

**Whatcom County
Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee**

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



Committee Minutes - Final

VIRTUAL MEETING - ENDS NO LATER THAN 12:45 P.M.

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

10:20 AM

Virtual Meeting

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Tyler Byrd
Carol Frazey

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Tyler Byrd called the meeting to order at 10:24 a.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 2 - Rud Browne and Tyler Byrd

Absent: None

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Carol Frazey, Ben Elenbaas, and Todd Donovan

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2020-598](#) Resolution reflecting the diversity of the County's population by improving written accessibility

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, briefed the Councilmembers.

Browne moved that the Resolution be recommended for approval.

Councilmembers discussed the item and the following staff answered questions:

- Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office
- Rob Ney, Administrative Services Department
- Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

They discussed languages that might be missing, the budget for the Resolution, and whether additional work needs to be done on the County website or Code regarding accessibility and signage.

Browne's motion that the Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2020-599](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism for tourism marketing and operations in the amount of \$290,000

Kershner moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization.

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, answered questions about tourism dollars, lodging tax, how the Chambers of Commerce receive benefits, and whether all the related contracts should come to the Council.

Councilmembers discussed getting legal advice about whether the other related contracts under \$40,000 should still come to the Council since they are modifications of previous, larger contracts.

Kershner's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

3. [AB2021-008](#) Resolution requesting authorization to make an application and enter into a grant agreement with the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for development of Lake Whatcom Park trails

Browne moved that the Resolution be recommended for approval.

Christ Thomsen, Parks and Recreation Department, answered questions.

Browne's motion that the Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2020-591](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Chuckanut Health Foundation to provide funding for the Health Department's mobile syringe services program, in the amount of \$20,000

Kathleen Roy, Health Department, briefed the Councilmembers.

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Councilmembers discussed the program and whether it is promoting treatment as opposed to Band-Aids.

Erika Lautenbach, Health Department Director, asked if there was anything

the Council would need from her for this item before the Council meeting tonight.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Byrd

Nay: 1 - Kershner

Absent: 0

2. [AB2020-592](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Compass Health to provide behavioral health services for adult inmates and juveniles involved in the court system in the amount of \$572,717 for a total amended contract amount of \$2,439,780

Anne Deacon, Health Department, briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions.

Kershner moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

3. [AB2020-593](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide housing case management services in the amount of \$271,615 for a total amended contract amount of \$1,865,647

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

The following staff briefed the Councilmembers and discussed the item with Councilmembers:

- Anne Deacon, Health Department
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Councilmembers and staff discussed scheduling time in a future meeting to discuss information on the needs of the residents of Camp 210, programs already in place, desired outcomes and what the Councilmembers would like to see in housing contracts.

**Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR
AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:**

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

4. [AB2020-595](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to provide housing case management services in the amount of \$159,267 for a total amended contract amount of \$897,067

**Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR
AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following
vote:**

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

5. [AB2020-596](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Catholic Community Services to provide housing case management services in the amount of \$157,567 for a total amended contract amount of \$1,207,157

**Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR
AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following
vote:**

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

6. [AB2020-597](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Youth Services to provide housing case management services in the amount of \$134,371 for a total amended contract amount of \$958,340

**Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR
AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following
vote:**

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

7. [AB2020-600](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce for the purposes of tourism marketing and operations, in the amount of \$100,000

Kershner moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

8. [AB2020-601](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Mount Baker Foothills Chamber of Commerce for tourism marketing and operations, in the amount of \$100,000

Kershner moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

9. [AB2021-001](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Youth Services to provide reimbursement for COVID-19 related operations and prevention expenditures in the amount of \$58,025 for a total amended contract amount of \$111,816

Kershner moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Anne Deacon, Health Department briefed the Councilmembers.

Kershner's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

10. [AB2021-002](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lara Welker Consulting to provide coordination and

facilitation to the COVID-19 Community Healthcare Coalition in the amount of \$25,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$50,000

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

The following staff briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions:

- Kathleen Roy, Health Department
- Erika Lautenbach, Health Department Director

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 1 - Byrd

11. [AB2021-003](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Washington State Military Department to sustain and enhance Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management programs, in the amount of \$74,150

Kershner moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Doug Chadwick, Undersheriff, answered questions.

