

Whatcom County Council

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



Action Summary

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

6 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

SECOND AGENDA REVISION 2.10.2025 - AGENDA REVISED 2.7.2025 - HYBRID MEETING (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

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

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

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2025-005](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for January 28, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

2. [MIN2025-006](#) Committee of the Whole for January 28, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

3. [MIN2025-007](#) Regular County Council for January 28, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

OPEN SESSION

CONSENT AGENDA

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-117](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Lake Whatcom Residential & Treatment Center to provide funding for HVAC system and window replacement at the Birchwood assisted living and treatment facility, in the amount of \$1,000,000

This item was considered separately below.

2. [AB2025-133](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Rick Ackerman for the provision of evaluations and treatment services to youth referred or sentenced under the Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative (SSODA) in Whatcom County Juvenile Court, in the amount of \$22,000
AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT
Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
Nay: 0
3. [AB2025-134](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and L&L Counseling and Consultation for the provision of evaluations and treatment services to youth referred or sentenced under the Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative (SSODA) in Whatcom County Juvenile Court, in the amount of \$30,000
AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT
Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
Nay: 0
4. [AB2025-136](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization to provide behavioral health services within the North Sound Integrated Care Network in the amount of \$104,295, for a total amended contract amount of \$3,025,135
AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT
Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
Nay: 0
5. [AB2025-150](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center (WDRC) to provide for the administration of the family law mediation program, fee subsidy for low income participants of mediation sessions and parenting seminars, and language interpretation for participants, in the amount of \$65,000
AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT
Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler
Nay: 0
6. [AB2025-151](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement with Diking District No. 3 and landowners John and Rich Appel to provide flood control/river improvement work on Cougar Creek for the Neveel Levee Cougar

Creek Fish Passage Project, which includes a cost-share contribution from the landowners and an in-kind contribution from the Diking District, in the amount of \$350,927 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

- 7. [AB2025-153](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Ferndale for Correctional Services

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

- 8. [AB2025-158](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Everson for Correctional Services

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

- 9. [AB2025-161](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the Washington State Military Department to utilize Emergency Rapid Response Funds to aid in the recovery of qualified low-income individuals/households affected by the November 2024 Bomb Cylone, in the amount of \$135,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEM CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

- 1. [AB2025-117](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Lake Whatcom Residential & Treatment Center to provide funding for HVAC system and window replacement at the Birchwood assisted living and treatment facility, in the amount of \$1,000,000

AUTHORIZED

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

Nay: 0

OTHER ITEMS**COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

1. [AB2025-138](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Portage Bay Shellfish Protection District Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Fred Likkel, Albert deBoer (Council acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

APPOINTED

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

Nay: 0

**CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS,
COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

1. [AB2025-116](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointments of Paul Pelot and Robert Wilson to the Whatcom County Veterans Advisory Board

CONFIRMED

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-155](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Colin Wahl and Paul Meyer to the Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee

CONFIRMED

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-156](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Henry Bierlink, Paul D'Agnolo, and Mike Finger to the Whatcom County Conservation Easement Program Oversight Committee

CONFIRMED

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

Nay: 0

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

1. [AB2025-163](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and Sustainable Connections for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study for the development of an Office of Healthy Housing in the amount of \$190,000

AUTHORIZED

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

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Stremler

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

1. [AB2025-030](#) Receipt of applications to a vacancy on the Incarceration Prevention & Reduction Task Force, health and social services provider, Applicant(s): Eve Smason-Marcus, Kristy Backer, Rob Sullivan, Alexis Hahs (Deadline for additional applications is 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2025)

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-059](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Titles 20 & 22 to enact SSB 5290 regarding local project review

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

Introduced the “Revised Ordinance and Ex A for 2.11.2025”

3. [AB2025-120](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.123, Forestry Advisory Committee, to expand the committee’s purpose and adjust member terms

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-140](#) Resolution vacating a portion of Camp 2 Road

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

5. [AB2025-145](#) Ordinance authorizing a revision to the Unified Fee Schedule

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

6. [AB2025-147](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.27A, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

7. [AB2025-149](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code 24.05, Onsite Sewage System Regulations

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-160](#) Ordinance closing the Shallow Shore Culvert Relocation Fund 3917

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

9. [AB2025-162](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the new Public Health, Safety and Justice Facility, request no. 7

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

10. [AB2025-164](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 2, in the amount of \$4,751,265

SUBSTITUTE INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN