

Whatcom County Council Committee of the Whole

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



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

**VIRTUAL MEETING - ENDS NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. (TO
PARTICIPATE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS AT
www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil OR CALL 360.778.5010)
Tuesday, April 6, 2021**

3:20 PM

Virtual Meeting

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Carol Frazey
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Council Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Carol Frazey, Ben Elenbaas and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2020-219](#) Discussion and update on strategies and other items related to COVID-19 (Council and Health Board)

Erika Lautenbach, Health Department Director, updated the Councilmembers on the following:

- Where Whatcom County stands with regards to Phase Three of the State's Roadmap to Recovery and what forward progression to Phase Four might look like
- Stability in COVID-19 infection rates in the county
- Looking forward toward and providing guidance for summer events
- Vaccine allocations received by enrolled providers (10,180 first doses, with over 4,000 coming from the Federal retail pharmacy program) last week in Whatcom County
- Another vaccination clinic at the community vaccination site at Bellingham Technical College this weekend
- A focus on vulnerable populations as it relates to access to vaccine

She answered whether there is still a flat supply of vaccination from the State and whether the vulnerable population in the county is fully vaccinated.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

2. [AB2021-222](#) Discussion regarding schedule for review of proposed Cherry Point Comprehensive Plan and County Code amendments

Brad Brown, Phillips 66, updated the Councilmembers and they discussed a possible next meeting date and how a red-line version coming back to the Council would be formatted.

The following people also spoke:

- Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Councilmembers agreed to request that the Clerk of the Council send out a poll for a possible meeting date.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2021-209](#) Resolution regarding permanent affordability of childcare in Whatcom County
Browne briefed the Councilmembers and they discussed the proposed resolution and whether this is an eligible use of the H.R.1319 - American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 dollars.

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive spoke about getting feedback from the childcare provider group, creating permanent policies, and whether they should use the majority of the funds as stated in the resolution.

Councilmembers continued to discuss the resolution.

Browne moved to extend a formal invitation the primary people involved in childcare to give feedback and suggestions. The motion was seconded by Frazey.

Councilmembers and Sidhu discussed the motion.

Browne amended his motion to write a letter by the next regular Council meeting date extending a formal invitation to the primary people involved in childcare to give feedback and suggestions.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Kershner, Browne, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

A motion was approved and this agenda item was recommended to be HELD IN COMMITTEE.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription