



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	Dr.
First Name	Brian
Last Name	Rusk
Today's Date	2/8/2019
Street Address	1779 E Smith 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	360-510-7161
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	dirtfarmer@wildacres.farm
1. Name of Board or Committee	Purchase of Development Rights Oversight Committee
Purchase of Development Rights Oversight Committee Position:	County Farmer
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?	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	Rusk CV Jan 2019.pdf – (available on request)
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	I am currently a part-time, small-scale poultry farmer in Whatcom County. I am also a part-time teacher and research associate in the Geology Department at WWU and the University of Oregon. I am currently serving my third term as president of the board of Whatcom Hills Waldorf School, a local, non-profit pre-K through 8th grade school. I am in the process of expanding my farm from poultry and pork production to include year-round greenhouse veggie production. I lived in the region for 8 years-4 years in Fairhaven prior to moving to the county where I have lived for the past almost 4 years. I obtained my BS from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA, and my PHD from University of Oregon in 2003. My expertise is in the geology of Earth Resources. My path to becoming a “sustainable” farmer in Whatcom county has evolved from background in Earth Resources. Land and water are some of our most critical resources for the present and future. All of these experiences combined give me the interest and qualifications to serve on this committee.
10. Please describe why you’re interested in serving on this board or commission	My background in Earth Resources leads me to consider the origin of all resources humans use from mineral resources to energy, land, and water resources. It is clear that there are competing interests for use of all of these resources, whether for development or recreation, or agriculture, or for the extractive industries. I believe we need to protect good agricultural land from development. I also believe that we need to protect not just agricultural land, but also we need to keep more places wild and free and available for habitat for Whatcom County’s native birds and other species. I think I have a lot to learn about our local government and business interests in the county, and I am interested in contributing my time and efforts to helping to keep this important development-rights-purchasing committee rolling and operating smoothly in the coming years.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Chris Elder, 360-778-5932
Signature of applicant:	Brian Rusk
Place Signed / Submitted	Bellingham WA