

Whatcom County Council

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



Minutes - Final

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

6 PM

Virtual Meeting

**VIRTUAL MEETING (TO PARTICIPATE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS AT
www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil OR CALL 360.778.5010); AGENDA
REVISED 2.7.2022 AND 2.8.2022**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Carol Frazey
Kaylee Galloway
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Todd Donovan called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in a virtual meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Carol Frazey, Kaylee Galloway, and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donovan read the following announcement:

The Council is accepting applications to fill vacancies on the Board of Equalization. Applicants must be registered voters and live in Council District 3 or 5. The Board of Equalization hears property tax appeals and complaints regarding the Assessor's property value determination. Hearings are on Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you are interested and meet these qualifications, please let us know at 360-778-5010 or email the council at Council@co.whatcom.wa.us.

Donovan then reported for the Committee of the Whole Executive Session.

Buchanan moved the following:

I hereby move to approve defense and indemnification of George Roche, named as defendants in Geneva Langworthy, Plaintiff v. Washington Courts and George Roche, Defendants, United States District Court Western District of Washington 2:21-cv-01615-RAJ. Based on the following findings:

- A. George Roche was acting in a matter in which the county had an interest;
- B. George Roche was acting in the discharge of a duty imposed or authorized by law;
- C. George Roche acted in good faith

The motion was seconded by Byrd.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Frazey, Galloway, Kershner, Buchanan, Byrd, and Donovan

Nay: 0

Out of the Meeting: 1 - Elenbaas

A motion was made and approved.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, stated he did not have a report.

MINUTES CONSENT

Byrd moved to accept the minutes consent items. The motion was seconded by Frazey (see votes on individual items below).

1. [MIN2022-008](#) REVISED MINUTES for Regular County Council on December 7, 2021

Byrd moved and Frazey seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Temp Absent: 1 - Elenbaas

2. [MIN2022-009](#) Committee of the Whole for January 25, 2022

Byrd moved and Frazey seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Temp Absent: 1 - Elenbaas

3. [MIN2022-010](#) Regular County Council for January 25, 2022

Byrd moved and Frazey seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Temp Absent: 1 - Elenbaas

4. [MIN2022-011](#) Health Board for February 1, 2022

Byrd moved and Frazey seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED

BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:**Aye:** 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner**Nay:** 0**Absent:** 0**Temp Absent:** 1 - Elenbaas**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Council staff played a short instructional video about how to speak at the meeting.

1. [AB2022-036](#) Ordinance repealing the Cherry Point Ferndale Subarea Plan and deleting a reference to the Subarea Plan in the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan

Donovan opened the Public Hearing and, hearing no one, closed the Public Hearing.

Buchanan moved that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. There was not a second.

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, stated the recommended motion for this is to forward for concurrent review which will happen at a later date.

Buchanan moved and Frazey seconded (after a Public Hearing was held) that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be FORWARDED FOR CONCURRENT REVIEW. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner**Nay:** 0**Absent:** 0**Temp Absent:** 1 - Elenbaas

Enactment No: ORD 2022-015

2. [AB2022-039](#) Ordinance to temporarily close Gulf Road to Motorized Vehicular Traffic

Jim Karcher, Public Works Department, stated he was available for questions.

Donovan opened the Public Hearing and the following person spoke:

- Ken Domorod

Hearing no one else, Donovan closed the Public Hearing.

Karcher addressed a question from the public hearing about the impact for law enforcement to conduct patrols up there or to respond to emergencies.

Clerk's note: Elenbaas joined the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Buchanan moved and Frazey seconded that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-005

3. [AB2022-040](#) Ordinance for the legal establishment of a speed limit for a portion of Nulle Road

Donovan opened the Public Hearing and, hearing no one, closed the Public Hearing.

Frazey moved and Kershner seconded that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-006

4. [AB2022-041](#) Ordinance to install a stop sign on Northwest Drive

Donovan opened the Public Hearing and, hearing no one, closed the Public Hearing.

Kershner moved and Buchanan seconded that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED.

Kershner stated she uses that intersection all the time and is happy to see they are looking at putting a stop sign there.

Kershner's motion that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-007

5. [AB2022-042](#) Ordinance regarding the legal establishment of existing yield signs on county roads
Donovan opened the Public Hearing and, hearing no one, closed the Public Hearing.

Frazey moved and Kershner seconded that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED.

Jim Karcher, Public Works Department, answered how many yield signs are going to fall under this Ordinance.

Frazey's motion that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-008

OPEN SESSION (20 MINUTES)

Donovan gave instructions for how to speak at the meeting and the following people spoke:

- Mary (last name not given)
- Shari Lapof
- Melissa Wisener
- Misty Flowers
- Rebecca Wilson
- Robert Bystrom
- David Spring
- Zack Giffin
- Tammy Lagerwey
- Richard Tran
- Dam Pham
- Sara Rose
- Samantha Birch
- Ken Domorod
- Jennifer Durant
- Fran Isbell
- Kelley Bouma
- Cynthia Thompson

- Lindy (last name not given)
- Joann Pattern
- Wendy Harris
- Hannah Ordos
- Nancy Bergman
- Shean Halley
- Natalie Chavez
- Jean Purcell
- Fallon Richardson
- Cynthia Thompson (second time)

Hearing no one else, Donovan closed the Open Session.

