

Whatcom County Council

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



Action Summary

Tuesday, May 27, 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); AGENDA REVISED 5.22.2025; AGENDA REVISED 5.27.2025

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremmer

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. [MIN2025-031](#) Committee of the Whole for May 13, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

2. [MIN2025-032](#) Regular County Council for May 13, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

OPEN SESSION

CONSENT AGENDA

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-359](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and DentALL, PLLC to add extra hours for Jail Dental Services in the amount of \$69,000 for a total contract amount of \$320,600

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-374](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Glyph Language Services, Inc. to provide language interpretation and translation services for various public health programs in the amount of \$48,329 for a total amended contract amount of \$141,329

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-375](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and The Arc of Whatcom County to provide developmental disabilities information, education, and family support, in the amount of \$203,882

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-385](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide behavioral health outreach services, in the amount of \$117,849

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW.

5. [AB2025-388](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a grant amendment between Whatcom County and the State of Washington Department of Ecology to receive funding for WRIA 1 collaborative water supply planning, in the amount of \$214,400, for a total amended amount of \$700,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

6. [AB2025-389](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Military to rearrange the amounts in the budget categories

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

7. [AB2025-390](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and FSi Engineers to provide design and engineering services for the Parks Headquarters HVAC and tenant improvements in the amount of \$35,442 for a total amended contract amount of \$237,050

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-391](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Tiger Construction, Ltd. to complete final mechanical, filtration and ventilation improvements for the Plantation Rifle Range HVAC project in the amount of \$226,476.64 for a total amended contract amount of \$1,393,961.06

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

9. [AB2025-393](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award Bid #25-20 and enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Summit Construction Group, Inc. for HVAC replacement and tenant improvements at the Parks Headquarters, in the amount of \$856,256

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

10. [AB2025-394](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to provide materials fabrication, testing and inspection; asphalt mix design and verification; preparation of "Record of Materials" documents; test drilling; and other engineering/geologic/testing services, in the amount of \$100,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

CONSENT AGENDA CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

4. [AB2025-385](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide behavioral health outreach services, in the amount of \$117,849

AUTHORIZED

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

Nay: 1 - Byrd

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-355](#) Ordinance authorizing interfund loans to finance cash flow for county road fund up to \$4 million for a term not to exceed two years

ADOPTED

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2025-026

2. [AB2025-337](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 5, in the amount of \$1,053,510

ADOPTED

Aye: 4 - Buchanan, Donovan, Galloway, and Scanlon

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Stremler

Enactment No: ORD 2025-027

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

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

APPROVED REQUEST AS AMENDED

Aye: 4 - Buchanan, Donovan, Galloway, and Scanlon

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Stremler

Motion approved to approve the countywide planning policies described in Exhibit A (the version recommended by the Planning Commission) as amended in committee.

4. [AB2025-264](#) Ordinance to amend Whatcom County Code Section 3.08.100, Council approval required, to increase the threshold for contracts that require council approval

ADOPTED

Aye: 4 - Buchanan, Donovan, Galloway, and Scanlon

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Stremler

Enactment No: ORD 2025-028

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

1. [AB2025-400](#) Request for approval of a letter of support for the Deming Log Show's application to the T-Mobile Hometown Grant Program

APPROVED REQUEST

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

Nay: 0

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

1. [AB2025-357](#) Receipt of Charter Review Commission resolution approved April 24, 2025

RECEIVED

2. [AB2025-372](#) Receipt of application to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, position for a citizen representative with no financial ties to other included sectors, Applicant(s): Andrew Paterson

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-378](#) Resolution approving the sale of easements on Whatcom County property located at 3645 East McLeod Road to Verizon Wireless

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-379](#) Resolution amending the 2025 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 2, in the amount of \$445,550 (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

5. [AB2025-381](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 20.82, Public Utilities, to increase allowable power line voltage to 230 kilovolts in zones currently limited to 115 kilovolts

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES**MOTION SUMMARY:**

MOTION 1 (a motion was made regarding AB2025-376)

- [AB2025-376](#) Discussion with Public Works staff regarding a potential property acquisition [Discussion of this item may take place in executive session (closed to the public) pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b)]

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved 7-0 to authorize the County Executive, acting on behalf of the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District, to move forward with and complete the acquisition of the property as long as the purchase price of the property does not exceed the amount discussed in Executive Session.

MOTION 2 (no agenda bill)

Motion approved 7-0 that they have their legal counsel send a letter on Council's behalf and that of the vendor they have contracted (regarding the fire and EMS study), to any government entity, specifically fire departments, that have not fulfilled the Council's request for public records.

ADJOURN