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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
**Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee**

January 15, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, and Satpal Sidhu  
**Absent:** None  
**Also Present:** Barbara Brenner, Rud Browne, Carol Frazey and Todd Donovan

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

**1. AB2019-041 ORDINANCE AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 2.46, INCARCERATION PREVENTION AND REDUCTION TASK FORCE, AND REPEALING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 2.19, LAW AND JUSTICE COUNCIL**

Donovan gave a staff report.

Jill Nixon, County Council Office, answered questions on membership changes.

**Byrd moved** to recommend adoption to the full Council.

Councilmembers discussed the purposes of the Task Force and of the Law and Justice Council per the Revised Code of Washington (RCW).

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Buchanan and Sidhu (2)  
**Nays:** None (0)  
**Absent:** Byrd (out of the room) (1)

**2. AB2019-043 ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 1.28, STANDARDS FOR CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES**

Jeff Parks, Sheriff's Office, gave a staff report and answered councilmembers' questions. He submitted handouts of the Sheriff's Office operations manual.

Councilmembers and staff discussed the operations manual versus the County Code, the appearance that they are eliminating important operational standards, an annual review of the operations manual by the County Council, and jail design standards.

**Browne moved** to renumber item C to item D, and add a new item C, "C. The Sheriff's Office shall at least annually review with the County Council all changes to the policies and explain the reasons why. The review would normally be held in open session, except when the nature of the information is protected under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW)."

1  
2 Liz Gallery, Prosecutor's Office, answered questions on State requirements for local  
3 jail standards.  
4

5 Councilmembers and staff continued to discuss the transparency of Sheriff's Office  
6 policies and operational manual.  
7

8 **Byrd moved** to hold in Committee.  
9

10 The motion to hold in committee carried by the following vote:

11 **Ayes:** Buchanan, Byrd, and Sidhu (3)

12 **Nays:** None (0)  
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15 **OTHER BUSINESS**

16 There was no other business.  
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20 **ADJOURN**

21 The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.  
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25 ATTEST:

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31 Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

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36 Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Barry Buchanan, Committee Chair