

# **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**

**Tuesday, January 9, 2024**

**1 PM**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 2:25 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil), OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

Tyler Byrd  
Todd Donovan  
Kaylee Galloway

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

## **Call To Order**

Committee member Todd Donovan called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** 3 - Todd Donovan, Tyler Byrd, and Kaylee Galloway

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremmer

## **Announcements**

### **Special Order of Business**

1. [AB2024-059](#) Nomination and appointment of Committee Chair

*Galloway moved* to nominate Donovan.

*Byrd moved* to nominate himself.

Donovan was appointed by the following vote:

**Donovan:** 2 - Galloway and Donovan

**Byrd:** 1 - Byrd

**This agenda item was NOMINATED AND APPOINTED.**

Todd Donovan was appointed as Chair.

## **Council "Consent Agenda" Items**

*Galloway moved* to recommend the Consent Agenda.

Councilmembers discussed the following Consent Agenda items:

### **Item number 1 - AB2024-003**

Chris D'Onofrio, Health and Community Services, answered questions about the requested amendment amount and stated there were two different contracts (one for services and one for the facility) and those are being merged.

### **Item number 2 - AB2024-004**

Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services, answered whether we get all the Jail Use Agreements at one time or whether they trickle in city by city, and stated lately they have been trickling in.

Item number 22 - **AB2023-836**

Stremler stated he has concerns about the large age range of the people being served at Northwest Youth Services.

Item numbers 16-20 regarding **Operation Stonegarden**

Scanlon stated he would be interested in knowing more about Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) and requested they have a presentation on that in the future.

Councilmembers voted on the Consent items (see votes on individual items below).

1. [AB2024-003](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Catholic Community Services to support case management and operations and maintenance at the Francis Place permanent supportive housing facility in the amount of \$314,529 for a total amended contract amount of \$484,570

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

2. [AB2024-004](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal amendment between Whatcom County and the City of Blaine to extend the term of the Jail Use Agreement until December 31, 2024

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

3. [AB2024-005](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Jessica Dubek, DDS of DentAll, PLLC for Inmate Dental Services in the amount of \$80,000 for a total amended amount of \$116,000.00

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

Nay: 0

4. [AB2024-007](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Cordant Health Solutions for Jail Alternatives Drug Testing in the amount of \$11,035.00 for a total amended amount of \$68,140.00

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

5. [AB2024-024](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Social & Health Services Developmental Disabilities Administration to provide services for people with developmental disabilities in the amount of \$609,873 for a total amended agreement amount of \$6,069,370

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

6. [AB2024-025](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for the Sheriff's Office boating safety program to continue to receive Vessel Registration Fees (VRF) and Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) grant funds

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

7. [AB2024-026](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Regional Council for Nursing Services in the Jail and Juvenile Detention in the amount of \$1,924,551.06 for a total amended amount of \$8,357,536.17

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

8. [AB2024-029](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interagency agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Commerce to receive state funds to conduct climate planning activities in association with the 2025 Comprehensive Plan and development regulations update, in the amount of \$475,000

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

9. [AB2024-033](#) 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 \$500,112 for a total amended contract amount of \$1,566,919

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

10. [AB2024-035](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Natural Resources for the collection, processing, and delivery of lidar topographic and bathymetric mapping of the Nooksack and Sumas rivers, in the amount of \$349,600 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**Galloway moved that the Contract (FCZDBS) be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

11. [AB2024-036](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Marvin Wayne M.D., P.S. for the provision of Medical Program Director services in the amount of \$255,000.00

**Galloway moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR**

**AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

This item was discussed further during "Other Business."

12. [AB2024-037](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Master's Touch LLC to provide printing and mailing of tax statements

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

13. [AB2024-038](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and AXIOM Armored Transport to provide armored car services in the amended amount of \$21,600 plus fuel surcharge for a total amended amount of \$58,000 plus fuel surcharge

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

14. [AB2024-051](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a three year contract between Whatcom County and PeaceHealth St. Joseph's Medical Center to provide emergency medical services for jail inmates in the amount of \$230,000 per year

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

15. [AB2023-811](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Everson for Department of Homeland Security FY2022 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG), in the amount of \$12,000.00

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

16. [AB2023-813](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Ferndale for Department of Homeland Security FY2022 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG), in the amount of \$12,000.00

