



Whatcom County

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

Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2023-155

File ID:	AB2023-155	Version:	1	Status:	Substitute Amended and Adopted
File Created:	02/21/2023	Entered by:	JNixon@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Council Office	File Type:	Ordinance		
Assigned to:	Council			Final Action:	06/06/2023
Agenda Date:	06/06/2023			Enactment #:	ORD 2023-034

Primary Contact Email:

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.128, Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, to revise membership

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
03/07/2023	Council	INTRODUCED	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner Nay: 0	
03/21/2023	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee	RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT(S)	
		Aye: 3 Donovan, Frazey, and Kershner Nay: 0	
03/21/2023	Council	REFERRED TO COMMITTEE	Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee
		Aye: 7 Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner Nay: 0	

Agenda Bill Master Report Continued (AB2023-155)

04/11/2023 Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee WITHDRAWN

04/11/2023 Council WITHDRAWN

06/06/2023 Council SUBSTITUTE ADOPTED
AS AMENDED

Aye: 5 Buchanan, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 2 Byrd, and Elenbaas

Attachments: Substitute Ordinance from 3.21.2023 COTW, Draft Minutes - 3.21.2023 Finance Committee and Council, Draft Minutes - 4.11.2023 Finance Committee, Amended Ordinance from Finance 5.23.2023 for 6.6.2023 Council, Alternate (Kershner) proposed Ordinance for 6.6.2023

PROPOSED BY: Kathy Kershner
INTRODUCTION DATE: _____

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - 034

**AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 2.128, BUSINESS AND COMMERCE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TO REVISE MEMBERSHIP**

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2018, the Whatcom County Council adopted Ordinance 2018-030, creating the Whatcom County Business and Commerce Advisory Committee (BCAC); and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2019, the Whatcom County Council adopted Ordinance 2019-031, amending the Whatcom County Business and Commerce Advisory Committee (BCAC) membership; and

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of the BCAC is to provide the County Council with advice on issues, including regulations and policies that could impact local businesses, industry, or economic development; and

WHEREAS, membership of the BCAC currently includes elected officials, representatives of the county's institutions of higher education, and representatives of internet technology, manufacturing, food processing, recreation, retail, marine trades, commercial real estate, agriculture, and energy industries; and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to revise committee membership to include one representative from the construction industry and one additional member representing for-profit business entities in any industry.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that Whatcom County Code 2.128 is hereby amended as outlined in Exhibit A to this ordinance.

ADOPTED this 6th day of June, 2023.

ATTEST:



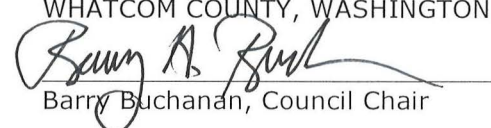
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Karen Frakes approved via email on 6/7/2023/MR

Karen Frakes, Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Approved () Denied

Date Signed: June 9, 2023

EXHIBIT A
Chapter 2.128
BUSINESS AND COMMERCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sections:

- 2.128.010 Established.**
- 2.128.020 Purpose.**
- 2.128.030 Function.**
- 2.128.040 Membership.**
- 2.128.050 Organization – Meetings.**
- 2.128.055 Committee staffing.**

2.128.010 Established.

The Whatcom County business and commerce advisory committee is hereby established.

2.128.020 Purpose.

The committee will advise the Whatcom County council on issues, including regulations and policies that could impact local businesses, industry, or economic development.

2.128.030 Function.

The committee will report directly to the county council as necessary to carry out the following functions:

- A. Review and provide recommendations on comprehensive plans, regulations, economic development efforts and on proposals which directly impact business and economic conditions in Whatcom County; and
- B. Assist the county and provide recommendations on efforts to improve business conditions, environment and infrastructure; and
- C. Assist and develop recommendations for comprehensive economic development efforts of associate development organizations (ADO) and other issues impacting business in Whatcom County; and
- D. Develop recommendations and strategies for ensuring the county applies a client-focused approach to supporting businesses with regulations, permitting, and planning.

2.128.040 Membership.

- A. The committee shall be composed of 23 members serving four-year terms.
- B. The following designated officials shall be nonvoting members:

- 1. One member of the Whatcom County council;
- 2. County executive or designee;
- 3. City of Bellingham mayor or designee;
- 4. Port of Bellingham executive director or designee; and
- 5. One representative from the small cities, designated by the Small Cities Caucus.

C. The county council shall appoint one member representing for-profit entities in each of the following industries:

- 1. Internet technology;
- 2. Manufacturing;
- 3. Food processing;
- 4. Recreation;
- 5. Retail;
- 6. Marine trades;
- 7. Commercial real estate;
- 8. Agriculture;
- 9. Energy industry
- 10. Health care
- 11. Construction; and
- 12. Childcare

D. The county council shall also appoint:

1. Three voting members representing for-profit business entities in any industry, including those listed in subsection C of this section; and
2. Two nonvoting members representing the county's institutions of higher education (Western Washington University, Whatcom Community College, the Northwest Indian College, and Bellingham Technical College) and one non-voting member representing public K-12 education.

E. No two appointed members may represent or be employed by the same company or organization.

F. The term of office for appointed members shall be four years; provided, that the terms of those first appointed shall be staggered so that five will be appointed for two years and six will be appointed for four years.

2.128.050 Organization – Meetings.

A. Meetings of the committee shall be open and accessible to the public and shall be subject to the Open Public Meetings Act.

B. The committee shall determine its own meeting schedule but shall meet at least four times per year and attempt to complete its work as expeditiously as possible.

C. At every meeting, the committee will schedule an open session to take public comment on local business issues. Written records of meetings, resolutions, findings, and recommendations shall be kept and such records shall be public. The county council and county executive shall receive meeting minutes on a regular basis.

D. The committee shall adopt its own rules and procedures for the conduct of business.

E. The committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members who shall preside at its meetings.

F. The committee shall comply with Whatcom County Charter Section 4.20, Qualifications, and with Chapter 2.03 WCC, Boards and Commissions.

2.128.055 Committee staffing.

The Port of Bellingham office of director of economic development shall provide staffing for the committee.