

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday, June 10, 2025
6 PM**

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING (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 Stremmer

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council is currently holding meetings in hybrid format with options for in-person or remote viewing and participation. For instructions on remote participation, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to speak remotely. Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the Council's meetings are asked to contact the Council Office at 360.778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

The County is accepting applications from county residents to fill vacancies on several boards, commissions, and committees spanning a wide range of important local issues. For more information, visit the Boards and Commissions vacancy webpage on the County website or call the Council Office or County Executive's Office.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-033](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for May 27, 2025
2. [MIN2025-034](#) Committee of the Whole for May 27, 2025
3. [MIN2025-035](#) Regular County Council for May 27, 2025

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Participants requesting to speak during public hearings may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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1. [AB2025-378](#) Resolution approving the sale of easements on Whatcom County property located at 3645 East McLeod Road to Verizon Wireless
2. [AB2025-381](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 20.82, Public Utilities, to increase allowable power line voltage to 230 kilovolts in zones currently limited to 115 kilovolts

OPEN SESSION

Participants requesting to speak during open session may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

During open session, audience members may speak to the council on issues not scheduled for public hearing. All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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Per RCW 42.36.060 Councilmembers are prohibited from engaging in ex parte communications in matters where the Council determines the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Council serves in a quasi-judicial role as a decision-maker on major project permits, which cannot be discussed by members of the public at Council meetings. Examples of major project permits that cannot be discussed at Council meetings include LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, and MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items under this section of the agenda may be considered in a single motion. Councilmembers have received and studied background material on all items. Committee review has taken place on these items, as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or council may ask that an item be considered separately.

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-416](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Northwest ESD 189 to provide substance use prevention services, in the amount of \$121,000
2. [AB2025-423](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Cascade Connections to provide services to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in an estimated amount not to exceed \$1,661,673

3. [AB2025-424](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Kulshan Supported Employment to provide services to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in an estimated amount not to exceed \$1,588,773
4. [AB2025-426](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Washington Vocational Services to provide services to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in an estimated amount not to exceed \$255,333
5. [AB2025-427](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Work Opportunities to provide services to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in an estimated amount not to exceed \$1,166,120
6. [AB2025-429](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Cascadia Law Group, PLLC to provide investigation and legal defense of County and District water rights, in the amount of \$300,000 for a total amended amount of \$325,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
7. [AB2025-430](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award construction project Bid # 19088003 and enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Northwest Brush Busters, LLC for the Subzone Levee Vegetation Maintenance 2025 project, in the amount of \$62,286.97
8. [AB2025-431](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Clean Earth Environmental Solutions, Inc. to provide transportation and disposal of moderate risk waste from the Disposal of Toxics Facility, in an estimated amount of \$350,000
9. [AB2025-433](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and DVSAS to operate and maintain three safe shelters in the amount of \$131,052, for a total amended contract amount of \$287,922
10. [AB2025-435](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and YWCA Bellingham for housing case management and other operational support services for shelter and permanent supportive housing units in the amount of \$910,503, for a total amended contract amount of \$1,335,515

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-379](#) Resolution amending the 2025 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 2, in the amount of \$445,550 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
2. [AB2025-437](#) Resolution to update position titles for the Washington Counties Risk Pool (WCRP) Board

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

3. [AB2025-413](#) Resolution requesting information from the Executive and Planning and Development Services regarding the 2025 Comprehensive Plan update

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-372](#) Appointment to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, position for a citizen representative with no financial ties to other included sectors, Applicant(s): Andrew Paterson
2. [AB2025-442](#) Appointment to the Open Space Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Easton Fenberg

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Council action will not be taken. The council may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.

1. [AB2025-418](#) Ordinance granting Whatcom County Water District #7 a franchise and the right privilege, and authority thereunder to locate, set, erect, lay, construct, extend, support, attach, connect, maintain, repair, replace, enlarge, operate and use facilities in, upon, over, under, along, across and through the franchise area to allow for the provision of water services
2. [AB2025-420](#) Ordinance granting Whatcom County Water District #2 a franchise and the right, privilege, and authority thereunder to locate, set, erect, lay, construct, extend, support, attach, connect, maintain, repair, replace, enlarge, operate and use facilities in, upon, over, under, along, across and through the franchise area to allow for the provision of water services
3. [AB2025-422](#) Ordinance granting Whatcom County Water District #18 a franchise and the right, privilege, and authority thereunder to locate, set, erect, lay, construct, extend, support, attach, connect, maintain, repair, replace, enlarge, operate and use facilities in, upon, over, under, along, across and through the franchise area to allow for the provision of water services
4. [AB2025-434](#) Receipt of application to a vacancy on the Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, for-profit health care position, Applicant(s): Dave Chase (Deadline for additional applications is 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 17, 2025)

5. [AB2025-440](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 6, in the amount of \$18,235,908

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN