

# **Whatcom County Council**

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



## **Action Summary**

**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](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil),  
OR CALL 360.778.5010)

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

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

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

## COUNTY COUNCIL

### CALL TO ORDER

### ROLL CALL

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

### FLAG SALUTE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

### MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-001](#) Special Committee of the Whole for January 14, 2025

**APPROVED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

2. [MIN2025-002](#) Regular County Council for January 14, 2025

**APPROVED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

3. [MIN2025-003](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for January 14, 2025

**APPROVED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

4. [MIN2025-004](#) Committee of the Whole for January 14, 2025

**APPROVED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. [AB2025-059](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Titles 20 & 22 to enact SSB 5290 regarding local project review

**HEARD PUBLIC TESTAMONY AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

**Aye:** 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 1 - Galloway

Motion approved 6-1 with Galloway opposed that they refer this item (AB2025-059) back to Committee of the Whole in two weeks.

2. [AB2024-874](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Title 20, Zoning

**ADOPTED**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

Enactment No: ORD 2025-004

**OPEN SESSION**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**(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

**AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

2. [AB2025-050](#) Resolution cancelling uncollectible personal property taxes

**APPROVED**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

Enactment No: RES 2025-006

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

This item was considered separately below.

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
- AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**
- Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
- Nay:** 0
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
- AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**
- Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
- Nay:** 0
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
- AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**
- Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
- Nay:** 0
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
- AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**
- Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
- Nay:** 0
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
- AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**
- Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
- Nay:** 0
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

**AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

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

**AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

11. [AB2025-087](#) Resolution to approve annual petition for refunds paid list consistent with RCW 84.69.020

**APPROVED**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

Enactment No: RES 2025-007

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

**AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

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

**AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

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

**AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

### **CONSENT AGENDA CONSIDERED SEPARATELY**

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

**TABLED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmler

Nay: 0

### **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

**WITHDRAWN**

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

**AUTHORIZED**

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmler

Nay: 1 - Byrd

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)

**AUTHORIZED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmler

Nay: 0

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

**AUTHORIZED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmler

Nay: 0

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

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

**APPROVED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 2025-008

**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

**APPOINTED**

Motion approved 7-0 to consider all applicants (including the late applicant).

Appointed Rhayma Blake and Tess Winds-Johnson with five votes each.

2. [AB2025-105](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, various positions, Applicant(s): Indca Mitchell, Kevin Menard

**APPOINTED**

Appointed Kevin Menard with seven votes.

**CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

1. [AB2025-094](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Kara Allen to the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-099](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Brandon Richner to the Whatcom County Agricultural Advisory Committee

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

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

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-101](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Sierra Crook to the Whatcom County Food Systems Committee

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

5. [AB2025-102](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Matthew Santos to the Whatcom County Library System's Rural Library Board

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

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

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

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

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-115](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Kerri Burnside to the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee

**CONFIRMED**

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0



**ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION****INTRODUCTION ITEMS****COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES**

Motion approved 4-3, with Stremmer, Byrd, and Elenbaas opposed, to add House Bill 1480 to the Whatcom County State legislative priorities for the 2025 legislative session.

**ADJOURN**