

# **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, February 24, 2026**

**9:55 AM**

**Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers**

**HYBRID MEETING - MAY BEGIN LATE - ADJOURNS BY 10:55 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**

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

### Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2026-137](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Whatcom County and Professional and Technical Employees, Local 17 for the period January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2028

**SUBSTITUTE RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

2. [AB2026-154](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a grant agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Ecology for the 2025-2027 Biennial Stormwater Capacity Grant, in the amount of \$120,000

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

3. [AB2026-156](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and North Whatcom Fire and Rescue to extend the current contract for fire investigation services by one year

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

4. [AB2026-160](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation to execute a Federal Aid Project Prospectus for the design phase of the Lakeway Drive - City of Bellingham to Cable Street - Pavement Rehabilitation Project, County Road Project 925001, in the amount of \$251,000

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

5. [AB2026-162](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal grant agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Commerce to reimburse the 5% local match obligation required in the four FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) grants, in the amount of \$1,500,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

6. [AB2026-163](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal cost reimbursement agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Lynden to support 30% design of Phase 1 of the Mouw Ditch early action project with pass-through funding from Floodplains through Design (FbD) 2023-25 grant, in the amount of \$113,600 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

7. [AB2026-164](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Whatcom Long Term Recovery Group to increase the project management task budget to assist homeowners participating in the Hazard Mitigation Elevation Grant Program, in the amount of \$80,000, for a total amount of \$200,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

**RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

**Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council**

1. [AB2026-145](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 4, in the amount of \$1,804,963

**SUBSTITUTE RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

2. [AB2026-114](#) Ordinance establishing the project budget for the Strawberry Point/Lake Whatcom Boulevard stormwater improvements, request no. 1

**RECOMMENDED TO HOLD IN COMMITTEE**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

Motion approved to recommend to postpone AB2026-114 to the March 24th Finance and Administrative Services Committee meeting.

3. [AB2026-143](#) Ordinance establishing the Ferndale Senior Activity Center Improvements Fund and establishing an initial budget for the Ferndale Senior Activity Center Improvements Fund

**RECOMMENDED TO HOLD IN COMMITTEE**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

Motion approved to recommend that they postpone AB2026-143 to the March 24th Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee meeting.

4. [AB2026-134](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Courthouse Building Envelope Fund, request no. 7

**RECOMMENDED TO HOLD IN COMMITTEE**

**Aye:** 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

**Nay:** 0

Motion approved to recommend to postpone AB2026-134 to the March 24th Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee meeting.

5. [AB2026-165](#) Resolution to declare county-owned structures located at recently acquired property at South Fork Park as worthless

**DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED**

Motion approved that they hold this until such time that the pictures (of the structures) are added to the public record on this (AB20206-165).

**Items Added by Revision**

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**