Donovan reported on the Committee of the Whole discussion about re-opening the Council Chambers.

Clerk's note: Councilmembers took a five-minute break.

CONSENT AGENDA

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and *moved* to approve Consent Agenda items one through seven.

Elenbaas moved to consider Consent Agenda item three (AB2022-076) separately (there was not a second and Donovan stated they do not need to vote on it).

Byrd amended his motion *and moved* that they approve the Consent Agenda items except for AB2022-076.

Galloway spoke about AB2022-075.

Councilmembers voted on those items (see votes on individual items below).

1. [AB2022-065](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and U.S. Department of Justice, for Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), in the amount of \$2,500.00

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2022-075](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Bellingham to provide winter shelters during severe weather emergencies

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

3. [AB2022-076](#) Resolution amending the 2022 CEDS project list to include an additional Port of Bellingham project and revise the name of a Whatcom County project already listed
Enactment No: RES 2022-006

See action on this item below.

4. [AB2022-078](#) Request authorization for a Letter of Understanding between Whatcom County and The International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots (MMP) and the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific (IBU) to amend the current Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period of January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2022

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

5. [AB2022-091](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Washington State Health Care Authority to provide funding to accomplish activities under the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program during the grant period 10/01/21 - 06/30/23 in the amount of \$1,175,834.00

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion

carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

6. [AB2022-092](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Sea Mar Community Health Centers to furnish goods and services necessary to accomplish activities under the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program during the contract term 10/1/21 - 03/31/22 and not to exceed the amount of \$371,583.00

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

7. [AB2022-093](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. to provide a compensation study for unrepresented employees, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Considered Separately (From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

3. [AB2022-076](#) Resolution amending the 2022 CEDS project list to include an additional Port of Bellingham project and revise the name of a Whatcom County project already listed

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and **moved** that the Resolution be APPROVED.

The following people briefed the Councilmembers:

- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
- Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office

Councilmembers and the speakers discussed a concern that we do not end up making Whatcom County responsible for that facility in the long term with what we are doing with this, whether the \$10 million estimated cost is the County portion, and whether the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds mentioned in the Staff Memo are State ARPA funds and not County ARPA funds.

Byrd's motion that the Resolution be APPROVED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: RES 2022-006

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Natural Resources Committee)

1. [AB2022-071](#) Resolution affirming the Conservation Easement Program Oversight Committee ranking and authorizing Whatcom County Conservation Easement Program Administrator and Whatcom County Executive to proceed with the acquisition of conservation easements on the Vander Veen, Rethlefsen, Savage, and Moors applications

Galloway reported for the Natural Resources Committee and *moved* that the Resolution be APPROVED.

Elenbaas spoke about the video that was presented in Committee and asked about its purpose.

Galloway's motion that the Resolution be APPROVED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: RES 2022-007

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

2. [AB2022-072](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Aristo Healthcare Services to provide immediate staffing at COVID Isolation and Quarantine Facility overflow sites, in the amount of \$705,200

Byrd reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

(From Council Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee)

3. [AB2022-048](#) Ordinance authorizing Superior Court to appoint a statutory commissioner
Buchanan reported for the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee.

Leon Henley, Superior Court Commissioner, answered what the role of a Commissioner is and how that serves Superior Court's purpose, and whether this would help the capacity of Superior Court in terms of cases.

Councilmembers thanked Henley for coming to speak and discussed the item.

Buchanan moved and Galloway seconded that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-009

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

4. [AB2022-079](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.02.085, Council Standing Committees - Committee Action

Donovan reported for the Committee of the Whole and **moved** that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion was seconded by Galloway.

Councilmembers discussed the motion and the reason the Ordinance was brought forward.

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, spoke about the Ordinance and stated it is not changing the law but bringing clarity.

Councilmembers and Sidhu continued to discuss the motion.

Donovan's motion that the Ordinance be ADOPTED carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 3 - Byrd, Elenbaas, and Kershner

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-010

5. [AB2021-594](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 2.02 (County Council) to define absence and temporary disability

Donovan reported for the Committee of the Whole and stated that this item was HELD IN COMMITTEE.

(No Committee Assignment)

6. [AB2021-648](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to WCC Title 20 (Zoning) regulating the production, processing, and retail sales of recreational marijuana in Whatcom County and repealing Ordinance No. 2021-066

Buchanan moved and Elenbaas seconded that the Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED.

Galloway briefed the Councilmembers on the substitute Ordinance and moved to amend the motion to adopt the substitute Ordinance but Buchanan stated his motion was to adopt the substitute.

Councilmembers discussed whether they need to amend the substitute version or if it is good to go, whether the substitute's amendments solve the problem of one grower who was not being monitored and making sure that code enforcement was being applied to that grower, and whether any of these amendments create more problems.

