

Whatcom County Council (Special)

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



Action Summary

VIRTUAL MEETING - SPECIAL COUNCIL/HEALTH BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 26, 2020

1 PM

Council Chambers

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**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS**COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT****SPECIAL UPDATES AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. [AB2020-116](#) Update on COVID-19

DISCUSSED

A motion was approved to limit the length of time the Health Department staff needs to be a part of this meeting to one hour so they can get back to work.

The following motion was approved 4-3 with Elenbaas, Kershner and Byrd opposed:

1. We provide the Health Department a minimum of 24 hours to research and respond to any motions BEFORE the Health Board or Council is allowed to vote on something, rather than make "policy on fly" and then have them consume very strained department resources trying to respond.
2. We always establish the question "Why is the Health Department or Unified Command pursuing a particular policy" before we vote to adopt something different.
3. We ask ourselves and the Health Department to demonstrate the current or proposed policy is consistent with best practice based on State Department of Health or CDC policies before we make a recommended change.

2. [AB2020-117](#) Discussion of strategies related to COVID-19

DISCUSSED**OTHER ITEMS**

1. [AB2020-161](#) Emergency Ordinance establishing the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund and establishing a budget for the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund

WITHDRAWN

2. [AB2020-162](#) Emergency Ordinance authorizing an interfund loan to finance cash flow for COVID-19 Emergency Response

WITHDRAWN**ADJOURNMENT**