

**Whatcom County
Council Climate Action and Natural Resources Committee**

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



Committee Minutes - Final

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022
10:20 AM
Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 11:20 A.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON OR
SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil
OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Kaylee Galloway called the meeting to order at 10:21 a.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, and Kaylee Galloway

Absent: None

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, and Carol Frazey

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2022-200](#) Report from the Parks and Recreation Department

Mike McFarlane, Parks and Recreation Department Director, reported and answered whether lead mitigation (associated with the Plantation Rifle Ranges) is in the Parks and Recreation budget or whether it would come from the stormwater fund, whether the Department of Ecology (DOE) told the County there was a problem after an inspection in 2017, whether the standards for lead in the water changed between 2017 and 2020, whether the County is obligated to clean up that area periodically along the way, how expensive this is going to be since this is in the Lake Samish watershed, and whether those costs would be recouped from the fees the County is getting from the rifle range.

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, spoke about communication with the DOE on the issue, and making sure there is a timeline in which the County could do background work and understand the costs for the remediation and stormwater work. He also gave a background on the timing that the County was made aware that the DOE was interested in following up and asked the County to go into this agreed order.

McFarlane continued his report and answered whether Silver Lake Park is booked up for the season, and whether there is a timeline for the Point Whitehorn stairs repair.

Frazey thanked McFarlane for getting the parks ready for the Memorial Day celebrations for Ski to Sea and for veterans.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2022-223](#) Discussion on the transfer of regulatory jurisdiction of certain forest practices from the State Department of Natural Resources to Whatcom County

Joshua Fleischmann, Planning and Development Services Department, presented and answered whether the clause for opting out will create any problems in terms of administering things if some people are under Department of Natural Resources (DNR) jurisdiction and some people are under County jurisdiction and maybe even right next door to each other, whether there is any incentive for landowners to want to opt out, whether the Planning Commission approved the proposed code language as it came from the Forest Advisory Committee or whether they amended it as well, what would happen if the County did not do anything with this, and why the County is doing this now since the requirements for transfer have been in place since 2009.

Donovan moved that the Committee recommend to the full Council that they approve the Ordinance on the transfer of regulatory jurisdiction involving forestry but Councilmembers and staff discussed that the Ordinance is on the Council agenda tonight for introduction so no motion is needed.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

Councilmembers and staff discussed the starting time for the next committee meeting today.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Kaylee Galloway-via email 4/14/2022

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Kaylee Galloway, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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