

**Whatcom County
Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee**

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



Committee Minutes - Final

VIRTUAL MEETING - ENDS NO LATER THAN 12:45 P.M.

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

11 AM

Virtual Meeting

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Tyler Byrd
Carol Frazey

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee member Tyler Byrd called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Rud Browne, Tyler Byrd and Carol Frazey

Absent: None

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Todd Donovan, and Ben Elenbaas

Special Order of Business

1. [AB2021-071](#) Nomination and appointment of committee chair

Frazey moved to nominate Browne.

Byrd moved to nominate himself.

Browne was appointed by the following vote:

Browne: 2 - Browne and Frazey

Byrd: 1 - Byrd

Browne and Byrd were NOMINATED AND Browne was APPOINTED.

Browne was appointed as committee chair and continued the meeting.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2020-587](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a three-year agreement, using the National Association of State Procurement Officials ValuePoint Master Agreement #AR2474 and State of Washington Participating Addendum #05116, between Whatcom County and CenturyLink Communications, LLC for telecommunications trunk line services, in the amount of \$106,127.17

Perry Rice, Administrative Services Department, briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions.

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Frazey

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

2. [AB2021-018](#) Ordinance amending the 2021 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 2, in the amount

of \$5,839,516

Frazey moved that the substitute Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The following staff briefed Councilmembers on the difference between the revised version and the version in the combined packet online and answered questions:

- Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council
- Kathleen Roy, Health Department
- Anne Deacon, Health Department

Browne thanked the Health Department for being aggressive in using CARES Act money.

Frazey's motion that the SUBSTITUTE Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 1 - Byrd

3. [AB2021-041](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a grant agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Commerce for an additional attorney to assist in handling deferred cases as a result of the coronavirus, in the amount of \$238,417.00

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION.

Stark Follis, Public Defender, briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions about the grant agreement and whether his staff has had access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Frazey's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

4. [AB2021-050](#) Resolution accepting the Treasurer's list of petitions for property tax refunds,

consistent with RCW 84.69.020

Frazey moved that the SUBSTITUTE Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.

Steve Oliver, County Treasurer, answered questions about the process and what happens if this is not approved.

Frazey's motion that the SUBSTITUTE Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

5. [AB2021-054](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Service Master Cleaning to provide cleaning services at the COVID-19 Temporary Housing Facility in the amount of \$168,333 for a total amended contract amount of \$335,000

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION.

Anne Deacon, Health Department, briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions.

The motion carried 2-1 with Byrd opposed (see vote count below).

Erika Lautenbach, Health Department Director, and Councilmembers discussed whether people cleaning rooms where someone had been COVID-19 positive and people willing to volunteer are high on the priority list for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

Frazey's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Frazey

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

6. [AB2021-063](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District for the Enhanced Whatcom Water Alliance Program, in the amount of \$50,000 (County acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

Browne moved that the Contract (FCZDBS) be RECOMMENDED FOR

AUTHORIZATION.

Chris Elder, Public Works Department, briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions.

Browne's motion that the Contract (FCZDBS) be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2021-035](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Whatcom Land Trust to monitor and enforce easements purchased through the Purchase of Development Rights Program

***Frazey moved* that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.**

Becky Snijder van Wissenkerke, Planning and Development Services Department, stated she was available for questions but there were none.

Frazey's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2021-038](#) Request authorization to sign agreement with Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office in order to secure matching funds for the acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement on the Bishop-Jones property through the Purchase of Development Rights Program

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

3. [AB2021-039](#) Request authorization to sign agreement with Washington State Recreation and

Conservation Office in order to secure matching funds for the acquisition of an agricultural conservation easement on the Rethlefsen property through the Purchase of Development Rights Program

Frazezy moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

4. [AB2021-047](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Everson for Jail Work Crew Services in the amount of \$1,700.00

***Frazezy moved* that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.**

Wendy Jones, Sheriff's Office, answered questions.

Frazezy's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

5. [AB2021-048](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Skagit County for Mini-Chain Services in the amount of \$177,725.00

Browne moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

6. [AB2021-055](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Spiralfx Interactive LLC for Electronic Medical Records in the amount of \$19,200.00

Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR

AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

7. [AB2021-060](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Wilson Engineering LLC to provide on-call professional land surveying services for 2021 in the amount not to exceed \$100,000

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.

Jim Karcher, Public Works Department, stated he was present for questions but there were none.

Frazey's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

8. [AB2021-061](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal amendment between Whatcom County and Bellingham Fire Department to add the budget for 2021 and 2022 to support two Community Paramedics for an additional \$709,610 and not to exceed a total of \$1,030,665

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.

Mike Hilley, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Manager, briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions about the requested amount and the source of the funds.

Frazey's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Frazey

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

9. [AB2021-062](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Eltec Systems LLC for Elevator Inspections,

Maintenance and Repairs

Frazezy moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

Byrd asked about an email from the County Executive regarding modification of the remaining tiny home order for 20 units to be changed to 8'x12' from 8' x 8' and whether it will come before the Council as a funding request.

The following people briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions:

- Rob Ney, Administrative Services Department
- Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Councilmembers and the speakers discussed that this is an emergency order being moved forward by the County Executive, purchasing more units as opposed to upgrading to larger units, the intended occupancy profile of the larger units, discussing this on the Council level as opposed to emergency authority so they can consider the costs, the difference in price per square foot between the two sizes of units, whether a lower price can be found, and how to proceed from here.

Browne moved to have a discussion with the full Council tonight on this subject.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Frazey, and Browne

Nay: 0

A motion carried 3-0 to have a discussion with the full Council tonight on this subject.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Rud Browne, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

SIGNED COPY ON FILE