

Whatcom County Council

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



Action Summary

**Tuesday, June 9, 2026
6 PM**

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN
INSTRUCTIONS AT 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

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Elizabeth Boyle, Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jessica Rienstra, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2026-047](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for May 26, 2026

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

2. [MIN2026-048](#) Committee of the Whole for May 26, 2026

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

3. [MIN2026-049](#) Regular County Council for May 26, 2026

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

4. [MIN2026-050](#) Special Committee of the Whole for May 19, 2026

APPROVED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

OPEN SESSION

CONSENT AGENDA

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2026-421](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to cover tuberculosis medications for patients who are underinsured or uninsured, in the amount of \$0

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2026-423](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Nel/Son Distributing, DBA Nelson Reisner, to provide for the purchase of fuel to be used in Whatcom County fleet vehicles, in the amount of \$850,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2026-424](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Cowden Brother's Trucking, LLC for the disposal of waste produced by Maintenance and Operations vector trucks and street sweepers, in the amount of \$288,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

4. [AB2026-425](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Birch Bay Water & Sewer District for water main relocation as part of the Drayton Harbor Road Landslide Repair Project, in the amount of \$75,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

5. [AB2026-428](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Lynden for the Hannegan Levee Rehabilitation Project (NSK-03-26), in the amount of \$64,280 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

6. [AB2026-429](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a cooperation agreement between Whatcom County and the United States Army Corps of Engineers for repairs to the Hannegan Levee along the left bank of the Nooksack River (Project No. NSK-03-26), in the amount of \$64,280 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

7. [AB2026-433](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Health Care Authority for the Medication for Opioid/Alcohol Use Disorders (MOUD/MAUD) program grant, in the amount of \$200,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

8. [AB2026-435](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to increase funding for the 2025-2027 Consolidated Contract, specifically the Maternal & Child Health Block Grant, in the amount of \$47,392 for a total amended agreement amount of \$11,334,197

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

9. [AB2026-436](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Clean Earth Environmental Solutions, Inc. to authorize a three-year extension of services, ensuring the uninterrupted transportation and disposal of moderate-risk waste from Whatcom County's Disposal of Toxics Facility, in the amount of \$367,500 annually, and for a total amended contract amount of \$1,452,500

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

10. [AB2026-437](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Kulshan Supported Employment to extend the contract for one year, providing supported employment and community inclusion services to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in the amount of

\$1,889,779 for a total amended contract amount of \$3,478,552

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

11. [AB2026-439](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Max Higbee Center to extend the contract for one year, allowing the continuation of supported employment and community inclusion services for eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in the amount of \$69,603 for a total amended contract amount of \$113,483

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

12. [AB2026-440](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, for extra duty overtime patrols, in the amount of \$35,000

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

13. [AB2026-441](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) to extend the contract for six months, allowing the continuation of funding for personnel and other costs necessary to operate and maintain three safe shelters in Whatcom County, including a 21-bed house for women with children and two other houses for single women, in the amount of \$65,526 for a total amended contract amount of \$353,448

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

14. [AB2026-445](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award Bid #26-30 and enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Everett Ship Repair for the Drydock Repair and Maintenance of the Whatcom Chief Ferry in the amount of \$1,061,069.56

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

15. [AB2026-446](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between

Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services for reimbursement of a percentage of Superior Court Commissioner time when working civil court cases involving Child Support Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, not to exceed an amount set each year by award letter from the Department of Social and Health Services

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

16. [AB2026-452](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Pacific Power Group to perform generator preventative maintenance, in the amount of \$80,235

AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT

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

Nay: 0

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2026-408](#) Request authorization for the Whatcom County Council to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Whatcom County Executive for the adoption of Whatcom County Administrative and Personnel Policies for the Council Office

AUTHORIZED

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

Nay: 0

2. [AB2026-416](#) Request for motion to approve the updated 2026-2027 Criminal Justice Treatment Account Plan

APPROVED REQUEST

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2026-448](#) Resolution requesting authorization to make an application and enter into a grant agreement with the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for funding through the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act Program for renovation of the Lagoon Bridge and other bike and pedestrian accessibility improvements at Silver Lake Park

APPROVED

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 2026-023

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS

1. [AB2026-414](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointments of Jana Finkbonner and Jodi Sipes to the Northwest Senior Services Advisory Board

CONFIRMED

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

Nay: 0

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

INTRODUCTION ITEMS (see actions below separately)

1. [AB2026-403](#) Ordinance imposing an interim moratorium on the acceptance or processing of applications and permits for the establishment of new or expansion of existing civil detention facilities
2. [AB2026-413](#) Receipt of Whatcom Clean Water Program annual report
3. [AB2026-431](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 5.20, Fireworks, to strengthen fireworks regulations by limiting the days fireworks are allowed and prohibiting fireworks during burn bans
4. [AB2026-442](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the 2015 Girard Street Building Improvement Fund, request no. 1
5. [AB2026-450](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 9, in the amount of \$7,941,775

INTRODUCTION ITEMS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

1. [AB2026-403](#) Ordinance imposing an interim moratorium on the acceptance or processing of applications and permits for the establishment of new or expansion of existing civil detention facilities

SUBSTITUTE INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

2. [AB2026-413](#) Receipt of Whatcom Clean Water Program annual report

RECEIVED

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

Nay: 0

3. [AB2026-431](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 5.20, Fireworks, to strengthen fireworks regulations by limiting the days fireworks are allowed and prohibiting fireworks during burn bans

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

ITEM ADDED AS ANOTHER VERSION OF AB2026-431

- AB2026-475** Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 5.20, Fireworks, to strengthen fireworks regulations by limiting the days fireworks are allowed and prohibiting fireworks during burn bans

INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

4. [AB2026-442](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the 2015 Girard Street Building Improvement Fund, request no. 1

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

5. [AB2026-450](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 9, in the amount of \$7,941,775

INTRODUCED

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

Nay: 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ITEM ADDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DURING MEETING

- AB2026-476** Resolution honoring the life, service, and legacy of Kevin Hester

APPROVED

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

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 2026-024

ADJOURN