

# **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, April 15, 2025  
11 AM  
Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers**

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLY -- (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE  
REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil) OR  
CALL 360.778.5010)**

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

Ben Elenbaas  
Jon Scanlon  
Mark Stremmler

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

## **Call To Order**

Committee Chair Jon Scanlon called the meeting to order at 11:11 a.m. in a hybrid meeting.

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** 3 - Jon Scanlon, Mark Stremmler, and Ben Elenbaas

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, and Kaylee Galloway

## **Announcements**

### **Special Presentation**

1. [AB2025-258](#) Presentation by Community Services Division of Health and Community Services sharing current work and upcoming initiatives

Ann Beck, Health and Community Services, read from a presentation (on file) and answered questions about how they pay for the transitions fair, where school districts, and those with developmental disabilities and their caregivers can come learn about resources in Whatcom County. She stated it is tied to millage funds which are part of property tax. She answered how many nurses make up the Nurse Family Partnership Program and spoke about two of the usual five nurses who job share.

Amanda Burnett, Health and Community Services, spoke about an additional funding source for developmental disabilities. The Developmental Disabilities Administration through the State has pass-through funding that the Health Department uses to pay for County staff and overhead. Local millage dollars only go to services.

Scanlon stated he has been hearing good things about the dental services in rural areas and asked about shelter sites and if they are already looking for those for next winter. Beck stated they will be putting out a request for proposal (RFP) again to see if they can find a provider who is interested.

**This agenda item was PRESENTED.**

2. [AB2025-305](#) Update on current Healthy Children's Fund projects and future child care initiatives

Sarah Simpson, Health and Community Services, read from a presentation (on file) on current Healthy Children's Fund projects, including a drop-in child care program, and ones that are upcoming. She answered questions about the childcare subsidy program and whether she expects Council to make a decision before the request for proposal (RFP) goes out (as discussed in the presentation), and stated it would be helpful, but they could

potentially include two different scenarios in the RFP and have applicants apply based on those scenarios..

Scanlon stated he feels they should prepare and made a decision as though it will not go through at the State.

Councilmembers and the speakers discussed including a document in these presentations that shows the timing of the contracts and how long it took them to get through the process, so Council can see that and what has been completed.

Kayla Schott-Bresler, Executive's Office, stated she would like to talk internally about how they would like to convey that information. Some bottlenecks they have been experiencing have been resolved, so they are eager to hear from Council when they hear concern from contractors.

Byrd stated the whole point of the reporting is so Council can be aware of things before they blow up and come to them at a meeting or in emails so they can be preemptive in dealing with issues.

Councilmembers and Schott-Bresler discussed the sharing of this information with the Council.

**This agenda item was PRESENTED.**

### **Items Added by Revision**

There were no agenda items added by revision.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

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Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

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Jon Scanlon, Committee Chair

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristi Felbinger