



# Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
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Bellingham, WA 98225-4038  
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## Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2019-249

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<b>File ID:</b>	AB2019-249	<b>Version:</b>	1	<b>Status:</b>	Adopted as Amended
<b>File Created:</b>	04/17/2019	<b>Entered by:</b>	TAxlund@co.whatcom.wa.us		
<b>Department:</b>	Health Department	<b>File Type:</b>	Ordinance		
<b>First Assigned to:</b>	Council				
<b>Agenda Date:</b>	05/21/2019	<b>Next Mtg. Date:</b>		<b>Hearing Date:</b>	

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**TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:**

Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code to restructure the Public Health Advisory Board

**SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:**

The proposed ordinance adopts amendments to Whatcom County Code Title 24.01.051, Health Department Advisory Board Created, including:

- a focus on increased board diversity
- reconfiguring community segment representation
- increasing the number of positions on the board
- reducing term length and clarifying term limits
- updating language and structure to reflect current practices and language

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### HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>Acting Body:</b>	<b>Action:</b>	<b>Sent To:</b>
05/07/2019	Council	INTRODUCED FOR PUBLIC HEARING	Council
05/21/2019	Council	ADOPTED AS AMENDED	

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**Attachments:** Ord. Amending WCC 24.01.051 PHAB, Exhibit A Clean Version, Exhibit A Markup Version, Notice of Hearing 5.21.19

**Final Action:** 05/21/2019  
**Enactment Date:** 05/21/2019  
**Enactment #:** ORD 2019-040

**ORDINANCE NO.** 2019-040

**AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE TO RESTRUCTURE THE PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

**WHEREAS:** The Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) was established by ordinance in 1993 to advise the Health Board and the department on matters related to community needs and public health services; and

**WHEREAS:** The needs of the community and the services provided by the Health Department have changed over the years; and

**WHEREAS:** The Health Board and the Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) explored the current role of the PHAB at a joint meeting on July 17, 2018; and

**WHEREAS:** As a result of the July 2018 joint meeting the Health Board directed the PHAB and staff to propose changes to Whatcom County Code (WCC) 24.01.051 to better reflect the current advisory needs of the health department and Health Board; and

**WHEREAS:** The PHAB met on November 1, 2018, and February 7, 2019, to discuss necessary revisions to WCC 24.01.051; and

**WHEREAS:** The PHAB determined that it would be beneficial to revise WCC 24.01.051 to include a focus on increased board diversity, reconfigure community segment representation, increase the number of positions on the board, reduce term length, clarify term limits, and update language and structure to reflect current practices and language; and


**WHEREAS:** These proposed changes to WCC 24.01.051 provide for greater flexibility in board membership and better describe the expertise now required for advising the department and the Health Board; and

**WHEREAS:** The Health Board discussed the draft revisions to WCC 24.01.051 at the April 2, 2019 Health Board meeting and directed that an ordinance be prepared amending WCC 24.01.051.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Health Board WCC 24.01.051 be amended as described in Attachment A.

**ADOPTED** this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2019.

ATTEST:

  
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

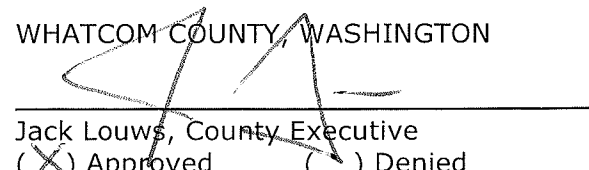
WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

  
WHATCOM COUNTY HEALTH BOARD  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Rud Browne, Health Board Chair

WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Jack Louws, County Executive

(X) Approved ( ) Denied

Date Signed: June 3, 2019

## Exhibit A

24.01.051 Health department advisory board created.

A. The county health department advisory board, referred to in this chapter as the “public health advisory board,” is created and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Health Board and the health department director in the following areas:

1. Recommend public health policies;
2. Recommend public health priorities;
3. Provide community forums/hearings as assigned by the Health Board;
4. Establish community task forces as assigned by the Health Board;
5. Review and make recommendations for annual budget and fees;
6. Present annual report to the Health Board.

B. The public health advisory board shall consist of at least nine and not more than thirteen members who are residents of the county.

1. Members shall be appointed by the executive, subject to confirmation by a majority of the county council, except that one member of the Health Board shall be appointed by the county council.
2. The term of office for the members appointed by the executive shall be three years; except, that four terms shall remain staggered. Terms will be in accordance with WCC 2.03.030 unless no one else applies.
3. The term of office for the member appointed by the county council shall be for one year, from the time of the council’s reorganization meeting in January to the next such meeting the following year.
4. The public health advisory board shall be broadly representative of the character of the county. Board diversity is valued. Membership preference shall be given to tribal, racial, ethnic, and other minorities. The board shall consist of a balance of persons with expertise, career experience, and consumer experience in areas impacting public health and with populations served by the health department. The public health advisory board’s composition shall include at least one member in the each following areas of expertise/experience:
  - Health Care Access and Quality (Health Care System, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Physician or other Health Care Provider, Health Insurance)
  - Physical Environment (Built Environment: Transportation, Parks; Natural Environment: Air, Water, Food)
  - Social and Economic (Housing, Basic Needs, Education, Employment)
  - Business and Philanthropy (Large/Small Business, Charitable Foundations)
  - Communities that experience health inequities (Tribal, Hispanic, Immigrant, People with Disabilities or Special Health Needs, Seniors)
  - Government (City of Bellingham, Small City/Rural)

## **Exhibit A**

- Tribal Community Member/Tribal Government Representation
- Community member with lived experience in any of the areas listed above.

C. At its initial meeting, or as soon thereafter as practical, the public health advisory board may elect officers, adopt bylaws and such rules and regulations of procedure as are necessary for the conduct of its business. Meetings of the public health advisory board shall be subject to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW et seq. (Ord. 2004-004; Ord. 99-025; Ord. 93-024; Ord. 91-040 (part)).