

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Final

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024
12:30 PM
Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 1:10 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE
REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR
CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Kaylee Galloway
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Jon Scanlon called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremmler

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, and Ben Elenbaas

Announcements

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2024-153](#) Discussion of a proposed resolution vacating a portion of County Road and an unnamed alley within the Amended Plat of South Wickersham

Andrew Hester, Public Works Department, briefed the Councilmembers and stated staff is in favor of the road vacation. He answered questions about what part on the map (on file) is being vacated, and the area to the right of the requested area to be vacated. Hester stated that area is privately-owned railroad right away and is not part of this request.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.
2. [AB2024-159](#) Discussion of a proposed Ordinance establishing a temporary closure of Truck Road

Christina Schoenfelder, Public Works Department, answered whether there has been outreach in the neighborhood where the road is going to be closed and she described outreach efforts.

Elizabeth Kosa, Public Works Department Director, stated they will have more road closures as construction season approaches and will have a campaign to reach out to people about those.

Schoenfelder answered whether Deal Road is a gravel road and whether they will do anything different to accommodate more traffic there. She stated it is a gravel road and has pot holes so she will make a point to go out there and talk to Maintenance and Operations about maybe filling them before the project if they need to.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.
3. [AB2024-187](#) Discussion of a proposed ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 8.10, Solid Waste and Residential Recycling Collection

Jennifer Hayden, Health and Community Services, briefed the

Councilmembers and stated there were discussions on these proposed code changes in the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

She answered whether they are seeing interest in other parts of the county (besides Bellingham) to move to a single stream recycling system. She stated Nooksack Valley does not have plans to change their system and this code does not force anyone to do that. It basically allows for the change to be made if it makes sense for each business. Bellingham will be switched over to single stream by the end of this year but Sanitary Service Company does not necessarily have a plan for how they are going to move forward with the unincorporated county or the City of Ferndale. She described the single stream system and stated people will have one 96-gallon toter for all recyclables and a separate garbage can. She described how recyclables are then sorted and stated most counties in the state have moved to this system.

Councilmembers discussed how the single stream system works and why it might be beneficial to drivers, and Hayden answered whether she thinks anyone might struggle with a 96-gallon container and whether they see differences with this system on windy days since individual bins tend to get blown around.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2024-145](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.145 to clarify member requirements on the Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee

Donovan stated this is a simple clean-up. When Council restructured the Ferry Advisory Committee their intent was that there would be at least four members that were off-island. But in the process, they unintentionally cut out a section that said, “no more than five of them [members] residents or property owners on Lummi Island.” This ordinance is a clean-up so that the off-island people are really *off-island* and not people who have an interest as property owners on the island.

Councilmembers discussed when the Council passed the original ordinance, and Donovan stated there have not been any issues that have come up because of this, it was just pointed out that it needs a fix so that they do not potentially end up with seven people that are essentially islanders on the committee.

Jill Nixon, Council Office Staff, stated she did not have anything to add to Donovan’s explanation.

Galloway moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:57 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Jon Scanlon-via email 3/11/2024

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Jon Scanlon, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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