

Whatcom County Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee

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



Action Summary

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

8:50 AM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 10:20 A.M.(PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE
REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR
CALL 360.778.5010); AGENDA REVISED 12.8.2025**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, and Barry Buchanan

Also Present: Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremmler

Announcements

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2025-815](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Axon Enterprise, Inc. for a five-year subscription of Axon Justice Premier for 41 users for storage and sharing of law enforcement body worn camera and other media evidence using Axon's cloud-based service, in the amount of \$302,588

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-824](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an amended agreement between Whatcom County and Shawna Bosman, ARNP for juvenile detention nurse practitioner services, in the amount of \$105,519

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-828](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center to provide eviction prevention resolution services, in the amount of \$72,760, for a total amended contract amount of \$282,519

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-829](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Ferndale Community Services to increase housing stability for families with young children in the amount of \$481,996, for a total amended contract amount of \$858,412

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

5. [AB2025-831](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to increase housing stability for families with young children in the amount of \$955,060 for a total amended contract amount of \$2,110,584

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

6. [AB2025-832](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide on-site supportive services to residents of the permanent supportive housing facility known as 22 North, in the amount of \$648,568

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

7. [AB2025-833](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Sean Humphrey House to provide partial funding for the operating expenses of two adult family homes which are providing care solely for individuals living with HIV/AIDS and who are exiting housing instability, in the amount of \$59,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-834](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to expand mental health and parent support services to low-income families with children ages 0-5 in the amount of \$348,177, for a total amended contract amount of \$822,963

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

9. [AB2025-835](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Sustainable Connections to increase countywide solid waste reduction rates in the amount of \$136,875 for a total amended contract amount of \$322,292

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

10. [AB2025-836](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract to bind coverage with Midwest Employer Casualty in the amount of \$120,069 for renewal of insurance protection for the self-insured workers compensation program for calendar year 2026

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

11. [AB2025-839](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Crossroads Consulting for facilitation of the Justice Project Oversight and Planning Committee, in the amount of \$39,900

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

12. [AB2025-844](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District for education, outreach, and technical assistance with Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resources Management (BBWARM) stormwater programs, in the amount of \$119,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

13. [AB2025-845](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District for education, outreach, and technical assistance with Lake Whatcom Stormwater Utility (LWSU) stormwater programs, in the amount of \$90,000

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

14. [AB2025-846](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a subrecipient agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the Whatcom Conservation District to ensure ongoing technical support funded by the National Estuary Program for Pollution Identification and Correction Program efforts, in the amount of \$773,342 for a total amended amount of \$1,561,674 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

15. [AB2025-847](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Whatcom Conservation District for Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Program technical assistance and cost share, in the amount of \$77,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

16. [AB2025-848](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. to complete the final phase of a four-year study of the timing and magnitude of groundwater pumping on streamflow depletion at three study locations, in the amount of \$147,532 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

17. [AB2025-849](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham for partial funding of emergency medical services on Galbraith Mountain and nearby areas in the amount of \$49,000 in 2025 and \$49,191 in 2026

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

18. [AB2025-850](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. to complete Phase 2 of an investigation into the impacts of agricultural tile drains on stream flows, in the amount of \$128,531 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

19. [AB2025-852](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the State of Washington Office of Public Defense to accept RCW 10.101 grant funds for the purpose of improving public defense services in Whatcom County in the amount of \$436,108

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

20. [AB2025-853](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom Fire District #7 to fund up to two lateral paramedic positions, in the amount of \$149,951 for a total amended contract amount of \$495,488

SUBSTITUTE RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

21. [AB2025-854](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham to eliminate funding for three lateral paramedic positions, decreasing the contracted amount by \$224,823 for a total amended contract amount of \$783,619

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

22. [AB2025-855](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Just Appraised Inc. to extend the terms of Contract #202412018 for three years in the amount of \$123,094 for a total amended contract amount of \$183,369

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

23. [AB2025-856](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center to provide mediation services, in the amount of \$120,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

24. [AB2025-857](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award Bid #25-82 and enter into a contract between Whatcom County and CAMAO Construction, LLC for replacement of the roof of the maintenance garage at Maple Falls Community Park, in the amount of \$99,443

