Public Hospital District #3, April 24, 2018 results

Candidates who received the five most votes

Commissioner	Votes Received	Next Election
Arthur Lange	1,574	Nov 2023
Richard Fralick	1,456	Nov 2023
Pegi Groundwater	1,443	Nov 2021
Patricia Miller	1,426	Nov 2021
Diane L Boteler	1,376	Nov 2019

Full results are at http://results.vote.wa.gov/results/current/sanjuan/

Population information	
Orcas Island population 2016 Census Estimate	5,408
Orcas Male population	2,615
Orcas Female population	2,793
Orcas over age 18 population	4,693
Orcas Male over age 18 population	2,224
Orcas Female over age 18 population	2,469
Orcas population under the age of 18	715
Percentage of population over 18	87%
Percentage of population under the age of 18	13%
Number registered to vote	4,032
Percentage of over 18 population registered to vote	86%
Vote information	
Number of people who voted in PHD	2,207
Number who voted for the PHD	1,687
Number who voted against the PHD	520
Percentage who voted for PHD	76%
Percentage who voted against PHD	24%
Percentage of registered voters who actually voted	55%
Percentage of the over 18 population who voted for	36%
Percentage of the over 18 population who voted against	11%
Percentage of the over 18 population who didn't vote	53%

321 ballots were added to the count after the 24th. These came from ballots dropped in the ballot box and mailed on the last day.

The number of people participating in the special election was consistent with past special elections.

Number voting on Orcas Island	Voters
2018 April - PHD	2,207
2017 February - $8 million school bond	2,210
2017 February - Number of fire commissioners increased	2,095
2016 November - General election presidential year	3,400

There were 2,244 ballots returned to the County for the April 2018 special election from Orcas Island. However, there were 2,207 votes cast for or against the PHD. This means there were 37 ballots returned which did not end up with a vote on the primary question. The voter either did not express a preference or the ballot was spoiled such that the elections office could not determine what the vote was. It has no effect on the outcome of the election.

Voting difference by age

Age Range	2016 Census Estimated Orcas population	Number registered to vote	Percentage of population registered	Number who voted in PHD vote	Percentage of registered who partici-pated in PHD election
18-24	294	163	55%	28	17%
25-34	415	404	97%	97	24%
35-44	433	440	102%	133	30%
45-54	700	573	82%	218	38%
55-64	1,142	853	75%	477	56%
65-74	1,128	1,115	99%	772	69%
75-84	432	535	124%	411	77%
85+	149	144	97%	108	75%
Total	4,693	4,227	90%	2,244	53%

Please note that the number of registered voters for a couple of age groups show more registrations than there are people. This means the Census numbers are wrong or that there are more people registered than exist. I believe the Census numbers are wrong. The last time the census was taken was in 2010. Since then, the Census uses formulas to estimate the population. Those estimates could easily be wrong. Second, the County elections office is diligent at keeping the voter rolls accurate. This requires constant work to remove people who have died or moved off-island. I include the census data, even though it muddies the presentation. I do this because I am a data geek and to point out that the census numbers are problematic. If you are someone who relies on census data, we have strong evidence that the census is underestimating (by a large amount) a couple of age groups.

Assuming the voter rolls are reasonably accurate, then we can see in the last column that participation increases by age. This has long been true, and we find nothing surprising here.

Voting difference by gender

Is there a difference in voting patterns between males and females in the PHD election?

Age Range	Male	Female	Male2	Female2
18-24	16	12	57%	43%
25-34	38	59	39%	61%
35-44	47	86	35%	65%
45-54	100	118	46%	54%
55-64	215	262	45%	55%
65-74	352	420	46%	54%
75-84	198	213	48%	52%
85+	52	56	48%	52%
Total	1,018	1,226	45%	55%
Island Pop according to census			48%	52%

We see men between 25 and 44 are much less likely to vote than the females of that age. The other aberration is that young men between 18 and 24 are more likely to vote than females of the same age.

Difference between a general election with a presidential candidate and a special election

Who chooses to vote is affected by what is on the ballot? There was a 34% decrease in the number of participants from the general election in November of 2016 to the special election.

Age Range	Number that voted in Nov 16 Presidential election	Number who voted in PHD vote	Number of fewer votes	Percentage decrease between 2016 and 2018
18-24	92	28	64	70%
25-34	227	97	130	57%
35-44	308	133	175	57%
45-54	455	218	237	52%
55-64	701	477	224	32%
65-74	991	772	219	22%
75-84	494	411	83	17%
85+	132	108	24	18%
Total	3,400	2,244	1,156	34%