

Whatcom County Council

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



Action Summary

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

6 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**AGENDA REVISED 2.21.2025 - 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. [MIN2025-008](#) Special Committee of the Whole for February 4, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Temp Absent: 1 - Elenbaas

2. [MIN2025-009](#) Health Board and Public Health Advisory Board for February 4, 2025

APPROVED BY CONSENT

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Temp Absent: 1 - Elenbaas

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

ADOPTED

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Abstain: 1 - Donovan

Enactment No: ORD 2025-005

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

ADOPTED

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 1 - Elenbaas

Enactment No: ORD 2025-006

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

ADOPTED

Aye: 5 - Buchanan, Donovan, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 2 - Byrd, and Elenbaas

Enactment No: ORD 2025-007

OPEN SESSION

CONSENT AGENDA

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

MOTION:

Motion approved 6-0-1, with Elenbaas abstaining, to amend the motion to pull item number 4 from the consent agenda to vote on separately.

1. [AB2025-141](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Matrix Consulting Group, Ltd. to evaluate human resources policies and procedures

SUBSTITUTE AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-169](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Nooksack Indian Tribe to establish responsibilities of each party in regards to the Acme Woody Revetment Repair project, in the amount of \$0 (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

3. [AB2025-173](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Pacific Security to provide security services at the Whatcom County Courthouse for \$222,416.14

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW.

4. [AB2025-175](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health programs in the amount of \$5,265,283

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW.

5. [AB2025-177](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to operate the Whatcom Homeless Service Center in the amount of \$342,051, for a total amended contract amount of \$2,697,403

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW.

6. [AB2025-178](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for Recreational Boating Safety Federal Financial Assistance Grant MLE 325-530, in the amount of \$27,028.24

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

7. [AB2025-179](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Blaine for Correctional Services

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-182](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Cascadia Youth Mental Health to support school substance use policies and practices that align with effective prevention strategies in the amount of \$21,640, for a total amended contract amount of \$179,910

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

3. [AB2025-173](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Pacific Security to provide security services at the Whatcom County Courthouse for \$222,416.14

AUTHORIZED

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 1 - Byrd

4. [AB2025-175](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health programs in the amount of \$5,265,283

AUTHORIZED

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

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Stremler

5. [AB2025-177](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to operate the Whatcom Homeless Service Center in the amount of \$342,051, for a total amended contract amount of \$2,697,403

AUTHORIZED

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Donovan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 1 - Byrd

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

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

ADOPTED

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2025-008

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

ADOPTED

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2025-009

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

SUBSTITUTE ADOPTED

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

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Stremler

Enactment No: ORD 2025-010

(From Council Public Works and Health Committee)

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

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved 7-0 to hold a public hearing on this item at their next meeting on March 11.

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

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

ADOPTED

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

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Stremler

Enactment No: ORD 2025-011

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-030](#) Appointment 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, Shannon Prescott

APPOINTED

Appointed Alexis Hahs with 6 votes

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2025-167](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Clinton Wertz to the Whatcom County Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee

CONFIRMED

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-174](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Erich Kleinknecht to the Whatcom County Development Standards Technical Advisory Committee

CONFIRMED

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-176](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive’s appointment of Rich Appel to the Whatcom County Agricultural Advisory Committee

CONFIRMED

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

Nay: 0

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

1. [AB2025-157](#) Review final project performances on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Home Repair Program and the CDBG Microenterprise Assistance Program

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-171](#) Resolution amending the 2006 Birch Bay Comprehensive Stormwater Plan to include four Subwatershed Master Plans (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-180](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Daniel DeMay, Marcus Dee Stidham, Kristen Fox

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-183](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 1.28 Standards for Correctional Facilities

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

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

Nay: 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

MOTIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

[AB2025-170](#) Discussion with Public Works staff regarding a potential property acquisition
[Discussion of this item may take place in executive session (closed to the public)
pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b)]

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved 7-0 to authorize the County Executive, acting on behalf of the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District, to move forward with and complete the acquisition of the covenant and the easement as long as the purchase price of the covenant and the easement does not exceed the amount discussed in Executive Session.

Motion approved 7-0 to authorize the County Executive, acting on behalf of the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District, to move forward with and complete the acquisition of the property as long as the purchase price of the property does not exceed the amount discussed in Executive Session.

ADJOURN