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

17. [AB2023-814](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Lynden for Department of Homeland Security FY2022 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG), in the amount of \$12,000.00

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

18. [AB2023-815](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Sumas for Department of Homeland Security FY2022 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG), in the amount of \$12,000.00

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

19. [AB2023-816](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Blaine for Department of Homeland Security FY2022 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG), in the amount of \$12,000.00

**Galloway moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following**

vote:

Aye: 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

Nay: 0

20. [AB2023-817](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife for Department of Homeland Security FY2022 Operation Stonegarden (OPSG), in the amount of \$8,000.00

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

Aye: 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

Nay: 0

21. [AB2023-827](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into contract amendments between Whatcom County and Washington State Military Department for Operation Stonegarden FY21 to extend the end date of the grant agreement, update the grant's personnel contact information and add \$73,125.00 for a total amended contract amount of \$229,417.50

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

Aye: 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

Nay: 0

22. [AB2023-836](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Youth Services to provide prevention services that reduce risk to LGBTQ+ youth in the amount of \$25,000 for a total amended contract amount of \$100,000

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

Aye: 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

Nay: 0

### **Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council**

1. [AB2024-001](#) Resolution updating the appendix of the 2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

***Galloway moved*** that the Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL.

The following people briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions:

- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
- Kayla Schott-Bresler, Strategic Initiatives Special Programs Manager

They answered questions about whether the Economic Development Investment (EDI) designation on the attachment list has been approved by the EDI Board or just shows that the project could potentially be tapping into that fund, a concern that the Council does not have a voice in what the priorities for the EDI money might be or a voice in who is on the EDI Board, having a future conversation about the composition of the board, whether it is the jurisdictions' Executive or Mayors that are putting the priorities forward, the role of this Council in the EDI Board and initiating projects for EDI funding compared to other counties and how that can be changed (including bringing funding request applications to the Council), the ability to use EDI funds for affordable housing, whether non-profits can access money for housing, what the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) allows for funding workforce housing and whether demands could be put on developers to have higher percentages of affordable workforce housing, and why public funds can be used for a project like the Old Town development.

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

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

2. [AB2024-002](#) Request for motion to approve the updated Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA) plan

***Galloway moved*** to recommend approving the updated Criminal Justice Treatment Account (CJTA) plan.

The following people answered questions:

- Perry Mowery, Health and Community Services
- Hannah Fisk, Health and Community Services

They answered whether this is implementing what the voters approved or

whether it is something different, what the CJTA is, what other sources of funds they are using for the recovery court program and for more sober recovery housing, and how they can continue to grow these efforts in conjunction with our Justice Project Implementation Plan.

**Galloway's motion that the Request for Motion be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

3. [AB2023-822](#) Ordinance adopting two-tenths of one-percent sales and use tax for the purpose of funding public health, safety, and justice facilities and services, including a new county jail, behavioral health, supportive housing, public safety, and criminal justice facilities and programs

**Galloway moved** that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services, briefed the Councilmembers and stated this is the ordinance that recognizes the passage of the public safety tax measure and requests the Department of Revenue (DOR) to start collecting the sales tax by April 1, 2024. He answered whether there is anything here that is different than what the voters passed, and whether there is a chance collection of the tax could happen before the April first date. He stated the DOR just collects tax quarterly.

**Galloway's motion that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

4. [AB2023-840](#) Ordinance amending the 2023 Whatcom County Budget, request no 17, in the amount of \$1,400,000

Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services, answered whether Council already approved this or whether it is a separate vote to take it out of the Conservation Futures Fund, and whether this is the adjacent property purchased to provide public access to Nessel Farm.

**Galloway moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 3 - Donovan, Byrd, and Galloway

**Nay:** 0

**Items Added by Revision**

There were no agenda items added by revision.

**Other Business**

Elenbaas asked about Consent Agenda item number 11 (**AB2024-036**).

Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services, answered how often this contract comes up, and what the plan is for when Dr. Wayne is no longer available. He stated he would like to talk with Mike Hilley, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Manager, and then come back to Council. There may be some discussions happening about succession planning.

Scanlon stated he appreciates the note in the memo for this item which talks about the difference between this and the previous contract.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

**Todd Donovan-via email 1/16/2024**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

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Todd Donovan, Committee Chair

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Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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