

Whatcom County Council Committee of the Whole

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



Action Summary

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

1:50 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLY - ADJOURNS BY 4:30 PM
(PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT
www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

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

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order**Roll Call**

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

Announcements**Special Presentation**

1. [AB2024-760](#) Presentation on the independent study of the countywide fire and emergency medical services (EMS) system

PRESENTED

2. [AB2024-819](#) Presentation from Health and Community Services Department on partnership with the Didg'wálic Wellness Center

PRESENTED

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2024-793](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Titles 20 and 22 to enact SSB 5290 regarding local project review

DISCUSSED

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2024-739](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 2.130 Economic Development Investment Board

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved that they introduce the substitute proposed ordinance (to be on introduction tonight).

2. [AB2024-747](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 2.06 Medical Examiner to establish a Medical Examiner Department

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

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

Nay: 0

Temp Absent: 1 - Donovan

3. [AB2024-767](#) Resolution to establish Council goals for full, timely awarding of Healthy Children's Fund contracts

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved to amend the resolution to include changes as listed in “Memo - Byrd edits” under bullet point A (Timeline for execution of contracts) sub bullet points 1 and 2.

Motion approved to amend the resolution to include the suggested paragraph (in “Memo - Byrd edits”) as a new bullet point (E) as follows:

Reporting and audits: Excludes from reporting and audit requirements any programs, contracts, results, or metrics related to programs not directly funded with HCF funds (for example ARPA funds).

Motion approved to amend the resolution as seen in item labeled “F. Independent auditor” from “Memo - Byrd edits” and to change the word “ordinance” to “resolution” in sub item 1, so it reads:

F. Independent auditor Establishes timeframes for contracting an independent auditor and creates an audit schedule, including

1. RFP for independent audit posted immediately upon approval of RESOLUTION
2. Contract with independent auditor no later than Jan. 31, 2025
3. Complete audit and review of 2023-2024 HCF performance and provide results to Council and Child and Family Wellbeing Task Force by April 30, 2025.
4. Complete subsequent biannual reviews to Council and Child and Family Wellbeing Task Force by:
 - a. March 31, 2027
 - b. March 31, 2029
 - c. March 31, 2031
 - d. March 31, 2033

Motion approved to amend the 10th whereas clause with the language suggested by Health and Community Services (in “Memo - Lautenbach edits”), changing the “but” to an “and” (so the second line reads; “with more than \$13M awarded for childcare capital projects using ARPA funds AND \$385,722”).

Motion approved to go into executive session, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110.1(i)(iii), until 4:15 p.m.

Motion approved to change the word “shall” wherever it appears in the resolution, with the exception of the severability clause, and replace it with “should.”

4. [AB2024-794](#) Ordinance establishing Whatcom County Code 2.190 Birch Bay Community Advisory Committee
NOT ACTED UPON
5. [AB2024-795](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.03 Advisory Groups
NOT ACTED UPON
6. [AB2024-856](#) Request County Council to appoint a Council Health Board member to serve on final interview panel for the Health Officer candidate
NOT ACTED UPON

Items Added by Revision

Other Business

Adjournment