

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, April 29, 2025
9:15 AM
Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers**

**HYBRID MEETING (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN
INSTRUCTIONS AT 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. [AB2025-322](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and AMS Print and Mail Specialists for the design, production, and distribution of primary and general election local voters' pamphlets in the amount not to exceed \$90,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-324](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Federal Aid Project Prospectus and Local Agency Agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation for the Martin Road/Anderson Creek Bridge No. 250 Replacement Project, in the amount of \$512,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-325](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Herrera Environmental Consultants to continue supporting the Floodplain Integrated Planning (FLIP) Process, in the amount of \$590,829 for a total contract amount of \$2,998,369 (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

4. [AB2025-326](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the US Geological Survey (USGS) to develop and assess non-contact methods for measuring discharge in the Nooksack River during high-flow events, in the amount of \$222,698 (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

5. [AB2025-327](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the University of Washington to assess the Nooksack River's morphodynamic response to potential channel and floodplain modifications, in the amount of \$114,000 (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

6. [AB2025-329](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Ferndale to establish the responsibilities of the Flood Control Zone District and the City of Ferndale in designing the Ferndale Levee Improvement Project to a 90% level, acquiring right of way, and permitting, in the amount of \$430,000 (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

7. [AB2025-331](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and the Northwest Natural Resource Group for development of a forest management plan in the Lake Whatcom Watershed, in the amount of \$12,063 for a total amended contract amount of \$145,123

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

8. [AB2025-332](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham for partnership in the development of a forest management plan in the Lake Whatcom watershed, in the amount of \$12,063 for a total agreement amount of \$53,358

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

9. [AB2025-335](#) Request approval for the County Executive to authorize all County departments to use Washington State Contract #22823 for as-needed equipment rentals through December 31, 2026, with the award to any one vendor in a fiscal year not to exceed \$100,000

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

10. [AB2025-338](#) Request approval for the County Executive to enter into an Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the City of Seattle which will allow reciprocal utilization of competitively bid contracts, pursuant to RCW Chapter 39.34 Interlocal Cooperation Act

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

11. [AB2025-339](#) Request approval for the County Executive to authorize the purchase of ClearCount 2.5 ScanStation and ClearAudit Admin Station bundles from Clear Ballot Group, Inc., the sole source for these products, in an amount not to exceed \$50,347.10

RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2025-303](#) Discussion of the annual allocation of Rural Sales Tax Fund

DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED

Motion approved to change the target investment allocations so they are as follows: Fund reserve at 15 percent, housing infrastructure projects at 30 percent, Whatcom County at 30 percent, and Government infrastructure projects at 40 percent.

2. [AB2025-341](#) Discussion on 2025-2026 mid-biennium review with initial budget instructions and draft calendar

DISCUSSED

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2025-290](#) Ordinance amending the project based budget for the N. Fork Road/Kenney Creek Fish Passage fund, Request No. 2

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

2. [AB2025-293](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Courtroom Audio Visual Systems Upgrade, request no. 1

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

3. [AB2025-302](#) Resolution amending the 2025 Flood Control Zone District and Subzones Budget, request no. 1, in the amount of \$14,400 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

4. [AB2025-310](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Lookout Mountain Road Repairs Project Fund, request no. 1

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

5. [AB2025-314](#) Ordinance amending the 2025 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 4, in the amount of \$6,227,211

RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Donovan, and Buchanan

Nay: 0

Special Presentation

1. [AB2025-159](#) Report from the Finance Division

REPORTED

2. [AB2025-319](#) Report from the Facilities Division of the Administrative Services Department

NOT ACTED UPON

Items Added by Revision

Other Business

Adjournment