



Whatcom County

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

Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2022-190

File ID:	AB2022-190	Version:	2	Status:	Adopted
File Created:	03/14/2022	Entered by:	DBrown@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Council Office	File Type:	Ordinance		
Assigned to:	Council Committee of the Whole	Final Action:	04/12/2022		
Agenda Date:	04/12/2022	Enactment #:	ORD 2022-034		

Primary Contact Email: DBrown@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.21, Board of Equalization

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

This ordinance will amend Whatcom County Code 2.21, Board of Equalization, to add two alternate members to the board

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
03/22/2022	Council	INTRODUCED	Council Committee of the Whole
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner	
		Nay: 0	
		Absent: 0	
04/12/2022	Council Committee of the Whole	RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION	
		Aye: 5 Buchanan, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner	
		Nay: 0	
		Absent: 2 Byrd, and Elenbaas	
04/12/2022	Council	ADOPTED	
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner	
		Nay: 0	
		Absent: 0	

Attachments: Proposed Ordinance

PROPOSED BY: COUNCIL STAFF
INTRODUCTION DATE: MARCH 22, 2022

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-034

AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 2.21, BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

WHEREAS, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 84.48 requires each county to have a Board of Equalization, which must "consist of not less than three nor more than seven members including alternates"; and

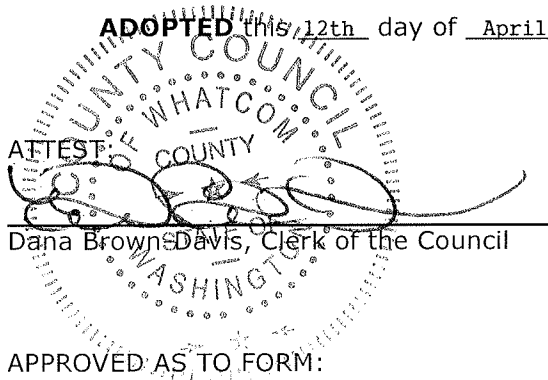
WHEREAS, Whatcom County's Board of Equalization consists of one position for each County Council district, totaling five members, and no alternates; and

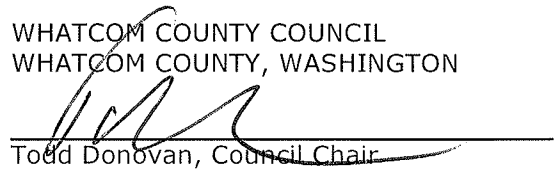
WHEREAS, Whatcom County Code (WCC) 2.03 limits Board member terms to two full terms; and

WHEREAS, if no one applies to fill the district-specific vacancies on the Board of Equalization, the Board may not have enough members available to conduct hearings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that WCC 2.21 is hereby amended as outlined in Exhibit A to this ordinance.

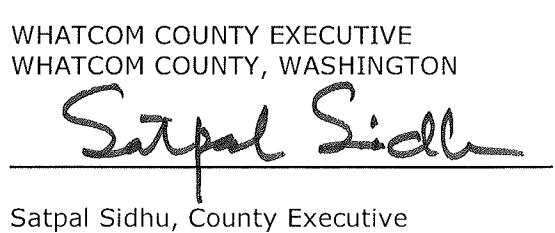
ADOPTED this 12th day of April, 2022.

ATTEST:  Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Todd Donovan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Karen Frakes (approved via e-mail) / JL
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Approved () Denied
Date Signed: April 15, 2022

EXHIBIT A

Chapter 2.21 BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Sections:

- 2.21.010 Established – Composition.**
- 2.21.020 Membership – Term of office.**
- 2.21.030 Compensation for meeting attendance.**

2.21.010 Established – Composition.

The Whatcom County board of equalization is established pursuant to Chapter 84.48 RCW and shall consist of five regular members, one from each council district, and two at-large alternates. Three of the five regular members shall act as the board on a rotating basis and the alternates shall fill in as-needed.

The board members shall be selected based upon the qualifications established by the Department of Revenue by rule and shall not be members of the Whatcom County council or hold any other elective office, or be employees of any elected official.

2.21.020 Membership – Term of office.

Board members shall be appointed by a majority of the Whatcom County council. Member terms shall be three years, or until their successors are appointed, pursuant to RCW 84.48.026. When a board member has completed two consecutive full terms, if a position on the board remains unfilled for one month, the county council shall have the right to waive the one-year period of separation set forth in WCC 2.03.030. The exiting board member may apply for the unfilled position if they remain qualified. Each appointed member may be removed by a majority vote of the Whatcom County council.

2.21.030 Compensation for meeting attendance.

As authorized by RCW 84.48.010, members of the board of equalization shall receive \$75.00 per day for each day of actual attendance at a meeting of the board.