

# **Whatcom County Council Water Work Session**

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



## **Minutes - Draft Minutes**

**VIRTUAL MEETING - VIEW ONLINE**

**Tuesday, January 19, 2021**

**10:30 AM**

**Virtual Meeting**

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

Rud Browne  
Barry Buchanan  
Tyler Byrd  
Todd Donovan  
Ben Elenbaas  
Carol Frazey  
Kathy Kershner

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

**Call To Order**

Council Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. in a virtual meeting.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** 7 - Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Carol Frazey and Kathy Kershner

**Absent:** None

**Water Resources Update**

Gary Stoyka, Public Works Department, updated the Councilmembers on the following and answered questions:

- The adjudication and water settlement process: It was discussed at the December 17, 2020 Watershed Management Board meeting but a decision was not made to proceed with developing a framework for settlement. It will be discussed again at the February 18, 2021 meeting. The County Executive made a request to the Governor for \$400,000 to help with settlement-related talks and the Governor put \$250,000 in his budget to go along with \$1 million requested by the Department of Ecology. The Executive has been talking to water attorneys to possibly help with water settlement discussions and pre-settlement-discussion work.
- Projects currently underway, including the work on the regional water supply planning process, the Drainage Base Management project, the peer review of the groundwater model, and the Whatcom Conservation District's domestic water use efficiency program for which a contract will be coming to the Council.
- Upcoming meetings of the Watershed Management Board, Planning Unit, and Lake Whatcom Policy Group

**Lake Whatcom Monitoring and Modeling Update**

Cathy Craver, Public Works Department, gave a presentation and answered questions.

**Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Farm Incentives and Cost Share Program**

The following people briefed the Councilmembers, presented on the Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) Program, and answered questions:

- Erika Douglas, Public Works Department

- Corina Cheever, Whatcom Conservation District
- Aneka Sweeney, Whatcom Conservation District

**Items Added by Revision**

There were no agenda items added by revision.

**Other Business**

There was no other business.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

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Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

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Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

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Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription