

Whatcom County Council Special Committee of the Whole

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



Committee Minutes - Final

ESTIMATED TIME - MEETING MAY BEGIN EARLIER/LATER THAN 2:30 P.M.

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

2:30 PM

Council Chambers

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Carol Frazey
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Council Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Roll Call

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

Absent: None

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2020-055](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Hellmuth, Obata, and Kassabaum, Inc. (HOK) to develop a Whatcom County Public Health, Safety, and Justice Facility Needs Assessment, in the amount of \$629,694

Buchanan gave a brief history of the initiatives to build a new corrections facility.

The following people spoke and answered questions:

Jeff Bradley and Jeff Goodale, both of Hellmuth, Obata, & Kassabaum (HOK), submitted and gave a presentation (on file).

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office

They and Councilmembers discussed different types of possible facility layouts and answered questions about whether the medical health and the jail components would be in the same building or separate facilities, a typical maximum duration of incarceration in the San Mateo facility which was shown as an example, the smallest jurisdictions that they've worked with that might be more similar to Whatcom County than very large jurisdictions in the examples, not addressing location at this point without community input, how HOK plans to bring the community together to support a model in a short time frame and what marketing abilities they have, addressing hard data in the communities in which HOK has done projects, what deliverables would be included in the authorized dollar amount, how the costs of the contract would be phased throughout the project, different modes of community outreach, and the estimated timeframe of a typical project.

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, answered a question about how they would work with the different stakeholder advisory committees and elected officials.

Buchanan opened the floor for comments and the following people spoke and asked questions of the presenters:

Joy Gilfilan
Irene Morgan
Carole Perry
Andronetta Douglass
Bill Elfo, County Sheriff

Browne moved and Donovan seconded that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Frazey and Kershner

Nay: 1 - Elenbaas

Absent: 0

Abstain: 1 - Byrd

Special Order of Business

1. [AB2020-057](#) Assignment of staffing responsibilities for the Public Health, Safety, and Justice Facility Needs Assessment, including the project website and the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)

Cathy Halka, Council Office, clarified the process and answered questions about which staff members would be involved.

Donovan moved to approve the work assignment as discussed.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

The Special Order of Business was DISCUSSED and a motion was approved.

2. [AB2020-083](#) Resolution amending the membership of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) for the Public Health, Safety, and Justice Facility Needs Assessment

Buchanan briefed the Councilmembers on the Resolution. Councilmembers discussed the membership of the Advisory Committee.

Browne moved that the proposed Resolution be approved. The motion was seconded.

Kernsher moved to recommend an amendment to the membership to increase #12 (Citizen-Behavioral Health) to two members, to increase #13 (Citizen-Criminal Justice Advocate) to five members, and increase #14 (Individual with lived experience in the criminal justice system) to five members. This would increase the member by nine members. The motion was seconded.

Councilmembers discussed possible scenarios and the benefits of having a larger committee membership.

The motion to amend the proposed Resolution carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Browne, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Frazey, and Kershner

Nay: 1 - Donovan

Abstain: 1 - Browne

Browne's motion that the Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2020-038](#) Discuss proposed Interlocal Agreement between Whatcom County and cities relating to interim procedures for amending the Countywide Planning Policies

Matt Aamot, Planning and Development Services Department, briefed the Council on the past discussions on this item and changes recommended by the City/County Planning Group including two possible methods of approval incorporated into procedures and separated with an "or" instead of an "and," and an expiration date for the interlocal. He answered questions about which Cities have seen and agreed to the plan up to this point

Donovan moved to recommend approval of the proposal as presented. The motion was seconded.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Nay: 0

This agenda item was DISCUSSED and A MOTION WAS APPROVED.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

The County Council approved these minutes on February 25, 2020.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Barry Buchanan, Council Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

SIGNED COPY ON FILE