

Whatcom County Council Special Committee of the Whole

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5010**



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

8:45 AM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 9:45 A.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE
REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR
CALL 360-778-5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremmler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order

Council member Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

Announcements

Special Order of Business

1. [AB2025-003](#) Reorganization of the Whatcom County Council for 2025

Council Chairperson (Acts as Chair of Council acting in other capacities, Rep to EDI Board, Law Library Board, SWISS Exec. Committee, County Finance Committee)

Buchanan moved and Scanlon seconded to nominate Galloway.

Elenbaas moved and Stremler seconded to nominate Scanlon, but Scanlon declined the nomination.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Byrd, Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, and Buchanan

Nay: 1 - Elenbaas

Kaylee Galloway chaired the meeting from this point forward.

Council Vice-Chairperson

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Scanlon.

Byrd stated he would also like to be nominated.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Byrd.

Scanlon was appointed with six votes as follows:

Scanlon: 6 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, and Buchanan

Byrd: 1 - Byrd

Executive Pro-Tempore (Cannot be on COG)

Galloway moved and Buchanan seconded to nominate Donovan.

Byrd stated he would also like to be nominated.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Byrd.

Donovan was appointed with five votes as follows:

Donovan: 5 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, and Donovan

Byrd: 2 - Elenbaas and Byrd

Standing Committees

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Galloway moved and Buchanan seconded to nominate Buchanan, Byrd, and Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

Nay:0

Finance & Administrative Services - Chair of Finance Committee will automatically act as Council Rep. to What-Comm Administrative Board

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Scanlon.

Scanlon stated he would step out of the nomination.

Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan were appointed by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway

Nay:0

Planning & Development

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Scanlon.

Donovan, Elenbaas, and Scanlon were appointed by the following vote:

Elenbaas: 7 - Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon

Donovan: 6 - Stremmer, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon

Scanlon: 5 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Galloway, and Scanlon

Byrd: 3 - Stremmer, Byrd, and Elenbaas

Public Works and Health

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Elenbaas, Scanlon, and Stremmer.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

Climate Action and Natural Resources

Buchanan withdrew his name from consideration.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Stremmer.

Donovan, Galloway, and Stremmer were appointed by the following vote:

Donovan: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, and Byrd

Stremmer: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, and Byrd

Galloway: 5 - Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, and Buchanan

Elenbaas: 2 - Elenbaas and Byrd

Select 2 Climate Action and Natural Resources Committee members as Representatives to Lake Whatcom Policy Group

Galloway moved and Buchanan seconded to nominate Donovan and Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, and Byrd

Nay: 0

Other Committee Assignments

Behavioral Health Advisory Committee

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Nay: 0

Bellingham International Airport Advisory

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

Nay: 0

Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to appoint Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway

Nay: 0

Business and Commerce Advisory Committee (non-voting)

Donovan moved and Buchanan seconded to appoint Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon
Nay: 0

Child and Family Well-Being Task Force

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
Nay: 0

Climate Impact Advisory Committee Appoint ONE-Non-Voting (**3-year term) AB2022-021

Galloway stated the Climate Impact Advisory Committee has one appointed non-voting councilmember and per the code, it is a three-year term, so they do not need to appoint anyone for this year. Galloway will continue as the appointee.

Council of Governments (COG) Appoint TWO members to serve on the Full Council (cannot be Exec Pro-Tem)

Galloway moved and Byrd seconded to appoint Galloway and Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, and Buchanan
Nay: 0

Council of Governments (COG) Appoint ONE of the above two members to also serve on Transportation Policy Board (cannot be Exec Pro-Tem)

Galloway moved and Scanlon seconded to appoint Scanlon with Galloway as the alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, and

Byrd
Nay: 0

Developmental Disabilities Board

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to appoint Donovan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan
Nay: 0

Drayton Harbor & Portage Bay Shellfish Protection Districts

Elenbaas nominated himself.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Elenbaas.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas
Nay: 0

EMS Oversight Board Representative

Buchanan withdrew his name from consideration.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Donovan and Elenbaas.

Mike Hilley, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Manager, spoke about the meeting schedule.

