

Whatcom County Council

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



Action Summary

**Tuesday, April 15, 2025
6 PM**

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING (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 Stremmler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-018](#) Special Council for March 18, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

2. [MIN2025-019](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for March 25, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [MIN2025-020](#) Committee of the Whole for March 25, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [MIN2025-021](#) Regular County Council for March 25, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. [AB2025-231](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Section 1.14, Electoral Precincts, with newly established voting precinct boundaries for Whatcom County

ADOPTED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2025-019

2. [AB2025-234](#) Resolution to declare Whatcom County real property as surplus and approve transfer

APPROVED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 2025-014

3. [AB2025-246](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Title 20 (Zoning) regarding home-based businesses

ADOPTED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2025-020

4. [AB2025-255](#) Resolution to sell county tax title property by negotiation

APPROVED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 2025-015

OPEN SESSION

CONSENT AGENDA

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-283](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health services in the amount of \$298,592, for a total amended agreement amount of \$5,617,278

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW.

2. [AB2025-284](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Bennett Engineering to monitor closed landfills in the amount of \$10,629, for a total amended contract amount of \$157,265

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-287](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Sun Community Services to lease the property located at 515 E Chestnut Street in Bellingham

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-288](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) in support of the Domestic Violence Commission in the amount of \$190,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

CLERK'S NOTE: THE DOLLAR AMOUNT (\$190,000) NOTED IN THE AGENDA ITEM TITLE WAS ENTERED INCORRECTLY. THE CONTRACT CLEARLY INDICATES \$180,000 WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE AMOUNT BUDGETED FOR THAT AGREEMENT, SO THE AMOUNT IN THE TITLE SHOULD BE \$180,000.

5. [AB2025-295](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to grant a perpetual easement to Patrick and Peggy Rauso across park property for ingress/egress purposes to a private residence adjacent to Lake Whatcom Park

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

6. [AB2025-296](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into Amendment 3 to the agreement between Whatcom County and Astound Business Solutions, LLC (formerly Wave) for additional leased fiber optic connectivity from the Courthouse to the 400 N. Commercial Street building and to the 104/110 Unity Street building in the amount of \$75,079.49

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

7. [AB2025-297](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement

between Whatcom County and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$10,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-298](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Sumas for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

9. [AB2025-299](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Lynden for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

10. [AB2025-300](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Everson for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

11. [AB2025-301](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Blaine for Operation Stonegarden FY23, in the amount of \$25,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

12. [AB2025-307](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and the Back Country Horsemen of Washington for use of a portion of the Y- Road Landfill property to be used as a trailhead and off-road parking for horse related recreational activities

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

13. [AB2025-308](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Sendan Center to increase kindergarten readiness, in the amount of \$244,597

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

14. [AB2025-309](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Whatcom Family YMCA to increase kindergarten readiness, in the amount of \$506,253

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

CONSENT AGENDA CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

1. [AB2025-283](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health services in the amount of \$298,592, for a total amended agreement amount of \$5,617,278

AUTHORIZED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

1. [AB2025-221](#) Discussion and motion relating to draft Countywide Planning Policy amendments

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved 7-0 that Donovan's proposed changes (in the "Substitute Countywide Planning Policies - Galloway & Donovan" version) and Nooksack Tribe's letter regarding potential changes go to the relevant stakeholders (City/County Planner Group) for feedback, and that Galloway's proposed change to Section I (9) (in blue in the substitute) be sent to the Surface Mining Advisory Committee for their feedback.

2. [AB2025-239](#) Resolution regarding additional guidance from the County Council to the Executive and Planning and Development Services Department on the population, housing, and employment allocations

HELD IN COMMITTEE

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-280](#) Resolution approving a conditional use permit and development agreement for Ponderosa Estates Mobile Home Park

SUBSTITUTE APPROVED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 2025-016

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-185](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Forest Advisory Committee, commercial forest landowner position, Applicant(s): Robert Janicki

APPOINTED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Motion approved 7-0 that they waive any requirements in this case that any member of the committee live in Whatcom County

2. [AB2025-250](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Surface Mining Advisory Committee, Geologist position, Applicant(s): John Byers

APPOINTED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-294](#) Reconsideration of appointment to a position on the Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee, Harvester position, Member: Quentin Dills

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion Approved 7-0 to revoke Mr. Dill's membership on the Whatcom County Forest Advisory Committee

4. [AB2025-317](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District Advisory Committee, Applicant: Kyle Burton

APPOINTED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

**CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS,
COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

1. [AB2025-286](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Alana Pattersmann to the Whatcom County Housing Authority Board

CONFIRMED

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 1 - Byrd

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION**INTRODUCTION ITEMS**

1. [AB2025-242](#) Receipt of the 2024 Public Works Contractor Apprenticeship Program (CAP) Annual Report

RECEIVED

2. [AB2025-282](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Chapter 16.24 (Commute Trip Reduction) and adopting the 2025-2029 Commute Trip Reduction Plan for Whatcom County

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-290](#) Ordinance amending the project based budget for the N. Fork Road/Kenney Creek Fish Passage fund, Request No. 2

INTRODUCED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-293](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Courtroom Audio Visual Systems Upgrade, request no. 1

INTRODUCED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

5. [AB2025-302](#) Resolution amending the 2025 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 1, in the amount of \$14,400 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

INTRODUCED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

6. [AB2025-310](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Lookout Mountain Road Repairs Project Fund, request no. 1

INTRODUCED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

7. [AB2025-314](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 4, in the amount of \$6,227,211

INTRODUCED

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN