

Whatcom County Council Public Works & Health Committee

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



Committee Minutes - Final

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022
2:40 PM
Hybrid Meeting**

**HYBRID MEETING - ADJOURNS BY 4:30 P.M. (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON OR
SEE REMOTE JOIN INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil
OR CALL 360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan
Kaylee Galloway
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Kathy Kershner called the meeting to order at 2:40 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Barry Buchanan, Kaylee Galloway, and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Also Present: Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, and Carol Frazey

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2022-207](#) Presentation by the Whatcom County Food System Committee regarding the annual report and Food System Plan Kickoff

Riley Sweeney, Whatcom County Food System Committee Chair, presented and answered what this plan looping back to the Comprehensive Plan would look like and whether it would mean a new chapter on food systems in the Comprehensive Plan, how the food planning effort in the east foothills fits into this, and whether the Whatcom County Food System Committee will look at global issues such as the inflation we are seeing and potential food shortages to make sure the policies and procedures that Whatcom County puts in place do the best for the most people here.

This agenda item was PRESENTED.

2. [AB2022-227](#) Presentation of the Child and Family Well-Being Task Force Phase II Report

The following people presented and answered questions:

- Keith Montoya, Child and Family Well-Being Task Force
- Jennifer Wright, Child and Family Well-Being Task Force
- Alicia Hanning, Child and Family Well-Being Task Force
- Sterling Chick, Child and Family Well-Being Task Force
- Allison Williams, Health Department

They answered how many phases there are going to be and where we are in the work of the task force.

Councilmembers thanked the task force for their work.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2022-122](#) Resolution vacating a portion of Boxwood Road

Andrew Hester, Public Works Department, briefed the Councilmembers and answered whether the requests for changes from the City of Bellingham at the last Council meeting have been sorted out, whether there is precedence from the past for waiving of compensation and why compensation would be waived in this situation and not others.

Karen Frakes, Prosecuting Attorney's Office, stated the Whatcom County Code states you can consider waiving the appraised value or a portion of it if you find that the vacation somehow benefits Whatcom County.

Scott Havill, City of Bellingham Mitigation Coordinator, stated the City is requesting waiving the compensation because the mitigation site is for public benefit.

Hester answered how much money would be waived, what the County would normally spend those funds on, and whether the Public Works Department does not have a recommendation one way or another on the matter of waiving the compensation.

Buchanan moved to waive the utility reservation. The motion was seconded by Galloway.

The motion carried by the following vote:
Aye: 3 - Buchanan, Galloway, and Kershner
Nay: 0

Galloway asked whether waiving the compensation would preclude the City of Bellingham from moving forward with this.

Havill stated it would not prevent them from moving forward.

Analiese Burns, City of Bellingham Natural Resources, spoke about the compensation request and answered whether it would mean the County has \$26,000 worth of credit in the credit bank there when we want to use the mitigation area if we have a project that qualifies, what the mitigation might look like and how it will benefit the public, and who might be purchasing the credits or leasing them.

Galloway stated she would be interested in learning more about the

specifics of the mitigation bank.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED.

2. [AB2022-121](#) Resolution vacating a portion of Horton Road

Andrew Hester, Public Works Department, stated the information for this item would be the same as what he gave for AB2022-122.

Councilmembers and staff discussed whether the same motion as the previous agenda item is needed, that the motion should ultimately be made after the public hearing tonight, and discussing these types of Resolutions before they get introduced in the future.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Kathy Kershner-via email 4/15/2022

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Kathy Kershner, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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