Kershner's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

12. [AB2021-004](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Sun Community Services for operation and maintenance of Sun House, in the amount of \$340,395 for a total amended contract amount of \$911,665

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Anne Deacon, Health Department, briefed the Councilmembers and

answered questions.

**Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR
AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:**

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

13. [AB2021-006](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a building lease agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR will pay \$991.50 in rent and an additional \$240 for janitorial services provided by the county), for a total amount of \$1,231.50 paid by DNR per month

Kershner moved that the Interlocal be recommended for authorization by consent.

Mike McFarlane, Parks and Recreation Department Director, briefed the Councilmembers.

**Kershner's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR
AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:**

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

14. [AB2021-009](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement with the University of Washington for access and installation of seismic monitoring equipment at South Fork Park

Kershner moved that the Interlocal be recommended for authorization by consent.

The following staff briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions.

- Mike McFarlane, Parks and Recreation Department Director
- John Gargett, Division of Emergency Management

**Kershner's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR
AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:**

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

15. [AB2021-010](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom County Fire District 7 to provide COVID-19 testing in an estimated amount of \$188,858 for a total estimated amended contract amount of \$314,763

Browne moved that the Interlocal be recommended for authorization by consent.

The following people briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions:

- Kathleen Roy, Health Department
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
- Erika Lautenbach, Health Department Director

Councilmembers and staff discussed what money will be used to fund this and who should fill the positions.

Browne's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

16. [AB2021-011](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Washington State Military Department to obtain two All Hazard Alert Broadcast (AHAB) sirens, in the amount of \$0

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

John Gargett, Division of Emergency Management, briefed the Councilmembers.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

17. [AB2021-014](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Pacific Security to provide security services at the

COVID-19 Temporary Housing Facility in the amount of \$43,547 for a total amended contract amount of \$199,547

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Anne Deacon, Health Department, answered questions about funding and the use of the facility.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Kershner

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

18. [AB2021-015](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Service Master Cleaning to provide cleaning services at the COVID-19 Temporary Housing Facility in the amount of \$16,667 for a total amended contract amount of \$166,667

Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

19. [AB2021-016](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lighthouse Mission Ministries to provide oversight and assistance at the COVID-19 Temporary Housing Facility in the amount of \$25,771 for a total amended contract amount of \$373,214

Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Kershner

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

20. [AB2021-017](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and SeaMar Community Health Centers to provide oversight and assistance at the COVID-19 Temporary Housing Facility in the amount

of \$23,865 for a total amended contract amount of \$262,516

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Anne Deacon, Health Department, answered questions.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

21. [AB2021-020](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Workforce Council to provide reimbursement of wages and benefits for eligible temporary employees working in various COVID-related positions, in the estimated amount of \$14,000 for a total estimated contract amount of \$126,000

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Kathleen Roy, Health Department, answered questions.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

22. [AB2021-021](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services to support the Bellingham Whatcom County Commission Against Domestic Violence, in the amount of \$120,000

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, answered questions and Councilmembers discussed how the funds will be used, a potential increase in the need for domestic violence services, and a request for a report in a future Public Works Committee.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR

AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

23. [AB2021-022](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Bellingham Food Bank for the procurement, warehousing and distribution of food and other essentials to low and very low income families in the amount of \$276,000

Kershner moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

Councilmembers discussed whether there has been an increase in the need for these services.

Kershner's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

24. [AB2021-023](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and the Northwest Regional Council in support of the Meals on Wheels program for two years in the amount of \$120,000

Kershner moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

25. [AB2021-024](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Brent Eyre, ASA for the purposes of legal counsel and consultation for property assessment appeals in the amount of \$20,000 not to exceed a total of \$55,000

Browne moved that the Contract be recommended for authorization by consent.

The following staff briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions:

- George Roche, Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Rebecca Xczar, County Assessor

They discussed the item and bringing more detailed information to a future Executive Session.

Browne's motion that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

26. [AB2021-025](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Mark J. Maxwell to continue with the provision of legal representation for an additional amount of \$20,000 in a total amount not to exceed \$45,000

Browne moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

Councilmembers discussed the efficiency of the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Tyler Byrd-via email 2/2/2021

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Tyler Byrd, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

SIGNED COPY ON FILE