

# **Whatcom County Council (Special)**

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



## **Draft Minutes**

**VIRTUAL MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLIER THAN 3:40 P.M., ENDS NO  
LATER THAN 5 P.M.**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021**

**3:40 PM**

**Virtual Meeting**

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

Rud Browne  
Barry Buchanan  
Tyler Byrd  
Todd Donovan  
Ben Elenbaas  
Carol Frazey  
Kathy Kershner

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

**Call To Order**

Council Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 3:55 p.m. in a virtual meeting.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** 7 - Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Carol Frazey, Ben Elenbaas and Kathy Kershner

**Absent:** None

**Special Order of Business**

1. [AB2021-028](#) Reorganization of the Whatcom County Council for 2021

**County Council Committee Assignments**

*Elenbaas moved* that all committee and board assignments be kept the same in 2021 as in 2020. The motion was seconded by Byrd.

Councilmembers discussed the motion.

The motion failed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 3 - Elenbaas, Kershner, and Byrd

**Nay:** 4 - Frazey, Browne, Buchanan, and Donovan

Council Chairperson (Acts as Chair of Council acting in other capacities,  
Rep to EDI Board, Law Library Board, County Finance Committee)

*Browne moved* to nominate Buchanan. The motion was seconded by Donovan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Frazey, Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas

**Nay:** 0

Council Vice-Chairperson

*Browne moved* to nominate Frazey. The motion was seconded by Donovan.

*Byrd moved* to nominate Byrd. The motion was seconded by Elenbaas.

Councilmembers discussed the motion.

Frazey was appointed by the following vote:

**Frazey:** 5 - Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Frazey  
**Byrd:** 2 - Kershner and Elenbaas

Executive Pro-Tempore (Cannot be on COG)

**Frazey moved** to nominate Browne. The motion was seconded by Buchanan.

Byrd stated that he would withdraw his name from consideration.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, and Kershner

**Nay:** 0

**Standing Committees**

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

**Buchanan moved** to appoint Buchanan, Byrd, and Frazey by acclamation.

The motion was seconded by Frazey.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, and Browne

**Nay:** 0

Finance & Administrative Services - Chair of Finance Committee will automatically act as Council Rep. to What-Comm Administrative Board

Kershner stated that she was withdrawing her name.

**Buchanan moved** to appoint Browne, Byrd, and Frazey by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Donovan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 1 - Elenbaas

Planning & Development

**Byrd moved** that the committee members be kept the same as in 2020

(Elenbaas, Browne, and Byrd). The motion was seconded by Elenbaas.

**Frazey moved** to nominate Donovan and **Browne moved** to nominate himself. But they **withdrew** their motions in order to dispense with the first motion.

Byrd's motion failed by the following vote:

**Aye:** 3 - Elenbaas, Kershner, and Byrd

**Nay:** 4 - Donovan, Frazey, Browne, and Buchanan

**Frazey moved** to nominate Donovan. The motion was seconded by Donovan.

Browne stated they should nominate all four people at the same time so **Frazey withdrew** her motion.

**Browne moved** to nominate Browne, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas. The motion was seconded by Byrd.

Councilmembers discussed the motion.

Browne, Donovan, and Elenbaas were appointed by the following vote:

**Browne:** 6 - Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, and Donovan

**Byrd:** 3 - Elenbaas, Kershner, and Donovan

**Donovan:** 4 - Frazey, Browne, Buchanan, and Donovan

**Elenbaas:** 5 - Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

After the vote, Byrd conceded.

#### Public Works and Health

**Buchanan moved** to appoint Donovan, Frazey, and Kershner by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Browne.

Kershner stated she would like to withdraw her name from consideration.

Councilmembers and Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, discussed the item and Buchanan stated that he would join the committee if no one else wants to.

**Donovan moved** a to nominate Buchanan. The motion was seconded by

Frazey.

***Buchanan amended his motion and moved*** to nominate Donovan, Frazey, and Buchanan. The motion was seconded by Browne.

***Elenbaas moved*** to nominate Kershner so Donovan stated he would withdraw his motion to nominate Buchanan if Kershner would like the position. Kershner did not accept the nomination.

The motion to appoint Donovan, Frazey and Buchanan carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Frazey, Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, and Donovan

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 2 - Byrd and Elenbaas

*Clerk's note:* Councilmembers revisited this item later in the meeting and the appointment changed from what was approved above.

#### Natural Resources

***Buchanan moved*** to appoint Buchanan, Donovan, and Elenbaas by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Frazey

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

#### Select 2 Natural Res. Committee members as Representatives to Lake Whatcom Policy Group

***Buchanan moved*** to appoint Elenbaas and Donovan by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Browne.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, and Kershner

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Councilmembers again discussed the appointment for the Public Works and

Health Committee.

**Frazey moved** to nominate Kershner instead of Buchanan. The motion was seconded by Browne.

Councilmembers discussed the motion and Kershner did not accept the nomination.

**Buchanan moved** to reconsider the earlier motion for the Public Works and Health Committee. The motion was seconded by Donovan.

The motion to reconsider carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, and Browne

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

**Buchanan moved** to nominate Browne, Frazey, and Donovan for the Public Works and Health Committee. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Donovan, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 2 - Byrd and Elenbaas

**Other Committee Assignments**

**Donovan moved** to appoint all the positions that only had one person applying for it and he listed those.

Councilmembers discussed the motion.

**Donovan amended his motion** after discussion to also add any positions asking for two appointments and for which two people put in their name, to appoint Elenbaas as the alternate for the Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee, and to appoint Buchanan and Byrd to the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task force with Byrd as the alternate, and to withdraw Browne's name from the WSAC Alternate Board Member and the WSAC Legislative Steering Committee (*revisited later*). Those appointments would be as follows:

Bellingham International Airport Advisory

Elenbaas

Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce

Byrd

Child and Family Well-Being Task Force

Frazey

Drayton Harbor & Portage Bay Shellfish Protection Districts

Elenbaas

EMS Oversight Board Alternate Representative

Kershner

Flood Control Zone Committee (Ex Officio)

Elenbaas

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force (And Appoint one alternate)

Buchanan (primary) and Byrd (as the alternate)

Intergovernmental Tribal Relations Committee (Appt. TWO)

Frazey

LEOFF Board

Buchanan

Reserve Officers Board of Trustees - (Appoint TWO)

Byrd and Frazey

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Byrd

Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee - Appoint ONE non-voting attendee

Donovan

OPTIONAL: Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee Alt. - Appoint TWO alternates if Council wishes

Elenbaas

North Sound Behavioral Health Exec. Committee

Browne

Northwest Clean Air Agency

Donovan

Public Defense Advisory

Kershner

Public Health Advisory Board

Buchanan

Solid Waste Advisory

Frazey

WSAC Timber Counties Caucus

Frazey

The motion was seconded by Browne.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

**Other Committee Assignments Continued**

Councilmembers discussed the following committee and board assignments individually:

Behavioral Health Advisory Committee

Councilmembers and Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, discussed the advisory committee.

***Buchanan moved*** to nominate Donovan. The motion was seconded by Browne.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, and Donovan

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Business and Commerce Advisory Committee (non-voting)



Councilmembers discussed the committee. Kershner requested that her name be withdrawn, so Councilmembers voted between Browne and Byrd.

Browne was appointed by the following vote:

**Browne:** 5 - Frazey, Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, and Elenbaas

**Byrd:** 1 - Kershner

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Council of Governments (COG) Appoint TWO members to serve on the Full Council (cannot be Exec Pro-Tem)

***Browne moved*** to nominate Byrd and Frazey. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

Councilmembers discussed the motion.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Frazey

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Council of Governments (COG) Appoint ONE of the above two members to also serve on the Exec Board and Transportation Policy Board (cannot be Exec Pro-Tem)

***Frazey nominated*** herself.

The nomination carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, and Kershner

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Developmental Disabilities Board

Councilmembers discussed the board.

***Buchanan moved*** to nominate Kershner. The motion was seconded by Browne.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, and Browne

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

EMS Oversight Board Representative

Buchanan and Kershner withdrew their names from consideration.

***Buchanan moved*** to nominate Byrd. The motion was seconded by Browne.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Homeless Strategies Workgroup (Appoint TWO)

***Buchanan moved*** to nominate Buchanan. The motion was seconded by Browne.

***Browne moved*** to nominate himself. The motion was seconded by Buchanan.

***Elenbaas moved*** to nominate Byrd. The motion was seconded by Kershner.

Browne and Buchanan were appointed by the following vote:

**Buchanan:** 7 - Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, and Byrd

**Browne:** 5 - Donovan, Frazey, Browne, Buchanan, and Byrd

**Byrd:** 2 - Elenbaas and Kershner

Marine Resources Committee

Councilmembers discussed the committee.

***Donovan moved*** to nominate Elenbaas. The motion was seconded by Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, and Donovan

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Northwest Regional Council (NWRC)

Kershner and Frazey withdrew their names from consideration then Kershner added hers back.

***Buchanan moved*** to nominate Kershner. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Frazey, Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, and Elenbaas

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Opportunity Council

Councilmembers discussed the board.

***Buchanan*** withdrew his name from consideration then ***moved*** to nominate Browne. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Kershner, Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Frazey

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

WSAC Alternate Board Member (The Executive is the active representative, Councilmember is alternate)

Councilmembers discussed this and the other WSAC positions.

Byrd withdrew his name from consideration.

***Frazey moved*** to nominate Browne. The motion was seconded by Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, and Kershner

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

WSAC Optional Alternate Board Member (Res2019-008)

Councilmembers discussed this board and left it unfilled.

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee

***Buchanan moved*** to nominate Browne. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, and Browne

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

WSAC Coastal Counties Caucus

***Frazey moved*** to nominate Donovan. The motion was seconded by Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Donovan, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 1 - Elenbaas

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

Whatcom Transportation Authority

Kershner withdrew her name from consideration.

***Buchanan moved*** to nominate Donovan. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Donovan, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 1 - Elenbaas

**Abstain:** 1 - Byrd

**The committee and board positions were NOMINATED AND APPOINTED (see attached).**

See assignments attached

**Items Added by Revision**

There were no agenda items added by revision.

**Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

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Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

2021 WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND BOARD ASSIGNMENTS

As of Jan 12, 2021

Committee Chairs TBD

County Council Committee Assignments	Rud Browne	Barry Buchanan	Tyler Byrd	Todd Donovan	Ben Elenbaas	Carol Frazey	Kathy Kershner
Council Chairperson ( <i>Acts as Chair of Council acting in other capacities, Rep to EDI Board, Law Library Board, County Finance Committee</i> )		√					
Council Vice-Chairperson						√	
Executive Pro-Tempore ( <i>Can not be on COG</i> )	√						
<b>Standing Committees</b>							
Criminal Justice and Public Safety		√	√			√	
Finance & Administrative Services - <i>Chair of Finance Committee will automatically act as Council Rep. to What-Comm Administrative Board</i>	√		√			√	
Planning & Development	√			√	√		
Public Works and Health	√			√		√	
Natural Resources		√		√	√		
<i>Select 2 Natural Res. Committee members as Representatives to Lake Whatcom Policy Group</i>				√	√		
<b>Other Committee Assignments</b>							
Behavioral Health Advisory Committee				√			
Bellingham International Airport Advisory					√		
Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce			√				
Business and Commerce Advisory Committee (non-voting)	√						
Child and Family Well-Being Task Force						√	
Council of Governments (COG) <i>Appoint TWO members to serve on the Full Council (can not be Exec Pro-Tem)</i>			√			√	
Council of Governments (COG) <i>Appoint ONE of the above two members to also serve on the Exec Board and Transportation Policy Board (cannot be Exec Pro-Tem)</i>						√	
Developmental Disabilities Board							√
Drayton Harbor & Portage Bay Shellfish Protection Districts					√		
EMS Oversight Board <i>Representative</i>			√				
EMS Oversight Board <i>Alternate Representative</i>							√
Flood Control Zone Committee (Ex Officio)					√		
Homeless Strategies Workgroup ( <i>Appoint TWO</i> )	√	√					
Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force ( <i>And Appoint one alternate</i> )		√	ALT				
Intergovernmental Tribal Relations Committee ( <i>Appt. TWO</i> )						√	
LEOFF Board		√					
Reserve Officers Board of Trustees - ( <i>Appoint TWO</i> )			√			√	
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)			√				
Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee - <i>Appoint ONE non-voting attendee</i>				√			
<b>OPTIONAL:</b> Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee Alt. - <i>Appoint TWO alternates if Council wishes</i>					√		
Marine Resources Committee					√		
North Sound Behavioral Health Exec. Committee	√						
Northwest Clean Air Agency				√			
Northwest Regional Council (NWRRC)							√
Opportunity Council	√						
Public Defense Advisory							√
Public Health Advisory Board		√					
Solid Waste Advisory						√	
WSAC Alternate Board Member (The Executive is the active representative, Councilmember is alternate)	√						
WSAC <i>Optional Alternate</i> Board Member (Res2019-008)							
WSAC Legislative Steering Committee	√						
WSAC Timber Counties Caucus						√	
WSAC Coastal Counties Caucus				√			
Whatcom Transportation Authority				√			