

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

6 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**AGENDA REVISED 1.27.2025 - 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 Stremler

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. [MIN2025-001](#) Special Committee of the Whole for January 14, 2025
2. [MIN2025-002](#) Regular County Council for January 14, 2025
3. [MIN2025-003](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for January 14, 2025
4. [MIN2025-004](#) Committee of the Whole for January 14, 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. [AB2025-059](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Titles 20 & 22 to enact SSB 5290 regarding local project review
2. [AB2024-874](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Title 20, Zoning

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 MPP2024-00001 City of Bellingham Mitigation Bank, LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, PUD2022-00001 Royal Emerald Motors Planned Unit Development, MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements, and CUP2023-00003/DEV2024-00001 Ponderosa Estates Mobile Home Park.

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. [AB2024-866](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State University to continue the jointly shared costs for faculty positions and program support for WSU Whatcom County Extension in the amount of \$282,257 for a total amended contract amount of \$3,542,793.90
2. [AB2025-050](#) Resolution cancelling uncollectible personal property taxes
3. [AB2025-076](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization to provide behavioral health services within the North Sound Integrated Care Network in the amount of \$206,191, for a total amended contract amount of \$3,127,031
4. [AB2025-077](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a two-year contract between Whatcom County and the Whatcom Council on Aging for staffing and operation of the Bellingham Senior Activity Center, in the amount of \$174,182
5. [AB2025-078](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a two-year contract between Whatcom County and the Jet Oldsters Association of Ferndale for staffing and operation of the Ferndale Senior Activity Center, in the amount of \$174,182
6. [AB2025-079](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a two-year Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Blaine for staffing and operation of the Blaine Senior Activity Center, in the amount of \$174,182
7. [AB2025-080](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a two-year Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Lynden for staffing and operation of the Lynden Senior Activity Center, in the amount of \$174,182
8. [AB2025-083](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lifeline Connections to provide Mental Health Court case coordination services in the amount of \$15,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$25,000
9. [AB2025-084](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center in the amount of \$36,000 for a total amended amount of \$64,000

10. [AB2025-086](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and Tyler Technologies, Inc. (Tyler) to migrate our Tyler Enterprise Permitting and Licensing (EPL) system to the Tyler cloud and to provide ongoing annual hosting and maintenance in the amount of \$344,215.46 per year starting in 2025
11. [AB2025-087](#) Resolution to approve annual petition for refunds paid list consistent with RCW 84.69.020
12. [AB2025-088](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Bellingham to provide partial funding for the severe weather shelter, in the amount of \$150,000
13. [AB2025-090](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Peace Centers to implement a coordinated system of licensed drop-in childcare within Whatcom County, in the amount of \$499,921
14. [AB2025-119](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Sustainable Connections in support of their Whatcom Housing Alliance coordination in the amount of \$50,000

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-046](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Attorney General of Washington for cy pres funding, in the amount of \$125,000

ITEM REMOVED 1.27.2025

2. [AB2025-089](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to expand and retain childcare slots in Whatcom County, in the amount of \$411,631
3. [AB2025-092](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into the GCB 3207 Public Works Emergency Response Assistance Mutual Aid Agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
4. [AB2025-107](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a two year contract between the Bellingham Food Bank and Whatcom County to help address food insecurity in the amount of \$1,445,000

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

5. [AB2025-082](#) Resolution adopting the Lake Whatcom Management Program (LWMP) 2025 - 2029 Work Plan

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-071](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee, various positions, Applicant(s): Rhayma Blake, Rodger Prestiy, William Sager, Tess Winds-Johnson
2. [AB2025-105](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, various positions, Applicant(s): Indca Mitchell, Kevin Menard

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Per Whatcom County Code 2.03.070(B), the council must confirm or reject executive appointments within 30 days of submission to the council. County code deems the appointee confirmed if council does not take action within this time.

1. [AB2025-094](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Kara Allen to the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization
2. [AB2025-099](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Brandon Richner to the Whatcom County Agricultural Advisory Committee
3. [AB2025-100](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Lisa Shoemaker and Alexander Jones to the Whatcom County Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Committee
4. [AB2025-101](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Sierra Crook to the Whatcom County Food Systems Committee
5. [AB2025-102](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Matthew Santos to the Whatcom County Library System's Rural Library Board
6. [AB2025-108](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointments of Doralee Booth, Daniel Mead Smith, Stephen Nelson, and Sheila Wood to the Birch Bay Community Advisory Committee
7. [AB2025-110](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointments of Andy Leveto, Geoff Klise, and Ryan Rickerts to the Whatcom County Parks and Recreation Commission
8. [AB2025-115](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Kerri Burnside to the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee

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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN