

Whatcom County Council Committee of the Whole-Executive Session

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



Committee Minutes - Final

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

1 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 1:30 P.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 Stremmer

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order

Council Chair Kaylee Galloway called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.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

Committee Discussion

Attorneys Present: Jesse Corkern and Christopher Quinn.

Galloway stated that discussion of agenda item one and two may take place in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a) and RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) respectively. Executive session will conclude no later than 1:35 p.m. If the meeting extends beyond the stated conclusion time, the Council chair will make a public announcement.

Scanlon moved to go into executive session until no later than 1:35 p.m. to discuss the agenda item(s) pursuant to the RCW citation(s) as announced by the Council Chair. The motion was seconded by Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Out of the Meeting: 1 - Donovan

Councilmembers entered executive session at 1:09 p.m.

Clerk's note: Donovan joined the Executive session around 1:21 p.m.

At 1:35 p.m., the Council chair announced that the executive session would extend to no later than 1:50 p.m.

Jesse Corkern and Christopher Quinn

voted 6-0 Donovan out to enter executive session
Entered executive session at 1:09 pm
Donovan absent at roll call. but came around 1:21 pm.

1:35 pm Galloway extended 15 minutes to 1:50 pm

1. [AB2025-436](#) Update on negotiations and planning strategy discussion with Civil Deputy Prosecutor Jesse Corkern regarding collective bargaining [Discussion of this item may take place in executive session (closed to the public) pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)]

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

2. [AB2025-471](#) Discussion of pending litigation with Civil Deputy Prosecutor Jesse Corkern, re: Richard Kirkham v. Whatcom County et al. United States District Court for Western District of Washington in Tacoma, Cause No. 2:25-CV-208-DGE-DWC [Discussion of this item may take place in executive session (closed to the public) pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i)]

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

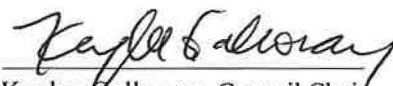
The County Council approved these minutes on July 8, 2025.

ATTEST:



Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA



Kaylee Galloway, Council Chair

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristi Felbinger