Monday, December 12, 2022 10:50:36 AM

# **Board and Commission Application**

## Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

### Public Statement

Committee

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title	Ms.
First Name	DEBBIE
Last Name	AHL
Today's Date	12/12/2022
Street Address	
City	
Zip	
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	Field not completed.
Primary Telephone	
Secondary Telephone	Field not completed.
Email Address	
Step 2	
1. Name of Board or	Business and Commerce Advisory Committee

Business and Commerce Advisory Committee Position:	Health Care Industry
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 3
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No e
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	Yes
If yes, please list dates	2022 2021 2020
8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?	No I
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of	Attached

experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions

Submitted

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	Current Senior Advisor, ADVault, Inc., for profit healthcare IT company, Executive Director Mount Baker Foundation, Former President / CEO Sterling Life Insurance Company (\$1.4 billion revenue, 1500 employees, based in Bellingham, sub of Aon Corporation then Munich Re); Former leadership team, St. Luke's Hospital
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	Commitment to economic and educational pathways for all people in Whatcom County, understanding of diverse needs of our community.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Scott Brown, President & CEO ADVault (214) 244-6413 Ione Adams, President, Mount Baker Foundation board (360) 739-2905 Kim Perry, Interim President, Bellingham Technical College ((559) 903-3514 Diane Kamionka, Executive Director, NW Innovation Resource Center (360) 739-2968
Signature of applicant:	Debbie J. Ahl
Place Signed /	Bellingham, WA

(Section Break)

# Debbie J. Ahl

A seasoned director of private, publicly traded subsidiaries, government and non-profit boards, Debbie brings experience from each type to the boardroom. Her career has included start-ups, highgrowth companies, and mature operations. She led Sterling Life insurance Company from \$48 million to \$1.3 Billion in revenue over 10 years as its President & CEO, first under Aon Corporation (AON) and then Munich Re (MUV2.DE). She carried full P&L responsibility for the company as well as 1500 employees and 250,000 enrollees. She has 20 years C-Suite experience. Her passion is connecting people, ideas, and resources, with a particular focus on the interdependency of education, economic & business growth, and population health.



#### **Current Professional**

- Founder, Managing Partner, Edgewater Advising, LLC. Edgewater Advising helps companies scale and grow by developing critical business frameworks based on vision, mission, and values.
- **Senior Advisor, ADVault, Inc.** Based in Dallas, TX, ADVault is the leading platform for emergency, critical & advance care plans, offering a universal Advance Digital Directive <sup>™</sup>.
- Contracted Executive Director, Mount Baker Foundation. Managing all operations, community engagement, grant-making and investment portfolio of a \$30 million private foundation.

#### **Current Boards**

- **NW Innovation Resource Center.** Supporting entrepreneurial startups & inventors in a five-county region. Since 2010. Positions served include Chair and Vice Chair.
- Bellingham Technical College. Gubernatorial appointment to consecutive terms. Since 2011.
   Roles have included Chair and Vice-Chair.

#### **Prior Board Service**

- **AH Systems Board.** Appointed by Lapis Advisors, LP for rural hospital system in bankruptcy. Vice-Chair. May 2020 to December 2020.
- Compass Health, Everett, WA. Behavioral health services including mental health and chemical dependency serving a five-county region. *November* 2017 September 2020.
- Chuckanut Health Foundation, Bellingham, WA. Grants Committee Chair, Vice President. 2012-2016
- Sterling Life Insurance Company, Chicago, IL Subsidiary of publicly traded company. 2000-2009
- America's Health Insurance Plans, Washington D.C. Largest trade association. 2005-2009.

#### **Boardroom Skills & Experience**

- Strategic Planning
- Financial Oversight
- Board Self-Evaluation
- Board Goal setting
- Board Governance
- Board / CEO /Company Dynamics
- CEO Evaluation
- Compensation Strategies
- Cultural Oversight
- Audit Committee
- Quality Committee
- Succession Planning
- Board Development

### **Contact Information:**