

**Whatcom County  
Council Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee**

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



**Committee Minutes - Final**

VIRTUAL MEETING - ENDS NO LATER THAN 2:15 P.M.

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021**

**1:30 PM**

**Virtual Meeting**

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Barry Buchanan  
Tyler Byrd  
Carol Frazey

**CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

## **Call To Order**

Committee Chair Barry Buchanan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in a virtual meeting.

## **Roll Call**

**Present:** 3 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd and Carol Frazey

**Absent:** None

Also present: Rud Browne and Todd Donovan

## **Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council**

1. [AB2021-013](#) Resolution adopting Whatcom County policy on indigent defense per RCW 10.101.030 and WCC 2.09

George Roche, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, briefed the Councilmembers.

*Byrd moved* that the Resolution be recommended for approval.

Roche and Karen Frakes, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, answered questions and discussed with Councilmembers whether the funding portion will come later as an Ordinance, and whether presenting this as a Resolution carries the force of law. By approving the Resolution, they are authorizing the adoption of a policy and it brings the County into conformity with what is becoming established practice throughout the defense community.

**Byrd's motion that the Resolution be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL carried by the following vote:**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 0

## **Items Added by Revision**

There were no agenda items added by revision.

## **Other Business**

Bill Elfo, Sheriff, updated the Councilmembers on threat assessments and County preparedness in light of recent events at the nation's Capital and reports of further potential disturbance around the country on inauguration day.

Councilmembers discussed the Sheriff's comments.

Elfo then updated the Councilmembers on a recent train derailment in the county and the investigation on the incident and he answered questions.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

**Barry Buchanan-via email 1/29/2021**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

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Barry Buchanan, Committee Chair

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Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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