

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

January 7, 2025

TO: County Councilmembers

FROM: Jill Nixon, Legislative Coordinator II

SUBJ: Special District Appointments

All three commissioner positions on Drainage District 3 are vacant.

The Council appointees will serve until the next special district general election in February 2026. Council needs to assign each appointee to a specific vacancy. See table below.

DISTRICT	POSITION	NAME	BEGIN TERM	APPOINTED OR ELECTED	COMMENTS
Drainage District 3	Commissioner Position 1	No Filings	5/10/2022	Vacant	Regular term is 2/2022 to 2/2028
Drainage District 3	Commissioner Position 2	No Filings	2/16/2018	Vacant	Regular term is 2/2024 to 2/2030
Drainage District 3	Commissioner Position 3	No Filings	11/10/2022	Vacant	Regular term is 02/2020 to 02/2026

Council Action Requested

1. Appoint applicants to the vacant positions
2. Assign each appointed commissioner to a specific Commissioner Position (1, 2, or 3)

RCW 85.38.070

Governing board—Terms of office—Election—Appointment—Vacancies—Qualifications.

(5) Whenever a vacancy occurs in the governing body of a special district, the legislative authority of the county within which the special district, or the largest portion of the special district, is located, shall appoint a district voter to serve until a person is elected, at the next special district general election occurring sixty or more days after the vacancy has occurred, to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. The person so elected shall take office immediately when qualified as defined in RCW 29A.04.133.

If an election for the position which became vacant would otherwise have been held at this special district election, only one election shall be held and the person elected to fill the succeeding term for that position shall take office immediately when qualified as defined in RCW 29A.04.133 and shall serve both the remainder of the unexpired term and the succeeding term. A vacancy occurs upon the death, resignation, or incapacity of a governing body member or whenever the governing body member ceases being a qualified voter of the special district.

(6) An elected or appointed member of a special district governing body, or a candidate for a special district governing body, must be a qualified voter of the special district:
PROVIDED, That the state, its agencies and political subdivisions, or their designees under RCW 85.38.010(3) shall not be eligible for election or appointment.