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

25. [AB2025-860](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Nurses Association for the period January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2028

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

26. [AB2025-861](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham for the County to provide probation services to the City

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

27. [AB2025-862](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Blaine for the County to provide probation services to the City

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

28. [AB2025-864](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Everson for the County to provide probation services to the City

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

29. [AB2025-865](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Lynden for the County to provide probation services to the City

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

30. [AB2025-866](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Sumas for the County to provide

probation services to the City

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

31. [AB2025-868](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the Whatcom Community Foundation for administrative services for the Whatcom Racial Equity Commission in the amount of \$150,000

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

32. [AB2025-869](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Whatcom County and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for the period of January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2027

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

33. [AB2025-870](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award Bid #25-80 and enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Trico Office Interiors to supply and install a modular office furniture system in the Assessor's Office in the amount of \$114,725

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

34. [AB2025-874](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Blaine for Operation Stonegarden FY24, in the amount of \$20,130

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

35. [AB2025-875](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Everson for Operation Stonegarden FY24, in the amount of \$20,130

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

36. [AB2025-876](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Ferndale for Operation Stonegarden FY24, in the amount of \$20,790

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

37. [AB2025-877](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Lynden for Operation Stonegarden FY24, in the amount of \$20,130

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

38. [AB2025-878](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Sumas for Operation Stonegarden FY24, in the amount of \$20,130

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

39. [AB2025-879](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for Operation Stonegarden FY24, in the amount of \$16,665

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

40. [AB2025-880](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Summit Law Group to provide legal services for matters related to collective bargaining, in the amount not to exceed \$164,076 in 2025 and not to exceed \$89,076 in 2026

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Council "Consent Agenda" Items Considered Separately

6. [AB2025-832](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between

Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide on-site supportive services to residents of the permanent supportive housing facility known as 22 North, in the amount of \$648,568

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Aye: 2 - Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 1 - Byrd

13. [AB2025-845](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District for education, outreach, and technical assistance with Lake Whatcom Stormwater Utility (LWSU) stormwater programs, in the amount of \$90,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Aye: 2 - Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 1 - Byrd

16. [AB2025-848](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. to complete the final phase of a four-year study of the timing and magnitude of groundwater pumping on streamflow depletion at three study locations, in the amount of \$147,532 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Aye: 2 - Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 1 - Byrd

18. [AB2025-850](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. to complete Phase 2 of an investigation into the impacts of agricultural tile drains on stream flows, in the amount of \$128,531 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Aye: 2 - Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 1 - Byrd

21. [AB2025-854](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham to eliminate funding for three lateral paramedic positions, decreasing the contracted amount by \$224,823 for a total amended contract amount of \$783,619

RECOMMENDED TO HOLD IN COMMITTEE

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

31. [AB2025-868](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the Whatcom Community Foundation for administrative services for the Whatcom Racial Equity Commission in the amount of \$150,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Aye: 2 - Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Special Presentation

1. [AB2025-830](#) Report from the Auditor's Office
2. [AB2025-858](#) Quarterly Report from the Finance Division

REPORTED

REPORTED

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2025-863](#) Discussion of a resolution authorizing the sale of personal property, pursuant to Whatcom County Code 1.10, Procedures for Management and Disposition of County-owned Personal and Real Property

DISCUSSED

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2025-859](#) Resolution approving a salary schedule and policies for unrepresented Whatcom County employees effective January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-794](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 2, in the amount of \$12,120,000

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-796](#) Ordinance establishing the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Leasehold Improvements Project Fund and establishing an initial budget for the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Leasehold Improvements Project Fund

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-798](#) Ordinance establishing the Birch Bay Beach Park Project Fund and establishing an initial budget for the Birch Bay Beach Park Project Fund

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 2 - Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 1 - Byrd

5. [AB2025-816](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 12, in the amount of \$3,565,060

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Items Added by Revision

1. [AB2025-882](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into agreement amendments between Whatcom County and the homeowners participating in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Elevation Grant program to account for rising construction costs, in the amount of \$449,544 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Other Business

Adjournment