

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE TO RESTRUCTURE THE PUBLIC HEALTH
ADVISORY BOARD**

WHEREAS, in 2021, the Washington State Legislature passed House Bill 1152 establishing new requirements for community health advisory boards (in Whatcom County referred to as the Public Health Advisory Board or PHAB); and

WHEREAS, PHAB met on July 7, 2022 and approved new bylaws that meet the requirements of House Bill 1152; and

WHEREAS, draft revisions to WCC 24.01.051 were written that both reflect the new PHAB bylaws and meet the requirements of House Bill 1152.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that WCC 24.01.051 is hereby amended as outlined in Exhibit A to this ordinance per RCW 70.46.140.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2022.

ATTEST:

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Todd Donovan, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Royce Buckingham via e-mail 9/21/22 / JL

Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

() Approved () Denied

Date Signed: _____

1 **EXHIBIT A**

2 **24.01.051 Health department advisory board created.**

3 A. The county health department advisory board, referred to in this chapter as the “public
4 health advisory board,” is created and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the health
5 board and the health department director in the following areas:

- 6 1. Provide input to the local board of health in the recruitment and selection of an
7 administrative officer, pursuant to RCW 70.05.045, and local health officer, pursuant
8 to RCW 70.05.050;
- 9 2. Use a health equity framework to conduct, assess, and identify the community
10 health needs of the jurisdiction, and review and recommend public health policies and
11 priorities for the local health jurisdiction and advisory board to address community
12 health needs;
- 13 3. Evaluate the impact of proposed public health policies and programs, and assure
14 identified health needs and concerns are being met;
- 15 4. Promote public participation in and identification of local public health needs;
- 16 5. Provide community forums and hearings as assigned by the local board of health;
- 17 6. Establish community task forces as assigned by the local board of health;
- 18 7. Review and make recommendations to the local health jurisdiction and local board
19 of health for an annual budget and fees; and
- 20 8. Review and advise on local health jurisdiction progress in achieving performance
21 measures and outcomes to ensure continuous quality improvement and accountability.

22 B. The public health advisory board shall consist of 21 members who are residents of the
23 county.

- 24 1. Members shall be appointed by the local board of health. A local health officer and a
25 member of the local board of health shall serve as ex officio members of the board.
26 The County Council will appoint the ex officio member of the Health Board that will
27 serve on PHAB.

1 2. Advisory board members shall serve for staggered three-year terms. This does not
2 preclude any member from being reappointed. Terms will be in accordance with
3 WCC [2.03.030](#) unless no one else applies.

4 3. The term of office for the member appointed by the county council shall be for one
5 year, from the time of the council's reorganization meeting in January to the next such
6 meeting the following year.

7 4. The public health advisory board shall be broadly representative of the character of
8 the county. Board diversity is valued. Membership preference shall be given to tribal,
9 racial, ethnic, and other minorities. The advisory board shall consist of a balance of
10 persons with expertise, career experience, and consumer experience in areas
11 impacting public health and with populations served by the health department. The
12 board's composition shall include:

13 a. Members with expertise in and experience with:

- 14 • Health care access and quality;
- 15 • Physical environment, including built and natural environments;
- 16 • Social and economic sectors, including housing, basic needs, education,
17 and employment;
- 18 • Business and philanthropy;
- 19 • Communities that experience health inequities;
- 20 • Government;
- 21 • Tribal communities and tribal government;
- 22 •

23 b. Consumers of public health services;

24 c. Community members with lived experience in any of the areas listed in (a) of this
25 subsection; and

26 d. Community stakeholders, including nonprofit organizations, the business
27 community, and those regulated by public health.

1 5. The local health jurisdiction and local board of health must actively recruit advisory
2 board members in a manner that solicits broad diversity to assure representation from
3 marginalized communities including tribal, racial, ethnic, and other minorities.

4 C. At its initial meeting, or as soon thereafter as practical, the public health advisory board
5 may elect officers, adopt bylaws and such rules and regulations of procedure as are
6 necessary for the conduct of its business. Meetings of the public health advisory board shall
7 be subject to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter [42.30](#) RCW et seq. (Ord. 2019-040
8 Exh. A; Ord. 2004-004; Ord. 99-025; Ord. 93-024; Ord. 91-040 (part)).