Donovan withdrew his name from consideration.

Byrd and Galloway nominated themselves.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Byrd, Elenbaas, and Galloway and vote for one.

Elenbaas was appointed by the following vote:

Elenbaas: 6 - Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

Galloway: 1 - Galloway

Byrd: 0

EMS Oversight Board Alternate Representative

Scanlon moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Galloway.

Stremmer moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Byrd.

Galloway was appointed by the following vote:

Galloway: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon

Byrd: 1 - Stremmer

Flood Control Zone Committee (Ex Officio)

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Elenbaas.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force (And Appoint one alternate)

Buchanan nominated himself to be the primary member.

Elenbaas nominated himself to be the alternate.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Buchanan as the representative and Elenbaas as the alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Intergovernmental Tribal Relations Committee (Appt. TWO)

Donovan moved and Buchanan seconded to appoint Elenbaas and Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, and Byrd

Nay: 0

Justice Project Oversight and Planning Committee (JPOP)

Galloway moved and Scanlon seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Nay: 0

Justice Project Finance and Facility Advisory Board

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

Nay: 0

LEOFF Board

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway

Nay: 0

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Stremmer withdrew his name from consideration.

Galloway moved and Stremler seconded to appoint Elenbaas.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon

Nay: 0

Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee - Appoint ONE non-voting attendee

Elenbaas withdrew his name from consideration.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

OPTIONAL: Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee Alt. - Appoint TWO alternates if Council wishes

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to appoint Elenbaas.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Marine Resources Committee

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, and Byrd

Nay: 0

Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) (AB2023-194)

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Nay: 0

North Sound Behavioral Health Exec. Committee

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

Nay: 0

Northwest Clean Air Agency

Elenbaas stated he would like be on the committee.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Donovan and Elenbaas.

Donovan was appointed by the following vote:

Donovan: 6 - Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Galloway

Elenbaas: 1 - Elenbaas

Northwest Regional Council (NWRC)

Galloway moved and Buchanan seconded to appoint Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon

Nay: 0

Opportunity Council

Galloway stated her current term is up in January of 2025.

Scanlon moved and Galloway seconded to appoint Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Public Defense Advisory

Galloway moved and Scanlon seconded to appoint Elenbaas.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Public Health Advisory Board

Buchanan moved and Stremler seconded to appoint Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, and Byrd

Nay: 0

Racial Equity Commission Appoint ONE-Non-Voting (** 2 year term)
AB2022-590

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Galloway and Stremler with a vote of one.

Galloway was appointed by the following vote:

Galloway: 4 - Galloway, Scanlon, Buchanan, and Donovan

Stremler: 3 - Elenbaas, Stremler, and Byrd

Solid Waste Advisory

Scanlon moved and Buchanan seconded to appoint Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

Nay: 0

SWISS Alternate Committee Member. Council Chair serves on Exec. Committee

Galloway withdrew her name from consideration.

Galloway moved and Scanlon seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway

Nay: 0

WSAC Alternate Board Member (The Executive is the active representative, Councilmember is alternate)

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon

Nay: 0

WSAC Optional Alternate Board Member (Res2019-008)

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee

Galloway moved and Scanlon seconded to appoint Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee ALTERNATE

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Buchanan as the alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, and Byrd

Nay: 0

WSAC Timber Counties Caucus - Optional

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Nay: 0

WSAC Timber Counties Caucus - ALTERNATE

Stremmer stated he would nominate himself.

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Stremmer.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

Nay: 0

WSAC Coastal Counties Caucus - Optional

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Scanlon, Stremmler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway

Nay: 0

WSAC Coastal Counties Caucus - ALTERNATE

Buchanan stated he would nominate himself.

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Stremmler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, and Scanlon

Nay: 0

Whatcom Transportation Authority

Buchanan moved and Scanlon seconded to appoint Donovan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmler

Nay: 0

Whatcom County Tourism Board (AB2023-194)

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to appoint Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, Stremmler, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

This agenda item was APPOINTED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

Kaylee Galloway, Council Chair

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristi Felbinger