

Whatcom County Council Committee of the Whole

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



Action Summary

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

2:10 PM

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLY - ADJOURNS BY 4:30 PM
(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

Call To Order

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

Announcements

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2024-733](#) Discussion of Whatcom County's legislative priorities for the 2025 State Legislative Session

DISCUSSED

2. [AB2024-754](#) Discussion of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy Plan and budget

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved that they allow this to be a public conversation (with counsel).

3. [AB2024-669](#) Discussion of the County Executive's recommended 2025-2026 Biennium Budget

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved to adopt the technical corrections that were just presented to them into the budget ordinance.

Motion approved to add an asterisk and note to the budget, wherever they encounter the Healthy Children's Fund expenditures, to read: Between 55 percent and 68 percent of the current fund balance and the 2025-2026 anticipated funds of the Healthy Children's Fund will go towards making childcare more affordable, accessible, and high quality while improving the workforce. Refer to Ordinance 2022-045 for additional details and parameters of spending of this fund.

Motion approved to add \$10,000 per year to the Sheriff's budget to cover Search and Rescue mission critical equipment and supplies.

Motion approved to include \$750,000 per year for this biennium for the Whatcom County Food Bank Network and request that the Executive's Office come back with the proposal to do that.

Motion approved to include ASR 2025-7229 in the budget, which is the security windows and doors for clerk's office request from the Superior Court Clerk.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2024-722](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Dr. Aldo Fusaro as Medical Examiner effective December 9, 2024

NOT ACTED UPON

2. [AB2024-725](#) Resolution establishing ferry level of service-decision on a replacement

NOT ACTED UPON

Items Added by Revision

Other Business

Adjournment