice Commander, Department of Washington American Legion Vice Chairman - American Legion National Legislative Commission
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	I currently serve on the Veterans Advisory Board and would like to serve my second term on the Board as allowed by the guidelines. I am very active in veterans affairs on the local, state and national level through the American Legion. With these positions I bring a full ranged background on the current climate of veterans issues. Serving a second term will allow me to bring experiences for the past 4 years forward with the Board
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Ann Beck - 360-650-4324 Gene Knutson - 360-734-4686 Jack Lowes - 360-815-5225
Signature of applicant:	Allan Jensen



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Title	Mr.
First Name	Wes
Last Name	Weston
Today's Date	1/12/2022
Street Address	2735 Douglas Road
City	Ferndale
Zip	98248
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	8134163579
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	wsweston06@gmail.com
1. Name of Board or Committee	Veteran's Advisory Board
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 1
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?	Yes
If yes, please list dates:	2016 to present.
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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	Colonel USMC ret. 28 yrs of service Presently employed as Federal Account Executive, Trane Inc.
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	I am interested in both representing and helping to serve our County veterans in a broad range of issues and challenges.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	813.416.3579
Signature of applicant:	W S Weston
Place Signed / Submitted	Ferndale, Wa



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	Ms.
First Name	Andrea
Last Name	Vance
Today's Date	1/13/2022
Street Address	2200 22nd St
City	Bellingham
Zip	98225
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	503-309-6975
Secondary Telephone	360-734-3182
Email Address	andrea.vance@outlook.com
1. Name of Board or Committee	Veteran's Advisory Board
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 1
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?	Yes
If yes, please list dates:	Dec 2017 to present
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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	I am an independently licensed, Master's level Social Work professional with almost 20 years of experience working with Veterans in housing, medical, mental health and substance abuse treatment. I am a Veteran, having served in the Oregon Army National Guard for ten years, as well as a one year overseas deployment during Operation Joint Endeavor. I feel am uniquely qualified to serve on the Veterans Advisory Board as a Social Worker who is committed to social justice, a Veteran, a woman and a mental health professional who has worked for the VA most of my career. As a health care provider and housing advocate, I understand the resources available to Veterans in our county along with the barriers to access these resources. I think the combination of my professional and personal experiences continue to make me an excellent candidate for the Veterans Advisory Board.
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	As I complete my first term on the Whatcom County Veteran's Advisory Board, I see a continued and significant need for advocacy for the Veterans of Whatcom county. In my professional capacity as a mental health provider at the VA in Seattle, I frequently see gaps in service for the Veterans who live in Washington's rural counties, including Whatcom county. More specifically, the experiences and needs of female Veterans and their families are frequently overlooked by both the VA and community agencies. The number of female Veterans is expected to double by 2045, while the number of male Veterans are expected to drop by half, making it even more important to carefully consider the needs of female Veterans as we plan for the future. I would welcome the chance to continue my advocacy work for Veterans at the county level, and to have a chance to influence policy and effect change for some of the most vulnerable Veterans of Whatcom County.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Dane Olsen, combat Veteran and Senior Social Worker/Inpatient Homeless Veteran liaison Seattle VA - 206-549-6605 Megan Herrenkohl, former VA HUD/VASH (Housing) Social Worker at Seattle VA - 734-218-2473
Signature of applicant:	Andrea Vance



Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

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Title	Mr.
First Name	Joseph A.
Last Name	Shepherd III
Today's Date	12/10/2021
Street Address	203 West Hemmi Rd
City	Bellingham
Zip	98226
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	360 630-7601
Secondary Telephone	360 778-3866
Email Address	jujoshep@gmail.com
1. Name of Board or Committee	Veteran's Advisory Board
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 4
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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel and Vietnam veteran. Retired public school teacher and coach. I have been a member of the VFW since 1972. BA in Political Science from the University of Puget Sound and a BA in Education for Western Washington University.
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	As a veteran, I have a strong interest in veteran affairs. I believe that I would be a positive advocate for veterans, as well as a team player on this council.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Rob Thomas, Pastor of Concrete Community Bible Church 360-853-8511 Greg Bode 360 201-2714; Ron Hendricks 360 319-4677
Signature of applicant:	Joseph A. Shepherd III
Place Signed / Submitted	Lynden, WA