Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

Tuesday, December 3, 2024
11 AM
Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLY - ADJOURNS BY 12:00 PM (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL 360.778.5010)

COUNCILMEMBERS

Kaylee Galloway Jon Scanlon Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, and Ben Elenbaas

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. <u>AB2024-833</u> Presentation from the Health and Community Services Department on the severe weather shelter

Ann Beck, Health and Community Services, read from a presentation (on file) to update Councilmembers on the severe weather shelter, and she and the following person answered questions:

• Michaela Mandala, Health and Community Services

The speakers answered questions about the facility and whether there are any particular items or needs that another organization might be able to donate, and stated socks, underwear, baked goods (from a commercial kitchen), and layering clothes are some examples. They spoke about being funded by the State consolidated homeless grant and that they will be asking for a portion of Community Priorities Funds. They described other shelter options throughout the county and answered whether the Lighthouse Mission will have their expanded capacity this winter since they have been struggling with staffing and volunteering levels. Beck answered what the rules are for the severe weather shelter, and stated they have a guest check-in agreement (on file).

Galloway asked whether they have a one-page resource that lists all the shelter options and information about them to show that this is an "all-hands" effort in the county, and Beck spoke about the website.

This agenda item was PRESENTED.

2. <u>AB2024-845</u> Presentation by the Health and Community Services Department on Center for Retention and Expansion of Child Care Funding

This agenda item was WITHDRAWN.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

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1. AB2024-853

Resolution supporting the development and implementation of a localized child care provider rate augmentation and family subsidy program

Scanlon moved that the Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL and briefed the Councilmembers.

Ann Beck, Health and Community Services, read from a presentation (on file).

Sarah Simpson, Health and Community Services, stated Councilmember Byrd, during their last discussion, had some questions about what a potential phase II could look like so they are going to set up a time when the two of them can talk about that.

Scanlon stated they will review this in two years to see if they want to make any changes and Simpson stated that would be a good time to also hear from providers about what affect this has had on their programming.

Scanlon's motion that the Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nav: 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 11:40 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, Council Clerk Jon Scanlon, Committee Chair

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristi Felbinger

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