Buchanan's motion that the SUBSTITUTE Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be ADOPTED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-011

7. [AB2022-080](#) Resolution supporting state legislative action resetting the deadline for participation in the voluntary stewardship program and supporting the consideration of an ordinance consistent with RCW 36.70A.710(b)(i-iii) in the event such legislation is passed

Karen Frakes, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, briefed the Councilmembers on the item.

Elenbaas recused himself from the discussion and vote.

Councilmembers discussed the Resolution and Frakes answered whether this is the Farm Bureau and the County and the parties are in agreement on this Resolution.

A vote was taken but there had not been a motion. The chair began to read the next item but Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, asked about the motion.

Kershner moved and Buchanan seconded that the Resolution be APPROVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Recused: 1 - Elenbaas

Enactment No: RES 2022-008

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2022-095](#) Appointment to fill a vacancy on the Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee, Geographic Area Representative position - alternates: Theresa Sygitowicz, Daniel Dahlquist, Joni Hensley, Keith Hoekema, Loren Hoekema (Council acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

Byrd moved to nominate all applicants. The motion was seconded by Elenbaas.

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, briefed the Councilmembers on the item.

Councilmembers discussed whether they should appoint someone from the alternate list tonight or hold to a later date to solicit new applications.

Kershner moved that they vote tonight but Donovan stated there is a standing motion already on the floor.

Elenbaas spoke in favor of Loren Hoekema.

Jill Nixon, Council Office Staff, answered whether Keith Hoekema's

application had been withdrawn.

Councilmembers voted as follows:

Frazey: **Loren Hoekema**
Galloway: **Loren Hoekema**
Kershner: **Loren Hoekema**
Buchanan: **Loren Hoekema**
Byrd: **Loren Hoekema**
Donovan: **Loren Hoekema**
Elenbaas: **Loren Hoekema**

Loren Hoekema was appointed 7-0.

This agenda item was APPOINTED.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2022-094](#) Request confirmation of Executive Sidhu's reappointment of Kara Allen to the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization's board

Buchanan moved and Kershner seconded that the Executive Appointment be CONFIRMED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

1. [AB2022-108](#) Appointment to fill a vacancy on the Forestry Advisory Committee, Forest Product Manufacturer position - Applicant(s): Aubrey Stargell

Kershner moved and Buchanan seconded that the Council Appointment be APPOINTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2021-606](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to the Whatcom County Code Title 20, Zoning, to provide additional affordable housing options, including allowing and regulating tiny homes and allowing duplexes in planned unit developments

Buchanan moved and Frazey seconded that the Ordinance Requiring a Public

Hearing be INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-013

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Frazey moved to introduce items one through seven. The motion was seconded by Galloway

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, stated that Introduction item number six (AB2022-082) will be a substitute version because the substitute marijuana Ordinance (AB2021-648) was passed tonight and the additional changes need to be made to the code scrub.

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

1. [AB2021-420](#) Ordinance amending the Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan Map and zoning code for the Nooksack Falls Exclave within the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

Frazey moved and Galloway seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-014

2. [AB2022-083](#) Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2021-064 (Review of Response to COVID-19 Pandemic) to change project timeline

Frazey moved and Galloway seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-019

3. [AB2022-086](#) Ordinance amending the 2022 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 5, in the amount of \$7,750,231

Frazezy moved and Galloway seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-016

4. [AB2022-088](#) Ordinance closing the State Street Building Acquisition and Improvement Fund 348

Frazezy moved and Galloway seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-017

5. [AB2022-089](#) Ordinance establishing the Way Station Project Fund and establishing a project based budget for the Way Station Project

Frazezy moved and Galloway seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-018

6. [AB2022-082](#) Ordinance adopting various minor amendments to Whatcom County Code Titles 20 (Zoning), 21 (Land Division Regulations) and 22 (Land Use and Development)

Frazezy moved and Galloway seconded that the SUBSTITUTE Ordinance Requiring a Public Hearing be INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2022-012

7. [AB2022-073](#) Appointment to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for the Justice Project, applicants: Debra David, Peter Frazier, RB Tewksbury (added 2/9/2022), Jeff Hindman (added 2/9/2022) (application deadline for any other applicants to this vacancy is 10 a.m. on February 15, 2022)

Frazezy moved and Galloway seconded that the Council Appointment Requiring Introduction be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Elenbaas, Frazey, Galloway, and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

Councilmembers gave committee reports.

They and Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, also discussed the following:

- Whether speakers can see the Councilmembers during Open Session
- What we are measuring to call an end to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency that Executive Sidhu put in place
- Whether there is an end date for mask mandates
- A commonality between hemp and marijuana and whether marijuana is farming
- Scheduling an update from the Sheriff in the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee regarding the state of the County with gang activity and violent crime, and challenges in the Jail
- State Legislative updates
- A Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) Coastal Caucus update
- A Disaster Unemployment Assistance Program available for those in the community who lost their job or are unemployed directly due to the recent disaster
- A book co-authored by Councilmember Frazey

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

The County Council approved these minutes on February 22, 2022.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Todd Donovan, Council Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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