

**Whatcom County
Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee**

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



Committee Minutes - Final

VIRTUAL MEETING - ENDS NO LATER THAN 12:45 P.M. (TO
PARTICIPATE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS AT
www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil OR CALL 360.778.5010)
Tuesday, February 23, 2021

11:10 AM

Virtual Meeting

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Tyler Byrd
Carol Frazey

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Rud Browne called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Rud Browne, Tyler Byrd and Carol Frazey

Absent: None

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, and Kathy Kershner

Special Presentation

1. [AB2021-105](#) Presentation from Commission on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence
Elizabeth Montoya, Bellingham-Whatcom County Commission on Sexual and Domestic Violence Director, gave a presentation and answered questions.

She answered questions about terminology that she used in her presentation, whether any County departments or other partner organizations have changed policies and procedures for best practice, whether there are any studies on the difference of recidivism rates between those treated with a traditional justice system response as opposed to a restorative justice system response, whether they are seeing an increase in domestic violence and what the Council can do to help.

This agenda item was PRESENTED.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2021-092](#) Ordinance amending the 2021 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 3, in the amount of \$7,854,280

Frazey moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The following people spoke:

- Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

They answered questions about the use of the Conservation Futures Fund to fund Glenning Park Project, whether Bellingham would be able to ask for the same type of funding or how Lynden is unique in that respect, whether or not the City of Lynden is using their taxing authority to fund projects, the

balance of the Conservation Futures Fund, where requests to use it typically come from, whether there is a target fund reserve balance, whether this request meets the requirements for the fund, and whether the parcel of land has development rights.

Browne stated he would like to defer this particular line item in the ordinance pending further information and asked if this item could be taken out of the ordinance.

Browne moved to recommend that the Council remove this item from this ordinance pending more information.

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, answered how they could proceed.

Browne restated his motion to recommend approval of an amended version of the ordinance (without the Lynden request) pending more information about whether Lynden has imposed on themselves an equivalent level of taxation to the City of Bellingham.

Councilmembers and staff discussed the motion and whether additional information could be provided today.

Browne withdrew his motion.

Frazey's motion that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2021-124](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to administer rental and utility assistance to eligible recipients, in the amount of \$6,807,911

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Anne Deacon, Health Department, briefed the Councilmembers.

Frazey's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 1 - Byrd

3. [AB2021-125](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and DH to implement a COVID-19 social marketing campaign plan and messaging platform, in the amount of \$200,000

Frazezy moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION.

The following people answered questions:

- Erika Lautenbach, Health Department Director
- Kathleen Roy, Health Department

They answered what the "DH" in the title of the file stands for (a social marketing firm), how this contract is related to other related contracts, getting more information and reports from the Health Department and what platforms are being used for the marketing campaign.

Frazezy's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Frazezy

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 1 - Byrd

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2021-107](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Marysville for Mini Chain Services in the amount of \$42,872.00

Frazezy moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.

Doug Chadwick, Undersheriff, answered questions and explained the transport chain.

Frazezy's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2021-108](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Washington Fairgrounds and Event Center to provide a COVID-19 testing site in the amount of \$6,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$45,200

Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.

Kathleen Roy, Health Department, stated she is available for questions.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

3. [AB2021-118](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Local Agency Agreement & Project Prospectus between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation for Hampton Road 2020 Emergency Shoulder Repairs, in the amount of \$29,001.00

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

4. [AB2021-119](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Local Agency Agreement & Project Prospectus between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation for Hannegan Road 2020 Emergency Shoulder Repairs, in the amount of \$18,813.00

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

5. [AB2021-120](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide funding for emergency shelter in motels in the amount of \$100,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$896,701

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.

Anne Deacon, Health Department, briefed the Councilmembers and answered how the number of families in hotels compares to historical numbers, what numbers other counties are seeing, and whether these are Whatcom County families.

Frazey's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

6. [AB2021-122](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Bellingham Food Bank to provide reimbursement of COVID-related expenses, in the amount of \$95,000

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.

Anne Deacon, Health Department, briefed the Councilmembers.

Frazey's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Rud Browne-via email 3/9/2021

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Rud Browne, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

SIGNED COPY ON FILE