

# **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, April 14, 2026**

**8:45 AM**

**Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers**

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN LATE - ADJOURNS BY 9:45 A.M.  
(PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT  
[www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil), OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

Elizabeth Boyle  
Barry Buchanan  
Ben Elenbaas  
Kaylee Galloway  
Jessica Rienstra  
Jon Scanlon  
Mark Stremler

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

## Call To Order

## Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Elizabeth Boyle, Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jessica Rienstra, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

## Announcements

## Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2026-253](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and BEA Environmental, LLC to develop and implement a Source Control Business Inspection Program, in the amount of \$89,950

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

2. [AB2026-256](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Bellingham Food Bank to purchase and distribute diapers, wipes, infant formula, and food to low-income families with children in the amount of \$636,305, for a total amended contract amount of \$1,503,993

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

3. [AB2026-260](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Ecology to administer and enforce the well sealing, tagging, and decommissioning portions of the water well construction regulations, in the estimated amount of \$13,500 annually

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

4. [AB2026-269](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to administer rental assistance to eligible individuals who are involved in the criminal legal system and in recovery from a

substance use disorder, in the amount of \$79,090

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

5. [AB2026-270](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the Housing Authority of the City of Bellingham to fund capital expenses for the development of the Samish Commons Early Learning Center, in the amount of \$851,350

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

6. [AB2026-277](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal grant agreement between Whatcom County and the Department of Ecology to provide funding to advance the planning work necessary to evaluate and implement flood mitigation alternatives for the Lower Nooksack River and the Everson-Sumas overflow corridor, in the amount of \$2,738,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

7. [AB2026-294](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation to execute a Federal Aid Project Prospectus to obligate federal Ferry Boat Program funds for the Lummi Island Ferry operating costs, in the amount of \$1,920,916

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

8. [AB2026-299](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Bellingham for U.S. Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY25, in the amount of \$11,812

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Temp Absent:** 1 - Galloway

**Committee Discussion**

1. [AB2026-278](#) Discussion regarding options and budget implications for a proposed sales and use tax of one-tenth of one percent for criminal justice purposes

**DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED**

Motion approved that council waive privilege on the legal advice that they have received regarding the viability of AB 2026-259 (this is the ordinance submitting to the qualified voters of Whatcom County, a proposition authorizing a sales and use tax of one tenth of one percent for criminal justice purposes, as authorized by RCW. 82.14 .345).

2. [AB2026-210](#) Discussion regarding an ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 7, in the amount of \$23,290,457

**NOT ACTED UPON**

3. [AB2026-283](#) Discussion regarding a proposed resolution to declare Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District personal property, a single family house, as surplus and approve sale (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**NOT ACTED UPON**

4. [AB2026-285](#) Discussion regarding a proposed resolution declaring Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District personal property as surplus and approve sale (Council acting as Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**NOT ACTED UPON**

5. [AB2026-287](#) Discussion regarding a proposed resolution declaring Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District personal property as surplus and approve sale (Council acting as Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**NOT ACTED UPON**

6. [AB2026-293](#) Discussion regarding a resolution amending the 2026 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 1, in the amount of \$23,406 (Council acting as Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**NOT ACTED UPON**

7. [AB2026-296](#) Discussion regarding a resolution authorizing the submission of three independent grant applications to the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board to restore fish passage at the Black Slough and Homesteader culverts and to complete the final design and permitting of the Tinling Creek culvert project (Council acting as the

Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**NOT ACTED UPON**

**Items Added by Revision**

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**