

**Whatcom County  
Council Committee of the Whole-Executive Session**

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



**Committee Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, April 14, 2026**

**8:30 AM**

**Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers**

HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 8:40 A.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil), OR CALL 360.778.5010)

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Elizabeth Boyle  
Barry Buchanan  
Ben Elenbaas  
Kaylee Galloway  
Jessica Rienstra  
Jon Scanlon  
Mark Stremmler

**CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

### Call To Order

Council Vice Chair Jon Scanlon called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in a hybrid meeting.

### Roll Call

**Present:** 6 - Elizabeth Boyle, Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, Jessica Rienstra, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

**Absent:** 1 - Kaylee Galloway

### Announcements

### Committee Discussion

1. [AB2026-310](#) Discussion on pending litigation regarding the legal challenge to an initiative to repeal the Healthy Children's Fund tax levy with Council attorney Paul Lawrence [Discussion of this item may take place in executive session (closed to the public) pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)]

**Attorneys Present: Paul Lawrence and Kimberly Thulin.**

Scanlon stated that discussion of agenda item one may take place in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). Executive session will conclude no later than 8:40 a.m. If the meeting extends beyond the stated conclusion time, the Council vice chair will make a public announcement.

***Buchanan moved*** to go into executive session until no later than 8:40 a.m. to discuss the agenda item(s) pursuant to the RCW citation(s) as announced by the Council vice chair. The motion was seconded by Rienstra.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Galloway

Councilmembers entered executive session at 8:33 a.m.

At 8:41 a.m. the Council vice chair announced that the executive session would extend to no later than 8:50 a.m.

**This agenda item was DISCUSSED.**

### Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

**Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

The County Council approved these minutes on April 28, 2026.

ATTEST:



WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Kaylee Galloway, Council Chair

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristi Felbinger