

**Whatcom County  
Council Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee**

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



**Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes**

**Tuesday, July 23, 2024  
1:05 PM  
Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 1:25 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE  
REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil), OR  
CALL 360.778.5010)**

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Barry Buchanan  
Tyler Byrd  
Jon Scanlon

**CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

## **Call To Order**

Committee Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** 3 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, and Jon Scanlon

Also Present: Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, and Mark Stremmler

## **Announcements**

### **Special Presentation**

1. [AB2024-480](#) Report from Juvenile Court

Stephanie Kraft, Superior Court Administrator, read from a presentation (on file) about organizational changes in the last year, what Juvenile Court does and its various programs and responsibilities, looking forward to the year ahead, and challenges they are facing.

She answered what Juvenile Rehabilitation pausing intakes to the juvenile institutions means and whether it is essentially stopping us from adding any new youth to our juvenile detention center, and stated it does not impact our ability to book youth into our facility. Youth who are sentenced within a certain range for an offense are transitioned to the juvenile institution to serve the remainder of their time, and this pause prevents those youth from being transported from the County to the State facility. She answered whether they are working with Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) on this topic and whether some behavioral health needs, as part of the Justice Project, are eventually going to be covered by funds as they come in and resources are freed up for services. She spoke about their funding and stated our teenage population is largely un-talked about when we are talking about services. She stated she thinks there will be needs beyond what Medicaid would be able to provide.

**This agenda item was REPORTED.**

### **Items Added by Revision**

There were no agenda items added by revision.

### **Other Business**

There was no other business.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

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Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

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Barry Buchanan, Committee Chair

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Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription