

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

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

Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Council is currently holding meetings in hybrid format with options for in-person or remote viewing and participation. For instructions on remote participation, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to speak remotely. Individuals who require special assistance to participate in the Council's meetings are asked to contact the Council Office at 360.778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

The County is accepting applications from county residents to fill vacancies on several boards, commissions, and committees spanning a wide range of important local issues. For more information, visit the Boards and Commissions vacancy webpage on the County website or call the Council Office or County Executive's Office.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2024-084](#) Committee of the Whole for November 19, 2024
2. [MIN2024-085](#) Regular County Council for November 19, 2024
3. [MIN2024-086](#) Special Council for December 2, 2024
4. [MIN2024-087](#) Committee of the Whole for December 3, 2024
5. [MIN2024-088](#) Regular County Council for December 3, 2024
6. [MIN2024-089](#) Special Council for December 13, 2024

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Participants requesting to speak during public hearings may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

Per RCW 42.17A.555 the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited. Members of the public and the legislative body are not allowed to speak in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot measure or individual candidacy during an open public meeting. Please refrain from raising campaign issues when addressing the Council.

1. [AB2024-801](#) Resolution to declare Whatcom County real property as surplus and approve sale
2. [AB2024-810](#) Ordinance for the installation of stop signs on South Pass Road at the intersection with Goodwin Road as Whatcom County Code 10.16.1720

OPEN SESSION

Participants requesting to speak during open session may attend in person. To speak remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting to receive a join link.

During open session, audience members may speak to the council on issues not scheduled for public hearing. All speakers are asked to state their name for the record and optionally include city of residence. When a large group of individuals supports the same position on an issue, we encourage the selection of one or two representatives to speak on behalf of the entire group. Speakers will be given three minutes to address the Council and will be notified when their three minutes are up. Speakers participating on-site in the Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who have registered to speak remotely.

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Per RCW 42.36.060 Councilmembers are prohibited from engaging in ex parte communications in matters where the Council determines the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Council serves in a quasi-judicial role as a decision-maker on major project permits, which cannot be discussed by members of the public at Council meetings. Examples of major project permits that cannot be discussed at Council meetings include MPP2024-00001 City of Bellingham Mitigation Bank, LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, PUD2022-00001 Royal Emerald Motors Planned Unit Development, MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements, and CUP2023-00003/DEV2024-00001 Ponderosa Estates Mobile Home Park.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items under this section of the agenda may be considered in a single motion. Councilmembers have received and studied background material on all items. Committee review has taken place on these items, as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or council may ask that an item be considered separately.

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2024-844](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Swinomish Health Services dba Didgwálic Wellness Center to lease space at 2028 Division Street, Bellingham WA, in the amount of \$360
2. [AB2025-016](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham Fire Department for the purchase of personal protective clothing described as being free of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (known as PFAS), in the amount of \$83,781.64
3. [AB2025-017](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to define the joint and cooperative relationship of the parties for the delivery of various public health services, in the amount of \$0
4. [AB2025-018](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and NAMI of Whatcom County to provide mental health education and support programs, in the amount of \$38,000
5. [AB2025-020](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Julota to track and monitor services and care provided to individuals frequently seen by Health and Community Services' Response Systems Division Programs in the amount of \$155,022 for a total amended contract amount of \$433,448
6. [AB2025-024](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Lake Whatcom Residential & Treatment Center to provide Mental Health Court case coordination services in the amount of \$12,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$22,000
7. [AB2025-025](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Common Goodness Project to support LGBTQ+ youth and promote substance use prevention through training and technical assistance, in the amount of \$40,000

8. [AB2025-026](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham for joint administration of a Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate Program funded by the Department of Commerce with Climate Commitment Act funds, in the amount of \$0
9. [AB2025-027](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Military Department to utilize the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funding in the amount of \$65,647 to assist in preparing for all hazards through sustainment and enhancement Division of Emergency Management programs
10. [AB2025-028](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District for assistance with implementation of Whatcom County's stormwater outreach program, with a particular emphasis on the Lake Whatcom watershed, in the amount of \$87,940.98
11. [AB2025-029](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to inter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District for outreach, education, and technical assistance with Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resources Management (BBWARM) stormwater programs, in the amount of \$113,492.07 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
12. [AB2025-031](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Conservation District for the planning, oversight, maintenance, and monitoring of existing and new FCZD and Special District mitigation and/or revegetation projects that utilize the Alternative Corrections Crew as well as provide technical assistance to the FCZD and Special Districts, in the amount of \$50,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
13. [AB2025-033](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a cost sharing agreement between Whatcom County and Birch Bay Leisure Park Association (BBLPA) to facilitate a joint project to replace a failing culvert, in the amount of \$0
14. [AB2025-035](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Anchor QEA to conduct a study to analyze the Musto Marsh and Springsteen Lake sites to obtain information that is important to evaluate their feasibility as water storage projects, in the amount of \$80,000 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)

15. [AB2025-036](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Unity Care NW to provide Mental Health Court case coordination services in the amount of \$8,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$18,000
16. [AB2025-037](#) Request authorization for County Executive to enter into a 2 year agreement between Whatcom County and the Northwest Regional Council for the purposes of administering the Meals on Wheels program in the amount of \$120,000
17. [AB2025-038](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Whatcom County and the Sheriff's Office Corrections Senior Management Group for the period January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025
18. [AB2025-046](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Attorney General of Washington for cy pres funding, in the amount of \$125,000
19. [AB2025-047](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Military to revise the budget categories for Stonegarden FY21
20. [AB2025-049](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission for a cooperative framework for boating safety, in the amount of \$0

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2025-021](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and PFM Financial Services, LLC to increase the compensation by \$60,000 for a total amount of \$99,000
2. [AB2025-023](#) Resolution amending Resolution 2024-058 and re-certifying Whatcom County's property tax levies for collection in 2025 to the county assessor

(From Council Planning and Development Committee)

3. [AB2025-019](#) Resolution approving recommendations on Open Space applications

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

4. [AB2024-767](#) Resolution to establish Council goals for full, timely awarding of Healthy Children's Fund contracts

5. [AB2024-843](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.21 Board of Equalization to clarify Board of Equalization membership
6. [AB2024-870](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 2.130 Economic Development Investment Board
7. [AB2025-073](#) Letter from the Whatcom County Council to the Executive regarding homelessness and shelters

(No Committee Assignment)

8. [AB2025-069](#) Resolution amending the County Council and Executive expectations for advisory groups

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

1. [AB2024-869](#) Appointments to three vacancies on the Drainage District #3 Board of Commissioners, Applicant(s): Jerod Priebe, Loren Vander Yacht, Lucas Plagerman, Keith Roosma
2. [AB2024-872](#) Request Council to vacate a position on the Incarceration Prevention & Reduction Task Force, social services provider
3. [AB2025-051](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Board of Equalization, various positions, Applicant(s): John Young, James Day, Grant Nulle, Todd Lagestee, Shenandoah Myrick
4. [AB2025-052](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, various positions, Applicant(s): James Bauckman, Troy Lautenbach, Indca Mitchell, Heather Powell, Jacob Jones
5. [AB2025-053](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Child and Family Well-Being Task Force, Applicant(s): Allison Bishop, Ray Deck III, Jamie Desmul, Megan Juenemann, Lyn Salazar, Vesla Tonnessen, Jennifer Wright, Susan Marks, Lynn Schreiber, Nina Ballew
6. [AB2025-054](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Climate Impact Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Robert Drake, Andrew Paterson, Joshua Williams, Mark Waschke, Tom Wolf, Anders Hellum-Alexander, Gabe Epperson, Robin Jentz, Mary Loquvam
7. [AB2025-055](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Criminal Justice Treatment Account Panel, criminal defense bar representative, Applicant(s): Starck Follis
8. [AB2025-056](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Justice Project Oversight and Planning (JPOP) Committee, youth/young adult position, Applicant(s): Parneet Kaur, Justin White

9. [AB2025-058](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Public Health Advisory Board, Applicant(s): Ashley Thomasson, Guy Occhiogrosso, Chris Kobdich, Alan Lifson, Shannon Boustead, Melissa Nyberg, Karin Jones, Kendra Cristelli, Jessica Rienstra, Sue Rodgers, Rachel McGarrity, Lara Welker (Council acting as the Board of Health)
10. [AB2025-060](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Planning Commission, Applicant(s): Frank James, Dan Dunne, Nicholas Greif, Christina Maginnis, Rud Browne
11. [AB2025-061](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Surface Mining Advisory Committee, various positions, Applicant(s): Thomas Harron, Derek Hergenhein, Lane Stremler, Jordan Van Werven
12. [AB2025-062](#) Appointments to vacancies on the Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee, various positions, Applicant(s): Ron Bronsema, Jeff DeJong, Bruce Bosch, John Perry (Council acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
13. [AB2025-063](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Acme/Van Zandt Flood Control Subzone Advisory Committee, Applicant(s) Elvin Kalsbeek (Council acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
14. [AB2025-064](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resources Management (BBWARM) Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Robert Shanabarger, Glenn Briskin, Suzy Thompson, Lesley Cooke (Council acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
15. [AB2025-065](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Lynden/Everson Flood Control Subzone Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Ron Bronsema (Council acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
16. [AB2025-066](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection District Advisory Committee, Applicant(s): Jiggy Sorrell
17. [AB2025-068](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, various positions, Applicant(s): Jerry Burns
18. [AB2025-070](#) Request motion to amend the term end dates for select Whatcom County Ferry Advisory Committee positions

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Per Whatcom County Code 2.03.070(B), the council must confirm or reject executive appointments within 30 days of submission to the council. County code deems the appointee confirmed if council does not take action within this time.

1. [AB2025-022](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointments to the Whatcom County Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials

2. [AB2025-039](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Dr. Amy Harley as Co-Health Officer effective since December 6, 2021
3. [AB2025-040](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Austin Lennsen to the Whatcom County Agricultural Advisory Committee
4. [AB2025-041](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Dr. Meghan Lelonek as Co-Health Officer effective January 20, 2025
5. [AB2025-042](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointments of Summer Star and Crystal Thompson to the Whatcom County Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
6. [AB2025-043](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Patrick Bush to the Whatcom County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Commission
7. [AB2025-044](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Dr. Lindsay Foreman-Murray to the Whatcom County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board
8. [AB2025-045](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Gregory Burg, Tyler Buys, Adam Morrow and Kevin Stewart to the Whatcom County Development Standards Technical Advisory Committee
9. [AB2025-048](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointments of Brian Hunter and William Zidel to the Whatcom County Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee
10. [AB2025-067](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Mark Asmundson to the Bellingham-Whatcom Public Facilities District

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Council action will not be taken. The council may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.

1. [AB2024-874](#) Ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Title 20, Zoning
2. [AB2025-059](#) An ordinance adopting amendments to Whatcom County Code Titles 20 & 22 to enact SSB 5290 regarding local project review

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN