

Whatcom County Council Special Committee of the Whole

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



Committee Minutes - Draft Minutes

**Tuesday, January 9, 2024
9:30 AM
Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 10:45 A.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON,
SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil,
OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

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

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Council Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

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

Announcements

Special Order of Business

1. [AB2024-057](#) Reorganization of the Whatcom County Council for 2024

Council Chairperson (Acts as Chair of Council acting in other capacities, Rep to EDI Board, Law Library Board, SWISS Exec. Committee, County Finance Committee)

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Council Vice-Chairperson

Byrd withdrew his name from consideration.

Donovan moved to nominate Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Executive Pro-Tempore (Cannot be on COG)

Elenbaas moved and Buchanan seconded to nominate Byrd.

Buchanan moved and Scanlon seconded to nominate Donovan.

Donovan was appointed by the following vote:

Donovan: 4 - Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, and Buchanan

Byrd: 3 - Elenbaas, Stremler, and Byrd

Standing Committees

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Buchanan, Byrd and Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Finance & Administrative Services - Chair of Finance Committee will automatically act as Council Rep. to What-Comm Administrative Board

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Byrd, Donovan, and Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Planning & Development

Galloway moved and Buchanan seconded to nominate all (Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Scanlon, and Stremler) and vote for three.

Donovan, Elenbaas, and Scanlon were appointed by the following vote:

Elenbaas: 7 - Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway
Donovan: 6 - Scanlon, Stremler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Galloway

Scanlon: 5 - Scanlon, Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway

Byrd: 2 - Byrd and Elenbaas

Stremler: 1 - Stremler

Public Works and Health

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Climate Action and Natural Resources

Elenbaas withdrew his name from consideration.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Donovan, Galloway, and Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Select 2 Natural Res. Committee members as Representatives to Lake Whatcom Policy Group

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Donovan and Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Other Committee AssignmentsBehavioral Health Advisory Committee

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Bellingham International Airport Advisory

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Bellingham Regional Chamber of Commerce

Galloway withdrew herself from consideration.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Byrd.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Business and Commerce Advisory Committee (non-voting)

Galloway withdrew her name from consideration.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Child and Family Well-Being Task Force

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Climate Impact Advisory Committee Appoint ONE-Non-Voting (**3-year term) AB2022-021

Buchanan stated that Galloway is in the middle of a three-year term so Councilmembers did not vote. **Galloway** will continue in her term.

Council of Governments (COG) Appoint TWO members to serve on the Full Council (cannot be Exec Pro-Tem)

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Galloway and Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Council of Governments (COG) Appoint ONE of the above two members to also serve on the Exec Board and Transportation Policy Board (cannot be Exec Pro-Tem)

Buchanan moved and Scanlon seconded to nominate Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Galloway requested that they also appoint an alternate for her.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Scanlon as an alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stemler, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan
Nay: 0
Out of the Room: 1 - Elenbaas

Developmental Disabilities Board

Buchanan withdrew himself from consideration.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Donovan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Galloway, Scanlon, Stemler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, and Elenbaas
Nay: 0

Drayton Harbor & Portage Bay Shellfish Protection Districts

Buchanan moved and Stemler seconded to nominate Donovan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Scanlon, Stemler, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Galloway
Nay: 0

EMS Oversight Board Representative

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Buchanan, Byrd, and Elenbaas.

Buchanan was appointed by the following vote:

Buchanan: 4 - Scanlon, Buchanan, Donovan, and Galloway
Elenbaas: 2 - Stemler and Elenbaas
Byrd: 1 - Byrd

EMS Oversight Board Alternate Representative

Buchanan moved to nominate Byrd, Elenbaas, and Galloway.

Byrd and Galloway withdrew their names from consideration.

The motion to appoint **Elenbaas** carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Flood Control Zone Committee (Ex Officio)

Stemler withdrew himself from consideration.

Buchanan moved and Stremler seconded to nominate Elenbaas.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force (And Appoint one alternate)

Scanlon withdrew himself from consideration.

Byrd moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Galloway moved to nominate Elenbaas as the alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Intergovernmental Tribal Relations Committee (Appt. TWO)

Galloway moved and Buchanan seconded to nominate all three interested Councilmembers (Buchanan, Elenbaas, and Scanlon) and vote for two.

Buchanan and Elenbaas were appointed by the following vote:

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

Elenbaas 5 - Elenbaas, Stremmer, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Scanlon 2 - Galloway and Scanlon

Justice Project Implementation Plan Finance Advisory Board **NEW**

Galloway moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

The following people answered whether this is a one-year appointment or goes until their term expires:

- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services

They stated the term was not specified in the establishing ordinance but they will consider adding language about terms to a related interlocal agreement which is currently in development. They answered whether this was in the Implementation Plan or in a separate ordinance and stated it was in the Implementation Plan and it was established in the ordinance which put the public safety tax on the ballot (AB2023-415).

LEOFF Board

Donovan moved and Scanlon seconded to nominate Buchanan and Byrd.

Byrd withdrew his name from consideration.

The motion to appoint Buchanan carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Elenbaas and Stremler and vote for one.

Elenbaas was appointed by the following vote:

Elenbaas: 5 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, and Scanlon

Stremler: 2 - Stremler and Galloway

Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee - Appoint ONE non-voting attendee

Other Committee Assignments (Continued)

Councilmembers discussed the nominations and alternates (next item).

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Scanlon for this position, then ***Scanlon withdrew*** his name from consideration.

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Elenbaas.

The motion to appoint Elenbaas carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

OPTIONAL: Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee Alt. - Appoint TWO alternates if Council wishes

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Donovan and Scanlon for the two alternates.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Marine Resources Committee

Buchanan moved and Scanlon seconded to nominate Galloway and

Stremler.

Galloway was appointed by the following vote:

Galloway: 5 - Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, Buchanan, and Byrd

Stremler: 2 - Elenbaas and Stremler

Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) (AB2023-194)

Donovan moved and Stremler seconded to nominate Buchanan.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

North Sound Behavioral Health Exec. Committee

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Buchanan.

Councilmembers discussed who all is on that committee.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Northwest Clean Air Agency

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Donovan and Stremler.

Donovan was appointed by the following vote:

Donovan: 4 - Scanlon, Buchanan, Donovan, and Galloway

Stremler: 3 - Stremler, Byrd, and Elenbaas

Northwest Regional Council (NWRC)

Scanlon withdrew his name from consideration and Councilmembers discussed meeting times.

Donovan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Opportunity Council

Buchanan stated that Galloway is in the middle of a three-year term so Councilmembers did not vote. **Galloway** will continue in her term.

Public Defense Advisory

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Elenbaas.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Public Health Advisory Board

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Racial Equity Commission Appoint ONE-Non-Voting (** 2-year term) AB2022-590

Buchanan stated that Galloway is in the middle of a two-year term so Councilmembers did not vote. **Galloway** will continue in her term.

Solid Waste Advisory

Donovan withdrew his name from consideration.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Stremler.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

SWISS Alternate Committee Member. Council Chair serves on Exec. Committee

Buchanan moved and Stremler seconded to nominate Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

WSAC Alternate Board Member (The Executive is the active representative, Councilmember is alternate)

Galloway briefed the Councilmembers on the WSAC-related positions.

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

WSAC Optional Alternate Board Member (Res2019-008)

Buchanan moved and Donovan seconded to nominate Scanlon.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee

Galloway is in the middle of a term for this committee and will continue serving but asked if they could also appoint an alternate.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded that they create a Legislative Steering Committee alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Scanlon as the alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

WSAC Timber Counties Caucus - Optional

Buchanan moved and Stremler seconded to nominate Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

WSAC Coastal Counties Caucus - Optional

Buchanan moved and Stremler seconded to nominate Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Whatcom Transportation Authority

Buchanan moved to nominate all (Byrd, Donovan, and Stremler).

Byrd withdrew his name from consideration.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded to nominate Donovan and Stremler.

Donovan was appointed by the following vote:

Donovan: 5 - Galloway, Scanlon, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Stremler: 2 - Elenbaas and Stremler

Whatcom County Tourism Board (AB2023-194)

Buchanan moved and Scanlon seconded to nominate Galloway and Stremler.

Councilmembers discussed whether the board decides how they are going to divvy up the tourism funds.

Galloway was appointed by the following vote:

Galloway: 5 - Galloway, Scanlon, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Stremler: 2 - Stremler and Elenbaas

This agenda item was NOMINATED AND APPOINTED.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription