

# **Whatcom County Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee**

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



## **Action Summary**

**Tuesday, June 24, 2025  
8:30 AM  
Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 10:00 A.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON,  
SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT [www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil](http://www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil),  
OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

### **COUNCILMEMBERS**

Barry Buchanan  
Tyler Byrd  
Todd Donovan

### **CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

## **Call To Order**

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** 3 - Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, and Barry Buchanan

Also Present: Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremmler

## **Announcements**

## **Council "Consent Agenda" Items**

1. [AB2025-443](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to administer Whatcom County's coordinated entry system through the Whatcom Homeless Service Center, in the amount of \$544,578

### **RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

2. [AB2025-444](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to authorize and distribute rental assistance through the Whatcom Homeless Service Center, in the amount of \$7,274,164

### **RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

3. [AB2025-445](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Catholic Community Services to provide on-site supportive services and housing at Francis Place, in the amount of \$277,723

### **RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

4. [AB2025-446](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham to provide funding for the Alternative Response Team Program, in the amount of \$375,000

### **RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

5. [AB2025-447](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services - Wildlife Services for wildlife management services, in the amount of \$87,677.87

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

6. [AB2025-448](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and the Port of Bellingham for the acquisition of 58.81 acres equipped with two 3,000 square foot buildings located at 6211 Northwest Avenue for the purposes of establishing a Whatcom Agricultural Research Station, in the amount of a \$1,966,542 EDI grant and \$933,271 EDI loan, for a total of \$2,899,813

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

7. [AB2025-449](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a two-year program agreement between Whatcom County and the State of Washington Department of Children, Youth & Families to provide detention services at the Whatcom County Jail for Juvenile Rehabilitation youth eighteen years and older, in the amount of \$26,000 per year

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-450](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to provide rapid rehousing, case management, and coordinated entry access services, in the amount of \$473,162, for a total amended contract amount of \$722,242

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

9. [AB2025-454](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to provide permanent housing and supportive services in the amount of \$258,976, for a total amended contract amount of \$388,463

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

10. [AB2025-461](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom Long Term Recovery Group to expand local assistance to homeowners participating in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, in the amount of \$80,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$120,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

11. [AB2025-462](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a cost reimbursement agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the Nooksack Indian Tribe to compensate the Nooksack Indian Tribe for staff time to support the Floodplain Integrated Planning process, in the amount of \$64,000, for a total amended agreement amount of \$88,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

12. [AB2025-463](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lydia Place to provide funding for the emergency shelter program, in the amount of \$436,352, for a total amended contract amount of \$680,728

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

13. [AB2025-464](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and The Administrative Office of the Courts for reimbursement of services related to the Uniform Guardianship Act, in the amount of \$67,740

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

14. [AB2025-465](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a six-month contract amendment between Whatcom County and Northwest Regional Council for Jail Nursing Services, in the amount of \$1,354,508.50 for a total contract amount of \$11,009,534.17

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

15. [AB2025-466](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and the Department of Children, Youth and Families for services relating to evidence-based programming for juveniles under the supervision of Juvenile Court

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

16. [AB2025-467](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to provide housing case management services in the amount of \$2,007,866, for a total amended contract amount of \$2,927,247

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

17. [AB2025-468](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Developmental Disabilities Administration to ensure a coordinated system of local services for persons with disabilities, in the amount of \$6,129,076

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

18. [AB2025-473](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Opportunity Council to administer the Housing and Essential Needs Program, in the amount of \$3,409,883

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

19. [AB2025-474](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Ferndale Youth Sports for maintenance and operation of the baseball fields at the Northwest Sports Complex, in the amount of \$1

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

**Committee Discussion**

1. [AB2025-470](#) Discussion regarding out-of-jurisdiction response in Galbraith Recreational Easement by South Whatcom Fire Authority

**DISCUSSED**

**Special Presentation**

1. [AB2025-371](#) Report from the Human Resources Division of the Administrative Services Department

**REPORTED**

2. [AB2025-477](#) Presentation on the Behavioral Health Fund and proposed action steps

**PRESENTED**

**Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council**

1. [AB2025-451](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 7, in the amount of \$1,500,000

**RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**

**Aye:** 2 - Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 1 - Byrd

2. [AB2025-453](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 6, in the amount of 16,735,908

**RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**

**Aye:** 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

**Nay:** 0

**Items Added by Revision**

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**