

Whatcom County Council Committee of the Whole

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



Action Summary

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

2:30 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLY/LATE - ADJOURNS BY 4:30 P.M.
(PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT
www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Elizabeth Boyle
Barry Buchanan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jessica Rienstra
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

Call To Order**Roll Call**

Present: 7 - Elizabeth Boyle, Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jessica Rienstra, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

Announcements**Committee Discussion**

4. [AB2026-625](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of James Marks as Director of Whatcom County Planning & Development Services, effective September 14, 2026

DISCUSSED

1. [AB2026-589](#) Discussion of Council priorities from Council's 2026 strategic planning exercise

DISCUSSED

2. [AB2026-604](#) Discussion of a proposal for hearing examiner services for 2027-2028

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved to appoint councilmembers Boyle, Elenbaas, and Scanlon to work with Kirsten on the negotiations pertaining to the proposal for hearing examiner services for 2027-2028.

3. [AB2026-587](#) Discussion of Council Office procedures, meeting logistics, and efficiency measures

NOT ACTED UPON

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2026-623](#) Resolution temporarily changing the format of Council committee meetings for Council meeting days

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 1 - Stremler

Abstain: 1 - Elenbaas

Items Added by Revision**Other Business****Adjournment**